

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 25, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.

INVOCATION: Captain Linda Board – Salvation Army

ROLLCALL: Mr. Widing and Mrs. Miano were absent, all members were present. In Mrs. Miano's absence Mr. Pettit ran the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRATIONS:

Proclamation – Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week March 3-9, 2014. Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Goralczyk. Motion was approved by a 5/0 voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Accts. Payable Register Voucher Approval February 25, 2014. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2014. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approved and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by 5/0 voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE: No report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- 1) Opening of bids for the 2014 Town wide Paving Program. Two bids were submitted, Walsh and Kelley and Rieth-Riley. Rieth-Riley's bid packet was submitted open. Representatives from Walsh and Kelley and Rieth-Riley both stated they were okay with continuing the opening bid process.

Walsh and Kelley, Griffith, Indiana - Bid: \$3,944,107.82

Rieth-Riley: \$4,120,582.30

Mr. Goralczyk made a motion to accept the bids and to take them under advisement and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by a 5/0 voice vote.

- 2) C & O Trail – Phase II

- a) LPA – consulting contract for right-of-way services.

From Broadway East under I-65 and dead end with trail head at Mississippi in back of the Lowe's building.

\$21,900.00 on consulting contract. Only 20% is the town's responsibility - \$4,380.00

Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve LPA consulting contract for right-of-way services and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by a 5/0 voice vote

- b) Supplemental agreement No. 1 for right-of-way engineering.

Increase by \$36,140.00, only 20% is the town's responsibility - \$7,228.00

Mr. Goralczyk made a motion to approve the supplemental agreement and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by 5/0 voice vote.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Hardaway stated that the council missed the opportunity to do a resolution to speak out against the business tax; he believes this tax will adversely affect the town and the residents of the town of Merrillville. Mr. Hardaway stated that for the next meeting they should have a resolution not supporting the elimination of the business tax. Mr. Spires stated that Mrs. Miano was working on this, but she will be unavailable for the next few weeks but something can be worked on for the next meeting.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY: No report.

PARKS & RECREATION: No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Lake provided updates regarding Stormwater: Stormwater sent out a press-release regarding the thaw, which gave residents tips and forewarning on the effects on the roadway and properties. Next Town Council Meeting a copy of the inter-local agreement will be provided for the council to vote on. The drainage improvement plan for Southmoor Park is 80% complete. Stormwater is anticipating a development of 140 resident lots in the Fox subdivision.

Mr. Spann thanked Public Works for quickly working to uncover snow from drains.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Mr. Pettit invited the public to the Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce State of the Region Address, it will be on March 5,2014 at 11:00 am in the Mackey Ballroom in the Crown Point Courthouse.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mrs. Barron stated she has a meeting set with Jeff Langbehn next week.

TOWN GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANIZATION: No report.

ADA COMPLIANCES: No report.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 14-03: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, providing that the zoning ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana be amended by changing. The established C-3 Highway Commercial and R-4, Medium Density Multi Family Residential zoning classification to a Planned Unit Development, C-3, Highway Commercial Zoning Classification. Representatives from White Co. presented a brief summary for the council. This project will create an investment around ten million dollars. Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. Motion was approved by 5/0 roll call vote.

Ord. 14-04: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, to establish an application fee for employment as a Police Officer of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana. Mr. Goralczyk made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by a 5/0 roll call vote.

Ord. 14-05: An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, authorizing the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds of the town to procure funds to be applied to the costs of financing certain road improvements and other infrastructure projects throughout the town, together with expenses incidental thereto, including expenses in the connection with the issuance of the bonds, and other related matters. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Hardaway. The motion was approved by a 5/0 roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES: No report.

RESOLUTIONS: No report.

BZA ACTIONS:

Petitioner: James Jabaay
Owner: James Jabaay
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: To allow outdoor display of vehicles on a previously approved used car dealership
Location: 8120 Grant Street
Zoning: C-3, Highway Commercial
Case #: Z3E1-0114

Mr. Goralczyk asked the petitioner if he owned the building, he responded "yes."
Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Goralczyk. The motion was approved by 5/0 roll call vote.

Petitioner: Immanuel Gomez
Owner: Maryann Wilczynski
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: For a church to be known as One New Man Temple of Hope Inc.
Location: 1205 West Lincoln Highway, Ste. 9
Zoning: C-3, Highway Commercial
Case #: Z4E2-0114

Mr. Hardaway asked were the exact location of the business will be. The petitioner responded that it is located in the same area Rug Masters is. Mr. Hardaway asked Mrs. Barron if this business was going to be in her area, she responded yes and she was okay with approving it. Mr. Pettit questioned if the fire inspector had taken a look at the building. Mrs. Barron stated she spoke Jeff and everything was okay. Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by a 5/0 roll call vote.

Petitioner: Michael Kalogeras
Owner: Wanda Bellich
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: For expansion of an existing restaurant known as Delta Restaurant
Location: 7602 Broadway
Zoning: C-3, Highway Commercial
Case #: Z5E3-0114

Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Goralczyk. The motion was approved by a 5/0 roll call vote.

Mr. Goralczyk commented that he was pleased with the traffic flow around the business and the growth of the business. Mr. Pettit questioned if they met the parking requirements. They do, there was a cooperation agreement with Off Track Betting facility.

Petitioner: Keough Enterprises, LLC
Owner: Keough Enterprises, LLC
Request: Variance of use approval
Purpose: For a proposed contractors office with outside storage.
Location: 2042 E. 88th Drive (Southridge Industrial Park)
Zoning: M-2, Limited industrial corridor overlay district
Case #: Z1uV1-0114

Petitioner briefly described his request. "We have 300 feet from the middle of the road on Harms Road that's M-2 then it's M-1 in the industrial park. We want the contractors yard to back up to the back of the building, there's 34 feet in the M-2 that needs to be apart of contractors yard so it attaches. There will be a 6 foot wood fence along the side where the driveway is and of course this an M-1." Mr. Pettit questioned if there was a street light nearby because the hill on Harms is dangerous. Mr. Spires stated there was a street light.

Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr.Spann. The motion was approved by a 5/0 roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: No report.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Stormwater Management Board Meeting, March 4, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Plan Commission Workshop, March 4, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Town Council Meeting, March 11, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Shawn Pettit, Vice - President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer