

May 21, 2019

The Trail Creek Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana.

President, Jennifer Heath led us with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Studtman to approve the meeting minutes from April 2019 as written, motion was seconded by Mrs. Gralik and was then unanimously carried.

Approval of Fund Ms. Denham pointed out the Fund Report has an investment column; this shows our C/D amount. A motion was made by Mr. Silcox to accept April 2019 Fund report; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Gralik and was then unanimously carried.

Approval of Claims: Clerk, Joshleen Denham shared the APV for payables for the month of April 2019 in the amount of \$117,364.23 (ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED SIXTY FOUR DOLLARS AND TWENTY THREE CENTS) A motion was made by Mr. Studtman to approve the April 2019 bills in the amount above, motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried.

MS4: MS4 Coordinator; Kate Doyle in attendance to report:

- Rule 13 (MS4 Permit) and Rule 5 (Construction Permit) change effective July 01 2019
- Ms. Denham asked if the non-reverting fund could help to assist the town with the weather eroded roads at all? Kate indicated that she would let us know.

Attorney: Mr. Bill Herrbach, Town Attorney in to report:

- 1929 Coolspring; Ordinance Violation for garbage and junk. Mr. Herrbach advised council that last year, the street department cleaned up (which ended up in a workers compensation claim, costing the town a lot of money. Mr. Herrbach has sent letters with no response from property owner. He is in contract with the "trust" and has filed legal action through the courts.
- 3406 N. Roeske: Ordinance Violation; letter sent.
- State Building Code on Permitting: Attorney Herrbach indicates that this was passed via an ordinance years ago, however a copy can not be located. He will prepare and then send to the state for approval, once he receives this back, he will have council approve.

Engineer: John Doyle in attendance.

- Dog Park Change Order: An increase to the project in the amount of \$ 14,606.50 has been requested by the contractor due to soft soil. A motion was made by Mrs. Neumaier to approve the change order amount, motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and then was unanimously carried.

- Plans and Specifications for the 2019 Street Improvement Projects; INDOT Community Cross Matching Grant (75%)of funds. Mr. Doyle states that the project has been advertised for sealed bids. A special meeting has been scheduled for June 6, 2019 at 10:00 am for the pre-construction meeting. The bid opening has been scheduled for June 13, 2019 at 10:00 am. Bids will be opened and taken under advisement. The award or rejection of the bids will be done during our regular scheduled meeting on June 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Mr. Doyle indicated that there have been some issues with the grade of asphalt obtained by Rieth Riley, he will follow up on this.

Park Department: Park Department President, Jim Ganschow in to report:

- Park Board is aware of the Change Order for the parking lot due to “soft soil”
- Park Board Member; Melinda Nagle would like to donate a tree for the opening of the dog park. She will work with the street department regarding placement.
- Park Board Member; Amanda Wojasinski is working on “formal donation” forms and perhaps a sponsor for the postage for the fall festival flyers.
- Fall Festival: to be determined but hopefully in September 2019
- T-Ball/Softball with Michigan City; parking is getting better.
- Next Park Board Meeting the baseball contract will be discussed.

Building Inspector: No Report

Planning and Zoning: No Report

Police Department: Marshal Dick not in attendance; Police Advisory Board Liaison, Scott Silcox reported:

- Radar Trailer: Delay in deploring due to no sun
- Deputy Chris Southwell is being acknowledged for his hard work catching the criminal entering vehicles, which is a felony 3.

Street Department: Mr. Bruder, Street Commissioner in to report;

- The rain has made it very difficult to fill potholes, however they are working hard to fill them in between rains.
- Street Department is keeping an eye on the drains for blockage
- Nelson Park Shelter: Repairs have been made, but roof has to be dry prior to putting up the shingles.
- Sticks, Limbs and Branches are being picked up as schedule allows. (the compost sight was closed for 3 days due to the rain)
- Extra Carts from LakeShore/Borden Waste Away; if residents would like an extra cart please contact the town hall or the street department.

NIRPC: No Report

New Business: Discussed in Department Report

Old Business: Discussed in Department Report

Public Comment: None

Clerks Comment: Ms. Denham went over the financials again so that council and residents understood what our disbursements and revenue since 2015: This is a snapshot of our heavy expenses.

Equipment/Vehicles: \$ 580,769.40 (committed to, some not paid off til 2022)
Raises/Promotions: \$ 81,000.00
Police Station Rem.: \$ 166,000.00
2017 INDOT Grant: \$ 127,639.16 (25% Match with change orders)
Dog Park (Thus far): \$ 54,206.00 (committed money)
Salt Shed: \$ 12,000.00
INPRS: \$ 31,000.00 (annually)
Medical Insurance: \$ 90,000.00 (annually)
WC/Liability/Vehicle: \$ 54,000.00 (annually): experience rating down for next 3 years
Payroll: \$ 356,037.97 (annually)

Ms. Denham indicated that sometime in June or early July the department heads and council should have a special meeting to discuss 2020 budgets. She stressed that we should **ONLY** be spending money on our **NEEDS** until we can create a plan to remain financially strong.

The second call for the INDOT CCMG Grant is coming up very quickly, opens July 01, 2019. We need to be prepared for this. Mr. Doyle, Town Engineer will need to update the LTAP (Pavement Plan) prior to us doing the grant.

Council Comment: Council President, Jennifer Heath asked about the troubles with the garbage pickup. Ms. Denham indicated that she has been in contact with the CFO of Borden, Ken Himes as well as President of LakeShore, David Workmen. The regional manager for LakeShore, Don Diehl has been riding with the drivers to make sure they know our roads. Ms. Denham stated that residents who are missed are asked to contact the town hall so that it can be arranged for pickup. She further explained that if the company misses your recycling, that is handled by the Laporte County Solid Waste District and encouraged residents to contact them with any concerns.


Mrs. Heath also wanted to thank Deputy Southwell again for his outstanding work. She also thanked the Street Department and Park Departments for their continued hard work.

There being no further business a motion was made by Mr. Silcox to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm; motion was seconded by Mr. Neumaier was then unanimously carried.

APPROVED:



Jennifer Heath, Council President



Scott Silcox, Council Vice President

ATTEST:



Joshleen M. Denham, Clerk-Treasurer
June 18, 2019