

North Liberty Town Council Minutes – October 7, 2015

The regularly scheduled meeting of the North Liberty Town Council was held at the North Liberty Community Building. Gerry Brown, President called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and Council Member Matt Peterson gave the Invocation.

Will Groves, Jr., Brett Voreis, and Tom England Council Members, Town Marshal Michael Sawdon, Attorney John Peddycord, Utilities Manager Skip Davidson, and Vicki Kitchen Clerk-Treasurer were in attendance. There were three citizens present. There was no representation from the press.

Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to approve the consent agenda including September 2, 2015 regular and executive session Minutes, Park Board Minutes August 3, 2015 and September 14, 2015, Fund Transfer 2015-06, Resolution #2015-08 to allow building across lot lines, and the vouchers as presented. Brett Voreis seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

Mary Klinedinst informed the Town Council about the Holiday Stroll on December 5, 2015 from 4:00 -7:00 P.M. and the parade leaving the library at 7:15 with the tree lighting at 7:30. Joe Long is donating a 10-12 ft Christmas tree and would like a donated by sign at the Town's Pocket Park.

Gerry Brown opened the public hearing on the 2016 Budget. Discussion followed. No questions from the public. Gerry Brown closed the 2016 Budget Public hearing.

Town Marshal Michael Sawdon reported the North Liberty Police, Liberty Township Fire and Ambulance were having a demonstration at North Liberty Elementary School with Medflight. Afterwards they were having active shooter training at North Liberty Elementary School. October 31, 2015 will be the Haunted Police Station and Over the Top Bakery will be having an obstacle course in the alley and movies will be held at Rick Smith's corner building with popcorn furnished by Tangles.

Problem properties were discussed. The order has been received to continue the process at 409 S. State Street. The Town has received the authorization to clean up the vernim and demolish the building. Attorney John Peddycord will draft the next required documents. Vicki Kitchen will send a copy for the order to St. Joseph County Health Department and the St. Joseph County Building Department. 404 S. State Street is improving. 110 E. Rupel Street has done minimal to correct the condition of their front porch. 950 Industrial Drive has been working diligently on the building. 412 W. Maple Avenue has not torn down the garage from the fire. The Town will not issue an Improvement Location Permit for the new proposed garage until the burnt garage is torn down or repaired properly.

Skip Davidson presented the Schuell Fence quote for the 4 foot fence for around the ditch at the wastewater plant for \$7,510.00. Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to approve the Schuell Fence quote for \$7,510.00. Brett Voreis seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

Tamarack Knolls Bond was discussed. Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to reduce the bond to \$175,000 subject to phase 4 being completed in one year and the final coat in phase 3 and 4 in five years. Matthew Peterson seconded the motion. Vicki Kitchen will contact John Boettcher.

The replacement of meter ERTs and battery booster were discussed. Skip Davidson will develop an ERT replacement plan. The town council concurred if the funding is in place the battery booster could be purchased for approximately \$9,500.00.

Skip Davidson discussed employee strategy for his department. He will be eliminating the weekend overtime by offering a three day weekend in scheduling with a new employee added. The job will be available January 1, 2016. Skip Davidson will be developing job descriptions for the employee. The new employee will also be trained for water and wastewater certifications.

Donna Gouker 50/50 sidewalk reimbursement was approved at the September meeting for \$875.00. She put in new sidewalks on two adjoining properties. A motion is necessary to reimburse her for the second property at \$875.00. Matthew Peterson made a motion to pay Donna Gouker \$875.00 for the second property. Tom England seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

Attorney John Peddycord received a request from the Liberty Township counsel regarding the requirement for screening and sidewalk. Discussion followed. The minutes were accessed from the Town's Facebook page. The final site plan was approved at the December meeting that did not include the sidewalks. A letter to be drafted to the Liberty Township Attorney for the deed, the possibility of vacating Oak Street, the \$2837.00 Brownsfield grant reimbursement requested by Indiana Brownsfield, the 60 feet of sidewalk to be constructed yet this year along State Street to Maple Street. An occupancy permit will not be granted without the above being resolved.

Matt Peterson submitted a list of trees and stumps for removal.

The Town Council discussed new entrance signs into the Town to replace the existing North Liberty Area Chamber of Commerce signs. Vicki Kitchen requested a new sign for the clerk-treasurer's office once the Liberty Township Trustee moves to the new township building. Tom England presented copies of the proposed new Town signs.

Alley maintenance was tabled.

There were no questions regarding the INDOT School Trail and Tamarack Progress Reports. DLZ Progress Reports are filed with the minutes. Attorney Peddycord authorized the IDEM letter for Tamrack Trail be executed by Gerry Brown.

Skip gave an update on the wastewater plant improvement project.

Stellar kick off meeting with the nine state agencies is October 20, 2015 at 10:30.

Nominations for torch carriers for Indiana's Bicentennial Celebration must be submitted by December 31, 2015.

Parking of recreational vehicles was discussed. Ordinance #2015-09 was tabled.

With no further business before the North Liberty Town Council, Thomas England made a motion to adjourn at 8:37. Matthew Peterson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Vicki L. Kitchen, Clerk-Treasurer