CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.

INVOCATION: Deacon Malcolm Lunsford- St. Peter and Paul Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLLCALL: All members present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRATIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA:
Accounts payable register voucher approval January 8, 2013 and the approval of Town Council minutes December 26, 2012. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and Mr. Goralczyk second the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:
Mr. Goralczyk explained they would need to have to have a meeting soon to figure out where the budget stands for 2013 and whether or not there will be cuts needed.

PUBLIC WORKS:
Mr. Spann made a motion to go out to bid for a front end loader. Mr. Pettit second the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

Mr. Hardaway thanked Mr. Spires for contacting the City of Gary on 53rd Ave. between Georgia and Mississippi and he’d like for the press to understand that the City of Gary has said that they have no plans to pave 53rd Ave.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS: No report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:
Mr. Goralczyk stated that the deductible has changed as of January 2013.

PUBLIC SAFETY: No report.

PARKS & RECREATION: No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:
Mrs. Barron gave an update on Christopher Burke adding the Taft Street drainage project onto her calendar and it is the only project for the State of Indiana to go onto it and she thanked Bud.

Mr. Lake gave an update on the plans for Meadowdale are completed and ready for bid. He stated that he and Mr. Spires met with Robinson Engineering to go over the roadway engineering standards and they should be complete in about 3 weeks. He is meeting with Lake County Soil & Water with regards to public education outreach programs and he wrote a draft scope of services to utilize them for public education outreach. He is meeting with Hobart with regards to the Preserves detention in order to come up with a potential perpetual maintenance agreement because they need to use some of the land.

Mr. Goralczyk has been in contact with Waste Management with regards to the new recycling calendar and they said it would go out this Friday or the middle of next week and he will get additional copies to have at the Clerk-Treasurer’s office.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS: No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
Mr. Goralczyk gave an update on Town Hall improvements and said they are 98% complete.

UTILITY LIAISON: No Report
GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES: None

SECOND READING ORDINANCES: None

RESOLUTIONS:
Resolution 13-01:
A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, is authorizing temporary loans to fulfill monetary requirements necessary for debt service payments (retroactive to 1/3/13). Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and Mr. Hardaway second the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 roll call vote.

BZA ACTIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:
2013 Board & Commission Appointments:
Mr. Hardaway made a motion to table the commission appointments since they have not had a workshop to discuss them. Mr. Widing second the motion. Mr. Pettit explained that the police commission has had to cancel their meeting because they have no appointments and asked Mr. Bushemi to explain if they could’ve met with the former commissioner. Mr. Bushemi explained that the previous appointees are allowed by law to hold over and continue to serve until their successor is duly appointed and so if any board or commission does need to meet to conduct business, if they need a hold over appointee for the purpose of presenting a quorum to conduct business they may do so. The motion to table failed with a 4/3 roll call vote with Mr. Spann, Mr. Goralczyk, Mr. Pettit and Mrs. Miano voting no.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to re-appoint George Kennedy to the police commission and Mr. Widing second the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to re-appoint Brian Dering to the plan commission and Mr. Hardaway second the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 voice vote.

Mr. Widing made a motion to re-appoint Julie Olthof to the plan commission and Mrs. Barron second the motion. Mrs. Miano explained that there is a situation with Julie that she was recently elected as president of the chamber and she would like to see her go onto the economic development commission. Mr. Pettit explained that as they do this that some of these appointments are strictly the authority of the Town Council President and some are the entire Council and plan commission will elect one member to go onto the bza so the Council needs to keep in mind the memo Howard & Dorinda sent as to who has appointing authority under plan commission so I should take my motion back for plan commission because both of these individuals are by the Council President. Mr. Bushemi explained that in light of the memo indicating the appointing authority is the Council President for both of the new appointments to the plan commission and that the record should reflect the action taken by the Council as a whole is null and void. Mr. Widing withdrew his motion for Julie Olthof and Mr. Pettit withdrew his motion for Brian Dering.

Mrs. Miano, as Town Council President, appointed Brian Dering and Sylvia Kraft to the plan commission and Chuck Stojakovich and Sylvia Kraft to the bza.

Mr. Spann made a motion to put in Leonard White for storm water management board. Mr. Pettit second the motion. Mr. Hardaway made a motion to appoint Bud Crist and Mr. Widing second the motion. Mrs. Miano explained that there was point of order and already a motion on the floor. Mr. Hardaway explained nominations weren’t closed though. Mr. Bushemi said that it was appropriate to acknowledge both nominations and handle it that way. After a brief discussion on the nominees, Mr. Pettit made a motion to have Mr. Bushemi look into expanding the storm water board to 5 members via ordinance. Mr. Hardaway second the motion. Mrs. Miano called for a vote on each Councilman’s selection. The roll call nomination selection vote was conducted as follows:

- Mr. Spann: Mr. White
- Mr. Hardaway: Mr. Crist
- Mr. Goralczyk: Mr. White
- Mrs. Barron: Mr. Crist
- Mr. Pettit: Mr. White
- Mr. Widing: Mr. Crist
- Mrs. Miano: Mr. White

The nomination for storm water board is appointed to Mr. White.

(THE TAPES STOPS AND RESUMES AT THIS POINT)
Mr. Pettit made a motion to instruct Mr. Bushemi to draft an ordinance that will expand the storm water board to 5 members and open it up solicitation to 2 new members. Mr. Hardaway second the motion. The motion was approved by a 7/0 roll call vote.

Mrs. Miano read the following Town Council Committees:

**Budget & Finance:**
- Tom Goralczyk, Chairman
- Shawn Pettit
- Don Spann

**Public Works:**
- Shawn Pettit, Chairman
- Richard Hardaway
- Don Spann

**ADA:**
- Carol Miano

**Council Affairs:**
- Don Spann, Chairman
- Shawn Pettit
- Ron Widing

**Personnel Policy & Employee Benefits:**
- Tom Goralczyk, Chairman
- Don Spann
- Shawn Pettit

**Public Safety:**
- Ron Widing, Chairman
- Shawn Pettit
- Tom Goralczyk

**Parks & Recreation:**
- Don Spann, Chairman
- Tom Goralczyk
- Ron Widing

**Environmental Affairs:**
- Tom Goralczyk, Chairman
- Don Spann
- Ron Widing

**Elections & Public Relations:**
- Carol Miano, Chairwoman
- Don Spann
- Gene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer
- Caryn Wilson, Park Director
- Howard Fink, Town Administrator

**Town Government Re-Organization:**
- Carol Miano, Chairwoman
- Shawn Pettit
- Don Spann
- Howard Fink, Town Administrator
- Gene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer

**Economic Development:**
- Tom Goralczyk, Chairman
- Shawn Pettit
- Don Spann
- Sue Reed, Chamber Executive Director
- Julie Olthof, Chamber President

**Utility Liaison:**
- Mr. Pettit, Chairman
- Mr. Spann
- Mr. Goralczyk
Lake County Solid Waste:
Tom Goralczyk

NIRPC:
Shawn Pettit

Redevelopment Commission:
Don Spann
Ron Widing
Tom Goralczyk
Shawn Pettit
Richard Hardaway

Economic Development Commission:
Gene Ward
Julie Olthof
John Minchuk

Plan Commission:
Pam Palmateer
Rick Holtz
Don Spann
Ron Widing
Brian Dering
Shawn Pettit
Sylvia Kraft

BZA:
Sylvia Kraft
Chuck Stojakovich
Tim Fortier
John Minchuk
Rick Holtz

Storm Water:
Leonard White

Police Commissioner:
Rick Bella
Ted Kennedy
Pete Guip

PUBLIC COMMENT:
All public comment is recorded on cassette tape and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Town Council Workshop, Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 6:0 p.m.

Town Hall will be closed Monday, January 21, 2013 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr., Day

Town Council Meeting, Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

______________________________________       _____________________________
Shawn Pettit, Town Council President          Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer