

February 20, 2018

The Trail Creek Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana.

Council President, Warren Schacht, led us with the Pledge of Allegiance via video conferencing.

Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Silcox to approve the meeting minutes from January 2017 as written; motion was seconded by Mrs. Heath and was then unanimously carried.

Approval of Fund A motion was made by Mrs. Heath, to accept January 2018 Fund report; the motion was seconded by Mr. Studtman and was then unanimously carried.

Approval of Claims In review of the bills, Council Member; Scott Silcox asked Street Commissioner; Jeff Bruder if we now had enough cold patch in stock? Mr. Bruder responded with yes. A motion was made by Mr. Silcox to pay bills in the amount of \$ 184,105.97(ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY FOUR THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED FIVE DOLLARS AND NINETY SEVEN CENTS) the motion was seconded by Mr. Bayler and was then unanimously carried.

Correspondence: None

MS4: Kate Doyle in attendance.

- There were six site inspections due to complaints and twelve routines.
- Last MS4 meeting they discussed capitol projects such as the town's potential dog park. They have some non-reverting funds to contribute to that project or perhaps a solid waste project. Mr. Rick Brown will be in contact with Joshleen Denham, Clerk Treasurer on the potential dog park plans, perhaps the project can even be done in stages. Mr. Brown would like to attend the next Park Board Meeting with the town. The park board will then make a recommendation on the drawings and approval of the design.

Attorney: Mr. Herrbach in attendance

- The proposed letter written by town attorney and to be signed by council president, Warren Schacht, regarding the town ordinances to the Marshal. Bill explained the letter just lays out the idea follow through for any ordinance violation with in the town.
- **Electronic Communication:** Mr. Herrbach presented council with ordinance # 2-2018 regarding the electronic communications. Council would like to review, subject was tabled for the March 2018 meeting. The town Marshal will work with resident and IT professional; Brent Bassett to assist in making sure person can connect for meetings and is visible.
- Mr. Herrbach held a work session with council to discuss the possible revision of the ordinance that covers trailers and RV's. Council decided to enforce the current ordinance

rather than to revise it. Also, a possibility of a front yard parking ordinance to be created in the future.

Engineer Report: Mr. John Doyle in attendance.

- 2018 Roeske Project: Mr. Doyle indicated that the overall cost of this project may or may not increase due to a change in plans regarding the curbs. The increase would be approximately \$3,000.00
- Right of Way Concern; It has come to the attention of the town, that a contractor has tore up the town right of way while doing work for a resident. Also, this contractor has inadvertently put sludge down one of the drains at that location. Mr. Doyle recommends that he and the street commissioner follow up to make sure this is taken care of. Mr. Doyle states that we may have to have a professional come out to clean the drain and return the right a way to its original condition at the expense of the contractor. A certified letter will be sent by Mr. Herrbach. Ms. Denham, Clerk-Treasurer will contact the contractors insurance company in anticipation of setting up a claim.
- Flooding at Evergreen Plaza: This morning, due to the amount of snow melt and rain we have been receiving the bottleneck at Hammer's Restaurant has caused some flooding issues. The storm water pump can not keep up. The Attorney will write a letter to INDOT and the state regarding the drainage issues in that area. Mr. Doyle indicates that the last he heard regarding the HWY 20 project was that they were handling only specific parts and that the rest would be left up to Michigan City, Trail Creek and the County of LaPorte. Mr. Doyle will also write letters to the state and INDOT as well as the County.

Street Department: Mr. Jeff Bruder in attendance;

- New Tractor (Kioti Four Wheel Drive Hydrostatic with Ferri Boom Arm Mower) is in and ready. Council can look at this new equipment as it is currently in the town hall garage.
- 2003 GMC Pick Up Truck; Mr. Bruder ask that council approve the sale of this asset. Scott Silcox, Gouncil Member asked that he be aloud to look at the truck to decided value. Council agreed that this will be tabled until next month.
- Potholes are being filled, however with the snow and rain the patch is not holding. The street department will be out again to fill potholes and the roads become drier. Residents can help by contacting the town hall if they see a pothole that needs to be filled.
- Salt Storage; Mr. Bruder explained that the town will no longer be able to store salt with the Town of Long Beach. Therefore, it is important that we consider building a dome to store the salt. However, this may cost upwards of \$25,000.00. He asked that council and engineer, help in the decision of where this storage facility should be located.

NIRPC: No Report

Park Department: No Report

Planning and Zoning: No Report

Building Department: Building Inspector; Steve Thomas in attendance.

- Ladybug Laundry Mat: New Business is open.
- FOP: Mr. Thomas stated that he met with the members of the FOP as well as Attorney Herrbach and Town Engineer; John Doyle to discuss the re building, however nothing more has been discussed since then.

Police Department: Marshal Dick in attendance.

- 2018 Dodge Charger: New police vehicle is done and picked up just awaiting graphics.
- Newest Deputy: Christopher Southwell graduated from the academy on February 02, 2018. He is a full-time officer with the Town of Trail Creek. He has spent the last two weeks with Marshal Dick and will now spend four weeks with Chief Deputy Eric Lisoski.
- FOP: Marshal Dick wanted to take a moment to thank Street Commissioner; Jeff Bruder for his quick response to the fire. Mr. Bruder was able to assist by laying salt down on the street due to the amount of water to put out the fire and the dropping temperatures.
- White Eagle Park and Parking Concerns: Marshal Dick met with Mr. Doyle to discuss options for parking. They will continue to discuss as the hall is being renovated. Town Attorney expressed his concern in letting the public decide where to park if there is overflow in the parking lot. This will be monitored as the renovation is completed and rentable to the public.
- Department of Homeland Security will be offering a grant upwards of \$4,000.00 toward the K-9 program. More information to follow.
- EMA; Larry Butcher spoke with the Marshal regarding sandbags in the event a resident should need some after the heavy rains the area has been receiving. Marshal Dick indicated that the sand and the bags would be made available to our residents if needed.
- Radar Trailer: Marshal Dick reported that the radar trailer will be out of service until spring 2018.

Old Business:

- Melody Lane Project: Mr. John Doyle states that he was out this afternoon, after all the rain. He indicated that there were a few puddles. We will move forward with asphalt plans.
- Cable Franchise Ordinance: Attorney Herrbach explained that our current franchise ordinance only mentions Comcast. Mr. Herrbach will revise ordinance to include ACME and all other potential income generating franchises. A motion was made by Scott Silcox to revise ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Heath and then was unanimously carried.

New Business: None

Public Comment:

- Brent Bassett; 504 Johnson Road: He would like to have an update on the police advisory board meeting regarding the concerns of speeders on Johnson Road. He would also like to know about the radar trailer and the data that was downloaded off the radar trailer. Marshal Steve Dick responded by saying that he has met with the advisory board but is not ready to discuss, he will however make sure that the stats are accurate that are pulled off the trailer.
- Jim Switzer; 2708 Greenwood Ave. Mr. Switzer is also the electrical inspector of the Town of Trail Creek and expressed his concerns regarding:
 1. Contractor Registrations
 2. Permits / Permit Process
 3. Occupancy Permits

After a lengthy discussion with council, the clerk -treasurer and the building inspector it was decided that a special work session should be scheduled to discuss such concerns. Steve Thomas, Building Inspector will let Joshleen Denham know as to the date so that it can be advertised accordingly.

Clerk-Treasurer's Comment Ms. Denham in attendance to report that the software year end has been completed and that the gateway annual report will be submitted in the next few days.

Council Comment: Council Member, Scott Silcox gave kudos to the street department for their hard work during the snow removal season

There being no further business a motion was made by Mr. Silcox to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm; motion was seconded by Mr. Studtman and was then unanimously carried.

APPROVED:



Warren Schacht, Council President
Jennifer Heath, Council Vice President



ATTEST: Joshleen M. Denham, Clerk-Treasurer
March 20, 2018