

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
December 13, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: 6:31 p.m.

INVOCATION: Father John Plavcan – St. Joan of Arc Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:
None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated December 13, 2016. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of November 22, 2016. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Spann thanked Mr. Spires and the Street Department for a job well done with the leaf clean-up as well as snow removal. Mr. Spires provided the Town Council information from Walsh & Kelly indicating they would like to extend their current contract to lock in existing rates. Mr. Spires talked about the increasing costs of concrete and recommended that the Town Council accept the extension of their current contract. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the extension of the contract and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron provided some feedback about the Health Insurance meetings that were held earlier in the day. She stated that First Midwest bank will be coming to the Town of Merrillville on December 19th & 20th to help employees set up their Health Savings accounts.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac said there were three providers were interviewed for the town-wide ambulance service. The ambulance committee made a recommendation to select Superior Ambulance Service. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve Superior Ambulance Service effective February 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pettit. Mr. Bushemi commented that the motion is subject to successful negotiation of written contract terms with the provider. A representative from Superior was available to answer any questions of the Town Council. Some discussion followed. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Ms. LaMarca thanked Jan Orlich and the Parks Department for doing a great job putting together the Holiday Parade.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

President Hardaway inquired to the status of getting the tax certificates on the three adjoining parcels in which the Town of Merrillville purchased. Mr. Bushemi provided an update related to all of the parcels in question.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 16-39: Establishing Internal Control Standards and creating a materiality threshold for the town pursuant to I.C. 5-11-1-27. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to suspend the rule on the second reading and allow for it to take place at today's meeting. Mrs. Barron seconded the motion to suspend the rules. There was no discussion. The motion to suspend the rule for second reading was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Ord. 16-40: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Noxious Weeds Fund for the year 2016 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

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Ord. 16-41: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, fixing the Parks Non-Reverting Program Fees for the year 2017. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to suspend the rule on the second reading and allow for it to take place at today's meeting. Mrs. Barron seconded the motion to suspend the rules. There was no discussion. The motion to suspend the rule for second reading was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 16-39: Establishing Internal Control Standards and creating a materiality threshold for the town pursuant to I.C. 5-11-1-27. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 16-40: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Noxious Weeds Fund for the year 2016 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 16-41: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, fixing the Parks Non-Reverting Program Fees for the year 2017. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 16-35: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Merrillville Fire Territory Cumulative Fire Equipment Fund, of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2016 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 16-36: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Merrillville Fire Territory Cumulative Fire Equipment Fund, of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2016 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 16-37: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, amending Ordinance 16-07 and pay for employees of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana for the calendar year 2016. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 16-38: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, amending Ordinance 16-37 and pay for employees of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana for the calendar year 2017. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 16-34: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies of the 2016 budget within the Motor Vehicle Highway fund budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-35: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies of the 2016 budget within the Recycling Grant fund budget. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-36: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing the repayment of temporary loans (as of 12-01-16). Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-37: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing the repayment of temporary loan (as of 12-01-16). Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-38: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing the repayment of temporary loan (as of 12-01-16). Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-39: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies of the 2016 budget within the General fund budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-40: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, concerning the Holiday Schedule for the calendar year of 2017. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-41: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies within the Merrillville Fire Territory Operating fund, of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2016. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 16-42: A resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing the repayment of temporary loan (as of 12-17-16). Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Barron spoke about the letter of support for the development of a Veteran's Community intended for disabled and homeless Veteran's. Discussion followed among the Town Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Town Hall offices closed (except for Emergency Services)
December 23rd & 26th, 2016 in observance of Christmas Eve
& Christmas Day.

Town Council meeting, December 27, 2016, at 12:00 p.m.

President Hardaway wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer