

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 8, 2013

**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 53<sup>rd</sup> 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 53<sup>rd</sup> 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**

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**Shawn Pettit, Town Council President**

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**Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer**