

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

August 11, 2014

7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President S. Darnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called by Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela; present were Council Member J. Ton, Council Member J. Trout, Council Member N. Walding, Council Member S. Darnell, and Council Member E. Delaney.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member E. Delaney made the motion approve the minutes of the July 28, 2014 Council Meeting, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Council Member N. Walding made the motion to approve claims as submitted, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Therese Davis – Recycling and Waste Reduction District – Survey – Mrs. Davis not in attendance.

Matt Jewison 331 Wren Ct - Mr. Jewison commented about Mrs. Brock's concerns at the last meeting, and recommended added signage on SR 49 south bound indicating businesses east of SR 49 on Indian Boundary and this would be more consumer friendly.

Joy Marburger 225 Dogwood Dr. – Mrs. Marburger commented about providing a marked crosswalk across SR 49 to make it safer for bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Council Member E. Delaney reminded Mr. Jewison and Mrs. Marburger that SR 49 is a State Highway, and although it is within the Town limits of Chesterton, it falls under the jurisdiction of INDOT, and the LaPorte District. The Town would have to request signage from INDOT and he commented on the hoops that had to be jumped through when the welcome to Chesterton sign was placed at SR 49 and Indian Boundary Rd.

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. POLICE - Chief Cincoski commented concerning complaints that have been received regarding fireworks, and advised that State Law restricts the actions a municipality can take, and the current Town Ordinance is the limit that the Town can enforce. He also reported that he has met with representatives of South Shore Clean Cities regarding the conversion of the police cars to propane fuel. He stated that they are investigating the cost effectiveness of this conversion, and once all the information is obtain would present it to the Town Council. He advised they are still taking applications for a fulltime dispatcher and candidates for police officer hiring list. Council Member J. Trout commented that there are probably municipalities that have converted to propane, and that information would be beneficial to any prepared reports.

B. FIRE - Chief Jarka commented that prior to retiring, Chief Orlich submitted a proposal for equipment purchase program that would have included funding from Westchester Township Trustee but since then nothing has been obtained in writing confirming the Township's agreement to assist in

but since then nothing has been obtained in writing confirming the Township's agreement to assist in funding the program. He requested permission to attend the next Westchester Township meeting to request something in writing that would commit them to \$50,000 a year for two years. The Council gave the permission by consensus. Town Attorney Lukmann advised that he would assist in preparing a written agreement for funding from the Township.

C. TOWN HALL - Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela reported she is working on the budgets and obtained information from the DLGF concerning publications and she would continue to work with department heads preparing budgets for the Council's review.

D. STREETS, SANITATION & CENTRAL SERVICES- Street Superintendent J. Schnadenberg reported that he is quite pleased with the paving work being done by Walsh & Kelly, and that all paving projects would be completed by the end of the summer. He also reported that he has submitted to the Council a proposal for the extension of the Refuse and Recycling contract for 3 years. He advised that he is presenting the information to the Council for their review, and discussion at the next Council meeting. Council Member N. Walding commented that he has discussed this with Superintendent Schnadenberg and recommended that the Council takes the next couple of weeks to review the information and discuss it at the next Council meeting. Council Member J. Ton commented that he noticed that the quote does not increase from 2014 to 2015 and that is a benefit. Council Member J. Trout requested that the Clerk-Treasurer have this placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting. Superintendent Schnadenberg added that because of all the time they have spent on the paving projects and the regular duties like brush pickup, they have been unable to work on the sidewalk repair list. He advised that funds have been set aside for this work, and requested that it be set aside until next year. Council Member S. Darnell advised that it could be encumbered until next year. Superintendent Schnadenberg added that the State has submitted information concerning Salt bids for this year and the cost has increased. He advised that last year the cost was \$48.84 per ton, and this year it is going to be \$73.32 per ton. He advised that the Town would be required to purchase at least 80% of the projected amount of salt required, or 1,600 ton and he has not budgeted for that amount.

E. ENGINEERING - Town Engineer M. O'Dell commented about the concerns for signage on SR 49 and added that Council Member J. Ton has worked with INDOT, and that is the reason additional signage has been placed along SR 49 indicating the various exits into Town, Indian Boundary Rd, Porter Ave. and 1100 N. Council Member J. Ton advised that they have been networking with INDOT, and they are planning on repairs along SR 49 in Chesterton, and possible repaving in the near future. Engineer O'Dell also provided information on the progress of the Westchester/Liberty Trail grant progress and thanked Council Member J. Ton for his assistance through his contact with NIRPC.

F. BUILDING - No Report

G. PARK - Park Superintendent B. Mathias absent.

H. ATTORNEY - Town Attorney Lukmann advised that Chief Cincoski was correct concerning the issue with the fireworks Ordinance, the current Ordinance is the most that the Town can do, and it cannot be more restrictive than State Law.

I. UTILITIES - No Report

J. TOWN MANAGER- No Report

K. NIRPC REPORT - No Report

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS AND REMONSTRANCES

NONE

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

NONE

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

Town Construction Projects – No Report

Trail Reports - Reported on earlier by Town Engineer M. O'Dell.

Engineer M. O'Dell reported that INDOT has awarded the bid for the Indian Boundary Rd traffic signals improvement and provided an update on the project and that the Redevelopment Commission met and approved the Town's portion of the project. He also commented that the \$10,000 earlier approved for the railroad's work was not all used and the remainder of the funds was to be set aside for use for traffic control, and other issues instead of being refunded to the Town.

Engineer M. O'Dell advised that this was not a Town construction project but the Gateway Blvd road, and bridge projects were progressing.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

NONE

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member J. Ton:	No Comment.
Council Member E. Delaney:	No Comment
Council Member N. Walding:	No Comment
Council Member J. Trout:	No Comment
Council Member S. Darnell:	No Comment

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member J. Ton made motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member E. Delaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela