

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting  
June 7, 2021 6:00 P.M.  
Municipal Building and Via Microsoft Teams  
90 N. West Street  
Spencer, IN 47460

**Board Members present:** Jon Stantz, Dean Bruce, and Mike Spinks

**Also, Present,** Clerk Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Town Attorney Richard Lorenz, Sewer Supt. John Hodge, Street Supt Tony Floyd, and Chief Richard Foutch.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the last meeting were presented for approval. Mike Spinks made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC MATTERS**

The first item on the agenda was to discuss the lowering of the speed limit at Thornridge. Addition. Several residents were on hand to express their opinion about lowering the limit from 30 mph to 15 mph. The reason for the request is the expansion of the addition, lack of sidewalks, and more young families with children. Several options were discussed on how to accomplish this, including speed bumps and rumble strips. The residents agreed to meet amongst themselves to come up with best option for their neighborhood.

Next, Micki Fountain, 309 Lovers Lane, approached the board about the overflowing drainage ditch threatening her yard and sidewalk. Jon Stantz said he will stop by tomorrow and assesses the situation to see how it can be corrected.

A signatory authorization was signed by the Board that will allow Jon Stantz to sign documents for the Community Crossings Grant application on behalf of the board.

Two bids were received for the Community Crossings project.

E&B Paving	\$261,313.00
Milestone Construction	\$272,618.27

**Mike Spinks made a motion to accept the E&B Paving bid, subject to review of the bid documentation. Jon Stantz seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.**

Tila and John Milligan approached the Board about a sewer adjustment related to filling a pool, twice due to a misunderstanding of where they could have it. Since the water did not go into the sewer system, they agreed they did not have to pay for the sewer.

There was a request by the Domestic Violence Group to use the Town meeting room on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. They will be in contact with the Police for access and locking up afterwards. The Board approved this usage.

Five Commonwealth invoices for \$15,336.16 relating to the I&I project were presented for approval.

**Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the invoices for payment pending approval by Matt Sward, seconded by Mike Spinks. The motion passed 3-0.**

Leslie Nieves, with Spencer Pride contacted the Board regarding drainage issues behind the Pride Building on Franklin. Some discussion took place, and the problem could be because of the building settling. Jon Stantz agreed to look at it and to offer some alternative solutions.

**IN THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Marce King gave a report on the Economic Development and Chamber of Commerce. She reported she got additional funds for the Overstreet Project from REMC and Duke. She is

working on a couple other organizations and hopes to have the project fully funded by donations.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

A public hearing was held prior to the Regular Town Board Meeting to let the taxing units know that there would be no refunding of unused tax funds.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Foutch reported on his department. They are still getting the new vehicle ready for the road. Chief Foutch reported that a veteran officer has applied to be the SRO, and two newly trained officers have applied to other agencies. Chief Foutch requested that they have a work session with his officers to see what they can do to retain these officers. A work session is scheduled for 5:00 pm on June 21, prior to the next regular meeting. Dean suggested this meeting be open to all Town employees.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Nothing new to report.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT**

Tony Floyd reported on the street operations and equipment. The Board decided the normal hours for the public restroom would be 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 pm. The closing hours will be extended for special events.

The Clerk-Treasurer reported that Jake Truax agreed to clean up the Demil property, primarily along the fence rows, abutting other properties, for \$1,500 initially, and then maintain it for \$150 per visit, which should be once a month.

**Jon Stantz made a motion to approve Jake Truax's proposal for cleanup of the Demil property, seconded by Mike Spinks, and passed 3-0.**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF SEWER DEPARTMENT**

John Hodge reported on plant and collections. He reported that Shawna Wetzel, 13 N. Fairview, had a sewer problem that was really caused by the Town's lines. She called a service to clean her line and paid them \$275, and then found out it was not her problem. She requests reimbursement. Upon presentation of the paid bill, the Town will reimburse her.

GRW will not provide an inspector for the phosphorous removal project. It was decided to have the Town building inspector handle the inspection of the concrete. The inspection fee will be paid to the inspector by the sewer department.

**Mike Spinks made a motion to pay \$100 per inspection, seconded by Jon Stantz. The motion passed 3-0.**

**Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the use of a vactor truck for cleaning out the lift stations, seconded by Dean Bruce. The motion passed 3-0.**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING & ZONING**

Nothing coming up.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF THE FIRE TERRITORY**

Chief Freeman requested use of the Riddle building for training. They also requested that they be allowed to park a truck in the Riddle building. Both requests were approved.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF PARKS & RECS**

They are still working on proposed projects and possibly applying for grants.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY**

Richard Lorenz updated the Board on various issues.

**Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the compliance for World Arts and sign the CF1s and CF2s. The approval was given even though they were noncompliant, because it was beyond their control. Mike Spinks seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.**

Richard Lorenz spoke to the Board about a meeting with Cook Medical and other entities about creating housing in Owen County for their employees. This was an initial meeting notifying the various entities including the Town sewer and how the Town will be able to provide their services.

**IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS**

**Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the 3% raise proposed in the 2021 Salary Ordinance, retroactive to the first of the year. Mike Spinks seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.**

2% has been paid through the end of June. The 1% back pay, along with the adjusted 3% rate will begin with the first pay in July.

**IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS**

Mike Spinks suggested that the Sewer Department look into an apprentice program.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Claims for May through June 7 were presented for approval. Claims were approved unanimously.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

A motion and a second to adjourn the meeting was made and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Jon Stantz  
Jon Stantz, President

Dean Bruce  
Dean Bruce, Vice-President

Mike Spinks  
Mike Spinks, Member

Attest Cheryl Moke  
Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer