

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting
July 17, 2023, 6:00 P.M.
90 N. West Street
Spencer, IN 47460

Board Members present Mike Spinks, Jon Stantz, and Dean Bruce.

Also, Present, Clerk Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Attorney Richard Lorenz, Sewer Superintendent John Hodge, Street Superintendent Tony Floyd, Chief Marshal Richard Foutch, and Hunter Stogsdill

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded and passed.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES

Chris Myers with the Rural Transit presented a proposed budget for 2024 along with a request for an increase in the contribution from the Town. Currently the town is contributing \$12,000 annually. The new budget shows a substantial deficit in 2024. She is asking the Board to consider an increase to help reduce the deficit. After some discussion, a 50% increase was agreed upon by the board in hopes that the County Commissioners would also increase their share.

Mike Spinks made a motion to contribute \$18,000 in 2024, seconded by Jon Stantz. Motion passed 3-0.

A real estate appraisal proposal and engagement letter with First Appraisal for the property next to the sewer plant was presented for approval.

Jon Stantz made a motion to move forward with the appraisal, Dean seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

An invoice from Archaeological Consultants of Ossian for \$7,875 was presented for approval.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the invoice, seconded by Jon Stantz, motion passed 3-0.

Next, Colleen Minnemyer made a presentation to the Board about how to move forward with the management of Cooper Park and FEMA lots. She presented several ideas on how she would proceed if given the opportunity. One possible way is for her to be under an agreement as a consultant. By doing this, she would be able to apply for grants and other funding opportunities, work with various other agencies like MyPath, the YMCA and the County to coordinate efforts for improvement and use. The board agreed that there was lots of opportunities for improvement and would like to work with her in the future. Carol Reynolds with the Parks Board was also on hand for some comments. She gave a history of where the Board came from and what they accomplished over the years. She always thought that they could do more if they had the proper budget. One of the things that needs to happen is a plan has to be made, before

there is a budget, and that is something the Board could work with Colleen to put together. Carol agreed that she would get with Colleen to discuss how to proceed.

Mike Sudol asked about the sidewalks on Jefferson St. and when they would be complete. Jon Stantz said he adjusted his bill for his share and would get the new cost to him tomorrow. The sidewalk work will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Hunter Stogsdill gave a brief update on the MCSP project. Jon Stantz talked about the delays with REMC for the Texas Pike project. The delay in getting the lift station up and running, may not have an affect on the timing of the project if because of the predicted low amount of water usage.

No new updates on Four Oaks.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

They will meet August 16.

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Foutch offered a letter of retirement from Officer Bonebrake to the board. He also asked if they could retire his service weapon. An ordinance will need to be prepared for that and approved at the next meeting.

Jon Stantz made a motion to accept the letter of retirement, seconded by Dean Bruce seconded, motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Nothing to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Tony Floyd gave a brief report on his department.

Jon Stantz had a question about a tree on Circle Drive. Tony said he would look at it tomorrow.

IN THE MATTER OF SEWER DEPARTMENT

John Hodge gave a report on the plant and collections. He reported that they started receiving sewage from the park. He said the flow is very minimal, and there is still not power to the flow meter, but they should be able to estimate the usage.

Ryan Klaassen took his test for his operator's license and passed. There will also be an Alliance conference in Fort Wayne where John Kelly will receive an award. It was decided that because John Kelly would attend, John Hodge and Ryan Klaassen would both attend as well for continuing education. John said he would look into it and get the details.

John also reported on the issue at the public restroom. He is taking care of correcting the line.

IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING & ZONING

No report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FIRE TERRITORY

Hunter Stogsdill gave a short report.

IN THE MATTER OF PARKS & RECS

Carol Reynolds gave a short report and will be in contact with Colleen Minnemyer. A meeting date will be set in the near future.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY

Richard Lorenz gave an update on several projects.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

Jon Stantz presented a bill from Steve Egemo for sidewalk work in the amount of \$7,527.50.
Dean Bruce made a motion to approve, seconded by Jon. Motion passed 3-0.

Jon Stantz also read a thank you note from the Cradick's for getting the property on Park Street cleaned up.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Claims were approved 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

A motion and a second to adjourn the meeting were made and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Mike Spinks

Mike Spinks, President

Jon Stantz

Jon Stantz, Vice-President

Dean Bruce

Dean Bruce, Member

Attest Cheryl Moke

Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer