

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting
February 7, 2022, 6:00 P.M.
90 N. West Street
Spencer, IN 47460

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

Also, Present, Clerk Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Chief Foutch, John Hodge, Tony Floyd, and Attorney Richard Lorenz.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Spinks made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, seconded by Dean Bruce. The motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Drew Flamion, Commonwealth Engineers regarding an update on the McCormick's Creek project. He reported that advertisement for the bids for this project will be on Wednesday, February 23, and the second one on March 2. The pre-bid meeting will be held Friday, March 4, 10:00 a.m. at the Sycamore Conference room at the Canyon Inn. Bids will be due on March 30th, by 4:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The bids will be open at a special council meeting to be held March 30th at the Town Hall. The award for the project will take place on April 4 at the regular town council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Next, Drew presented information on additional funding. Option 1 is through the state SWIF program. There will be a round 2, and application for this is due on July 15. Option 2 is for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law where there will be about \$130M for 5 years. There will be about \$60M available in grants. PER is due by May 1st, however there are points available if an application can be made by April 1st. This is available for 5 years. Drew suggested a meeting with SRF to see what the high priority projects are, to see if they match up with the Town's PER. Jon Stantz told Drew to proceed with setting up a meeting.

Resolution 2022-02 - OPPOSING LEGISLATION REGARDING THE BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX was presented for adoption by Richard Lorenz. This resolution states the Town of Spencer's opposition to the State legislation which proposes to eliminate business personal property tax. If this passes, the Town of Spencer will lose over \$800,000 in funds a year through distribution to the various entities who rely on this, such as the schools, libraries, and the town itself.

Jon Stantz made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Dean Bruce. The motion passed 3-0.

Ordinance 2022-03 Governing the Town of Spencer's Investment Policy. This Ordinance authorizes the Clerk-Treasurer to make investments into appropriate agencies. TrustIndiana is one of those agencies the Clerk-Treasurer wishes to make investments. The only stipulation by the State is that no more than 25% of the Town funds can be in the investment portfolio.

Mike Spinks made a motion to pass the ordinance, seconded by Jon Stantz. The motion passed 3-0.

Next on the agenda, LWG Engagement Letter – Wastewater Operational, Rate and Financing Sufficiency Analyses was presented for approval. The consulting fees are related to the wastewater project State Park project and will be paid by SRF funds.

Jon Stantz made the motion to approve the engagement letter, seconded by Mike Spinks. The motion passed 3-0.

LWG Engagement Letter for Municipal Advisory Services – Sewer Bonds was next presented for approval by the Board. This is also related to the State Park project.

Mike Spinks made a motion to approve the engagement letter, seconded by Jon Stantz. The motion passed 3-0.

LWG Engagement Letter – Advisory Services for the Redevelopment Commission was presented for approval by the Board.

Mike Spinks made a motion to approve the engagement letter, seconded by Dean Bruce. The motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Marce King gave an update on the Redi Initiative. Marce will share additional information as she receives it. She also dated the Board on the broadband initiative which she continues to work on. She also continues to work on the comprehensive plan. She is encouraging public input on this as it moves forward.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mike Spinks reported on the meeting held on January 19th.

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Foutch presented the resignation of Joseph Musgrove for the Board's approval.

Jon Stantz made a motion to accept the resignation, seconded by Mike Spinks. The motion passed 3-0.

Next, Chief Foutch proposed to fill the open position with Brad Deckard, formerly with the Owen County Sheriff's Department. The board requested an interview with Brad prior to the approval.

Next, Chief Foutch discussed the Golf cart inspection that his department created and possible use of Officer Nuenfeldt until the next class schedule.

Dean Bruce suggested that while the meeting continued, Jon Stantz and Brad Deckard moved to the police station for a conference. When Jon and Brad returned to the meeting, a motion was made to hire Brad with the standard 90-day probationary period.

Mike Spinks made a motion to approve the hiring, seconded by Dean Bruce. The motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Tony Floyd reported on the recent snow event. He held the overtime down to a minimum by operating on shifts. No word yet on the street sweeper that caught fire.

Tony asked the Board for permission to buy a 2005 Chevy Kodiak truck for \$28,500 to replace a truck that is no longer useable.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck, seconded by Jon Stantz. The motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF SEWER DEPARTMENT

John Hodge reported that there was damage to a manhole on 43 caused by a county plow. It will take a while to get it fixed due to weather. Jon Stantz asked if it could be secured down until it can be repaired.

IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING & ZONING

Planning and Zoning meetings were moved to February 15.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FIRE TERRITORY

Nothing new to report.

IN THE MATTER OF PARKS & RECS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY

Richard Lorenz reported that Ron Walker will update him tomorrow on their Texas Pike project.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

The Clerk-Treasurer asked about the house located at 168 W Wayne Street. The house is condemned, and the property has been repossessed by the bank. What is the next step for doing something about a condemned abandoned piece of property? Richard Lorenz said he will look into it.

Discussion took place regarding the hiring of a town manager versus an administrative assistant. Richard Lorenz described the duties of each. Jon Stantz described the position as a liaison.

Jon Stantz suggested that each of the board members and the clerk-treasurer look at sample job descriptions and determine what they want to include or not in this proposed position.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Claims were approved unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

A motion and a second to adjourn the meeting were made and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Jon Stantz

Jon Stantz, President

Dean Bruce

Dean Bruce, Vice-President

Mike Spinks

Mike Spinks, Member

Attest Cheryl Moke

Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer