

FEBRUARY 21, 2017

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 8:30 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Blaylock.

Present were: BLAYLOCK, ALSOP, FLANDERS, WADE, and WATSON along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins.

The following visitors were present: Sacheen Day, Tom Cochran, Kainen Haggard, Phillip Kaiser, Dan Barton, Todd Wiley, Dan Busler, Tom Stahl, Don Alsop, Nathan and Jeanne Maudlin, Tim Wiley, Sue Krozel, Donald Neaveill, Amanda Bryden, Vicki and David Campbell, and Aaron Straub.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion the minutes of the previous regular meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Alsop seconded a motion the minutes of the January 24, 2017, special meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported that Attorney Bauer is unable to attend the meeting because of a federal court case.

Councilman Watson stated he has only gotten compliments thus far on Marshal Straub. He asked that he be contacted with any problems or complaints.

Councilman Flanders reported he has toured the Posey Co. Solid Waste District facility in Mt. Vernon. He is looking into scheduling a hazardous waste pick-up in New Harmony.

Councilman Alsop reported on the February Park Board meeting.

President Blaylock announced a \$1,000. donation was made to Maple Hill Cemetery by the estate of Frances Walls. He is also looking into the drainage problem in the parking area.

Kainen Haggard requested permission from Council to install a gaga pit in Murphy Park for his Eagle Scout Project. It will be located in the southeast corner of the Park. Council approved the request.

Todd Wiley, with the New Harmony Alumni Association, requested permission to place flags on the street light poles for the banquet to be held May 27. They plan to install the flags a week prior to the event and take them down the week following. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the request to install the flags be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock asked for Council discussion on temporary, one-day, golf cart permits. Councilman Flanders asked how visitors will be made aware of the requirements. He asked if signage would be installed. It was suggested that it be put on the website. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that one-day golf cart permits be offered for a \$5. fee. Payments will need to be made at Town Hall. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that the street closure request from Historic New Harmony be approved. They requested to close North St. between West and Arthur beginning April 19 thru April 21 for Heritage Days. They also asked that busses and volunteers be permitted to use the parking lot at the former school. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop made and Flanders seconded a motion that the festival application for Arts in Harmony to be held June 3 and 4 be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2017-2 in title only. This ordinance establishes a LOIT Public Safety Tax fund. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that Ordinance 2017-2 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock commented there are still some ATV's being ridden on Town streets. He feels that those who do not live in Town may not be aware that this is not allowed. He suggested that signs be installed at the East and South entrances of Town referencing I.C. 14-16-1-8. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that the signs be purchased and installed as discussed. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Tom Cochran, representing the New Harmony Christian Church, requested permission to install two handicap parking signs on their property. They plan to place the signs just inside the sidewalk. It was noted that this would be enforceable by the Town Marshal only if the Council adopts an ordinance establishing the handicap parking. Council agreed to see if the honor system works, and if not, further

action can be considered. Councilman Wade made and Flanders seconded a motion that the installation of the handicap parking signs be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Dan Barton questioned the cost for fire hydrant replacement which was recently done by the Town. He stated the actual cost was dramatically less than the estimate that was presented at a previous Council meeting. President Blaylock wasn't sure of the exact figures without looking back at the paperwork.

Mr. Barton asked President Blaylock why he preferred Erin Bauer as Town Attorney. President Blaylock stated Attorney Bauer came highly recommended and upon speaking with her, he was very impressed.

Mr. Barton asked Councilman Flanders how he came to prefer Josh Claybourn as Town Attorney. Councilman Flanders stated he looked at the depth of experience in making his decision. Councilman Flanders stated Council has made its decision and he is looking forward to meeting Attorney Bauer.

Mr. Barton asked if Council members were aware that Attorney Bauer was the employer for Thomas Clowers. President Blaylock stated he knew this at the time Attorney Bauer was selected, and that he didn't feel it was necessary to announce it.

Nathan Maudlin read a written statement he had prepared regarding the Town Council's Special Meeting that was held January 24, 2017. This statement is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Mr. Maudlin feels that Councilman Watson owes an apology to Councilman Flanders, the Council and the public for his conduct at the meeting.

Tom Stahl noted he has been attending meetings for some time, and he feels Council members talk about things at times other than Council meetings. He stated this is not transparency.

Councilman Flanders presented Resolution 2017-1. This Resolution supports the designation of Say's Firefly as the state insect. Councilman Flanders made and Wade seconded a motion that Resolution 2017-1 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Flanders presented an updated estimate from Sound Systems Inc. to install a sound system in the Council meeting room. There is an estimate for wireless and also wired systems. President Blaylock has spoken to another company about submitting a bid, but they declined to do so. President Blaylock noted some discrepancies in the quotes and asked for clarification. Councilman Wade questioned the labor charge on the quotes. Councilman Flanders offered to check on these questions. Councilman Alsop asked if a sound system is needed due to the size of the room. Councilman Flanders stated he sometimes has a hard time hearing those in the back of the room.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2017-1 in title only. This Ordinance sets the regular meetings of the Council to 8:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that Ordinance 2017-1 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop made and Watson seconded a motion that Council proceed with collecting training and other costs the Town expended on Caleb McDaniel while he was Town Marshal. Councilman Flanders made and Wade seconded a substitute motion that before a request is made to Caleb McDaniel for reimbursement, that the Town Council have a chance to see the recommendation the Town Attorney is making. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock gave an update on the floodplain. DNR is currently comparing the data from Illinois and Indiana and they hope to complete that by the end of February. President Blaylock will follow up no later than March 10.

President Blaylock announced the repairs to the steps and handrail at Maple Hill Cemetery have begun. This is being done as an Eagle Scout Project.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2017-3 in title only. This Ordinance sets materiality thresholds and policies. This is a mandate of the State Board of Accounts. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that Ordinance 2017-3 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock stated Marsh Davis, with Indiana Landmarks, submitted some information to Council on the Bridge.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer