

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting  
May 4, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.  
Municipal Building  
90 N. West Street  
Spencer, IN 47460

Board Members present: Dean Bruce and Cynthia Hyde, Jon Stantz was absent.

Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Town Attorney Richard Lorenz, Sewer Superintendent John Hodge, Street Dept. Superintendent Larry Parrish, and Chief Marshal Richard Foutch

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the Minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES**

An event registration was presented on behalf of Joseph Brosnan. He requests to be able to set up table in front of H&R Block for dispersing bottled water and materials at the Gay Pride Festival on June 6<sup>th</sup>. He has been doing this the last two years.

**Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve the request, it was seconded and passed 2-0.**

Next, an event registration was presented for the VFW for approval of a Beer Garden to take place on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The garden will be within the property of the VFW, and they have applied for the alcohol permit from the State. They will have a fence surrounding the area.

**Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the event registration for the VFW, it was seconded and passed.**

Dean Bruce proposed the Town begin to recognize individuals for their volunteerism, and in the future, this will take place at the same time as the National Volunteer Week takes place. This year, a suggestion to recognize Mary Wheeler was made. Dean Bruce presented Proclamation 2015-02. Along with this, a Plaque commemorating the volunteers will be located in the meeting room of the Town Hall.

**Cynthia Hyde made a motion to adopt Proclamation 2015-02, it was seconded and passed.**

Next, Pay Application 11 in the amount of \$79,992.00 for the Town of Spencer Integrated Rural Health Clinic Project was presented for approval. The entire amount is payable to Building Associates. Funds for this application will be from Centerstone.

**Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve Pay Application 11, it was seconded and passed.**

**IN THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Nothing to report.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Foutch reported on the department. He reported that the house located at the southeast corner of Hillside and East had some complaints brought by the neighbors for the property not being kept up. This property is currently in foreclosure and it may require that the Town maintain it and file a lien against it. Richard Lorenz asked for an email detailing the address and the conversation with the owner. Next, Officer Foutch presented some bids for review for a new police vehicle to be discussed at a later meeting.

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

Dean Bruce appointed Chad Briggs, Superintendent of Spencer Owen Community School Corporation, to assume the ex-officio representative vacancy. Mike Spinks talked about what the Commission was currently working on. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Just prior to that meeting, a Main Street Planning Grant steering committee meeting will take place at 6 p.m.

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

Larry Parrish presented a map from INDOT with proposed crossings that they would like to close during the road construction period of 2017 and 2018. The proposed closings are indicated with an X, and he would like to invite feedback from the residents before the decision for these closings is finalized. The map will be available at the Municipal Building for review and comment.

Larry also reported that his crew removed several dead trees recently, but they are replacing with new ones where they are needed or wanted.

Lastly, he reported that he is getting requests to pick up yard waste, and there are several incidents where the waste is obviously more than just cleanup. Some people are cutting whole trees and the cleanup is requiring multiple dump truck loads. A suggestion to limit the debris that will be picked up should be determined by the Street Dept.

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

John Hodge reported on plant maintenance and operations.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Richard Lorenz distributed a revised nuisance ordinance for review. He requested the council return to him with their comments.

### **IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS**

A leak request from Holly Patton from the last meeting was updated. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that the request did not meet the requirements, but may qualify for a hardship adjustment. One of the requirements is that the person requesting the tenant be the customer of record. If she signs up for service, the request will be considered. If not, the customer of record will have to apply for the adjustment.

Next Cheryl Moke discussed the change in employee insurance that took place as of the first of May. The Board discussed ways to re-invest the savings from this change, back to the employees. Several options are being considered, but will take more time to set up. The recommendation for now is that the savings initially be used to eliminate the employee's payroll deductions for the insurance. If anyone should exceed the out-of pocket amount of \$3,000 up to \$4,500, it will be reimbursed to the employees upon presentation to the Clerk-Treasurer. At the end of the year, the balance, and plans for reinvestment will be decided.

**Dean Bruce made a motion to pay 100% of the employee insurance for the remainder of the year, and any out of pocket expenses that may occur as a result of the change. At the end of the year, reinvestment opportunities will be looked into for the next year. The motion was seconded and passed.**

### **IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS**

**Dean Bruce made a motion to approve an invoice from Owen County Economic Development in the amount of \$490 for one-half the cost of the food for the Downtown Revitalization Presentation. It was seconded and approved.**

**IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Claims were presented and approved.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

Cynthia Hyde motioned to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean Bruce, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Stantz, Vice-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Hyde, Board Member

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer