

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
March 11, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.

INVOCATION: Christopher Anderson – House of Pray

ROLLCALL: Mr. Goralczyk, Mrs. Barron and Mrs. Miano were absent. All other members were present.
In the absences of Mrs. Miano Mr. Pettit ran the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRATIONS:

Mr. Hardaway made a motion to amend the agenda to include Ord. 14-03 in second reading, it is an ordinance it requires two readings. Mr. Spann second the motion. The motion was approved by a 4/0 voice vote.

Mr. Hardaway read a letter from Stormwater Board member, Curt Luna, requesting that Town of Merrillville compensate him for lost wages (\$300.00). If Mr. Luna were to attend the Stormwater yearly conference he would not get paid in result from missing his daily job.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Accts. Payable Register Voucher Approval March 11, 2014. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2014. Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and Mr. Widing second. The motion was approved by a 4/0 voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Guernsey reported that Mr. Bennett was in and this year instead of buying a TWA, the town will borrow money from the Tiff districts to get through May and June this will save \$12,000.00 in interest.

PUBLIC WORKS:

2014 Town Wide Street Resurfacing and Repair Program bid was awarded to Walsh and Kelly for \$3,944,107.82, Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by a 4/0 roll call vote.

The council had a discussion regarding current roadway conditions, repairs and the storm sewers. Mr. Hardaway wants to encourage Town of Merrillville residents to help with clearing of storm sewers, if possible.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Hardaway asked Mr. Spann if an ordinance could be drafted to pertain to anyone that serves on any boards or commissions, that they be property owners or stakeholders in the town. Mr. Hardaway stated it is not fair to citizens of Merrillville that pay taxes.

Mr. Guernsey brought to the council's attention that there are many businesses that have not paid their alarm license fee because there is no one enforcing.

Mr. Pettit said that both issues need to be addressed.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY: No report.

PARKS & RECREATION: No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Hardaway stated he attended the Stormwater Board meeting and wanted to start a discussion regarding sign-in sheets. Mr. Pettit agreed with Mr. Hardaway but stated that this should be a discussion when more members are present. In result, a discussion regarding whom is included in the new employee handbook.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

April 7, 2014 Bingo at the Democrat Club at 6:30 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report.

UTILITY LIAISON: No report.

TOWN GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANIZATION: No report.

ADA COMPLIANCES: No report.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 14-06: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Police Continuing Education Fund of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2014 not included in the current budget. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. Motion approved by a 4/0 roll call vote.

Ord. 14-07: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Police Donation Fund of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2014 not included in the current budget. Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by 4/0 roll call vote.

Ord. 14-08: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, for the year 2014 not included in the current budget. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Hardaway. The motion was approved by 4/0 roll call vote.

SECOND 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. Mr. Hardaway made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. No public comment. The motion was approved by a 4/0 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. Widing made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Hardaway. No public comment. The motion was approved by a 4/0 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. All public comment is recorded on cassette tape and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall. The motion was approved by a 4/0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 14-06: A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies of the 2014 budget within the Recycling Grant Fund budget. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Hardaway. The motion was approved by a 4/0 voice vote.

Res. 14-07: A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, making deductions in the 2014 General Fund. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by a 4/0 voice vote.

Res. 14-08: A resolution in opposition of HB 1001 and SB 1 – The elimination of Business Personal Property Tax. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and second Mr. Hardaway. The motion was approved by a4/0 voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS: No report.

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:

Plan Commission Public Meeting, March 18, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Town Council Workshop, March 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Environmental Resource Committee, March 20, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Town Council Meeting, March 25, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Shawn Pettit, Vice - President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer