

July 21, 2015

The Trail Creek Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana.

Council Vice President, Warren Schacht, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Not In Attendance: Town Attorney; Bill Herrbach, MS4 Coordinator; Kate Doyle, and Council Vice President; Jennifer Heath.

Special Guest: Indiana State Senator; Jim Arnold in to bring us information on what is happening in the General Assembly. Some of the items discussed were funding for education, Senate Bill 101; Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Common Construction Wage and the passing of a bill that will allow people with HIV to have a needle exchange program, if their county has been declared a disaster area such as Scott County. This program is overseen by the Health Department. Council President Warren Schacht thanked the Senator for coming.

Michael Cuss; General Manager of the Michigan City Sanitary District in to discuss the possibility of the Town of Trail Creek getting new sewer systems of which would be overseen by the Michigan City Sanitary District. Funding would be through SRF (State Revolving Fund) is running at a 2% loan rate. State of Indiana also does offer assistance to those residents on a fixed income to get their lateral connection to the sewer.

After a lengthy discussion, council took this recommendation under advisement.

Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Bayler to approve the meeting minutes from the June 16, 2015 as written; motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox, and was then unanimously carried.

Approval Of Fund A motion was made by Mr. Silcox to approve the fund report for June 16, 2015; motion was seconded by Mr. Bayler.

Approval of Claims Council Member; Jeff Studtman asked a question regarding an invoice for the Ex-Mark Mower; a response by Mr. Bruder was that this is our 72inch mower that the parks are mowed with and it had an electrical issue. The majority of this bill is labor. Mr. Silcox, Council Member then asked why the town received an invoice from Cloverleaf Garage; Mr. Bruder Street Commissioner explained that the International Dump Truck needed to be towed for the repair of the high pressure oil line. A motion was then made by Mr. Studtman to approve claims in the amount of \$ 44,383.34 (FOURTY FOUR THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY THREE DOLLARS AND THIRTY FOUR CENTS) the motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried.

Correspondence None

Department Reports:

MS4: Ms. Kate Doyle, MS4 Coordinator not in attendance. However, she had phoned earlier indicating that Mr. Rick Brown would be dropping off some more “puppy clean up bags” to promote residents to clean up after their pets. She also indicated that next month she would have a report on how the County Fair with relation to the MS4 Program went.

Attorney: Not in attendance, no report.

Engineer: Mr. Doyle, Town Engineer in attendance. He presented an invoice from Woodruff and Sons for the Time and Material job done for the inlet repair at Greentree and Dogwood Drive in the amount of \$3,946.60.

John Doyle also informed council that he had the opportunity to meet with Indiana Department of Transportation on July 17, 2015 in reference to the HWY 20 project. Attending this meeting was Joshleen Denham, Clerk Treasurer and members of INDOT: Program Director; Lisa Schrader , Technical Field Services; Steve Benzill and Engineer; Lindsey Quist. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the drainage issues that that affect our town. A notice to proceed with the project will be issued by an engineering firm sometime in May 2016 with an approximate bid date of October 2017. It was relayed by members of INDOT that they will access the area for drainage concerns, and do a hydraulic study for the entire length of the project, at INDOT's expense. It was also relayed by Lisa Schrader that the new project manager will be Amber Thomas, and her contact information was forwarded to John Doyle. INDOT representatives indicated that they would like to partner with the surrounding entities including Michigan City and LaPorte County to discuss these concerns. . It was also recommended by INDOT Tech Steve Benzill that perhaps the town should look into a Storm Water Utility Fund to help fund the drainage concerns in town. Ms. Denham, Clerk Treasurer stated that she would look into this.

Mr. Doyle mentioned to council members rain that we had over the weekend did cause some issues. Some pictures of the area were taken by Administrative Assistant; Rhea Bruder and forward to both the town hall and Mr. Doyle's office for review. Mr. Bruder; Street Commissioner explained that due to the power outages in the area the generator was having some difficulty keeping up. Therefore the Street Department brought over the mobile generator so that the storm water pumping station could keep up with the amount of water.

Street Department: Jeff Bruder, Street Commissioner in attendance. He stated that the storm clean up is going well and should be done within the next week.

Mr. Silcox asked about the new trucks, Jeff stated that currently they are at Freightliner and hopefully by mid August they will be at Lindco for the final additions to the trucks.

Also mentioned was that Nelson Park has been vandalized several times over this summer. He has repainted the ceiling to the concessions almost 3 times this year.

NIRPC: No Report

Park Department: Scott Silcox, Park Liaison indicated that the park department did meet to discuss Pritz Park. Wally Pritz had contacted Scott regarding getting some picnic tables put in. He asked Jeff Bruder, Street Commissioner if he would like to solicit Lowes or Menards for some donations. Jeff recommended getting some picnic tables through the prison, Penn Projects as we have in the past. Because those picnic tables are less expensive at about \$120.00 per table and are about 300 lbs a piece. Ms. Denham wanted to remind council that we do have two other parks that need to be maintained and brought up to date with equipment. Mr. Bruder was asked if there is a log for maintenance kept. Mr. Bruder stated that the parks are routinely looked at for safety and maintenance.

Building Inspector: No Report

Planning and Zoning: No report

Police Department: Marshal Dick in attendance. He stated that on the 5th of July there were some commercial grade fireworks at the Fish and Game. However, they did not make the town hall aware. Marshal Dick reviewed the ordinance and noted that the ordinance does not go into commercial grade fireworks. Therefore, he would like to have the town attorney review the ordinance for this. This will be in the new business section of the agenda.

Old Business:

- 2015 Street Improvement Project; after a lengthy discussion by the Street Commissioner, Engineer and Council it was decided that estimates should be done and available for our August Meeting of the below areas of concern:
 1. Yanke and Welnetz Road; Mill and Pave
 2. Greentree and RedOak; Mill and Pave
 3. Yanke and Coolspring; Mill and Pave or may be an overlay
 4. Whippoorwill some drainage and paving from Red Oak to Johnson Rd.

Funds to be used; Riverboat; LRS and our MVH Street Repair, we have about \$ 90,000.00 to put toward the Street Improvement Projects this year; Ms. Denham Clerk-Treasurer indicated to council.

- Park Ordinance Hours: Mr. Silcox ; Park Liaison indicated that the park board would like to see the revisions to the park ordinance that are recommended by Marshal. Marshal Dick stated that he has been unable to speak with the attorney, he would like to table this again until August.
- Updating Electrical Codes; Jim Switzer not in attendance nor is the attorney. This will be tabled until next month.

New Business: None

Public Comment:

- Jerraly Start; 2109 RedOak discussed concerns with fireworks.
- Lance Payne; 104 Penny Lane; discussed concerns with the way the baseball league is handling their funds. He indicated there are a few invoices that have gone unpaid. Ms. Denham expressed that she would make the attorney aware of this; however the way that Trail Creek Youth Sports handles the league has nothing to do with the town with the exception of the leasing of the fields to them.

Clerk-Treasurer's Comment: Ms. Denham; Clerk Treasurer stated that the budgeting process for the 2016 Budgets is now underway. The first meeting with the Department of Local Government Finance is July 29th, our first public hearing will be September 15, 2016 and the adoption will be October 20, 2016. Before then departments heads should provide her with their budgets or discuss concerns.

Also, the town hall has fielded many complaints regarding the GAF Plant omitting a smell in the air, this has been discussed in our council meetings in the past. Ms. Denham will put the IDEM complaint line on the town's facebook page and the website if anyone wishes to put in an official complaint.

Council Comment: There being no further business a motion was made by Mr. Studtman to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.; motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried.

APPROVED:


Warren Schacht, Council President

ATTEST:


Joshleen M. Denham, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: August 18, 2015