

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting
June 15, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.
Municipal Building
90 N. West Street
Spencer, IN 47460

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

Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Street Superintendent Larry Parrish, Sewer Superintendent John Hodge, and Chief 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

Tax Abatement Hearing was called to order on behalf of the Owen County Economic Development Corporation. The Tax Abatement Committee reviewed the application for Project Hickory and has scored the application based upon the established criteria. The applicant scored very highly, and qualifies for maximum tax abatement. It is the recommendation of the Tax Abatement Committee, pending approval from legal counsel, that the Spencer Town Council approves the request for a 10-year abatement. They are requesting that the Council consider this matter, and make a decision at the next Town meeting to be held on July 6th. Greg Rashkowski, VP, Director Wood Planning, Procurement & Processing spoke on behalf of Brown-Forman Corp about the business plans for the Spencer operation. Their plans are to be up and running by November 1st. When they are fully operational with two shifts, they will be employing 65 people locally. The approval of the tax abatement will be tabled until next meeting when the Town Attorney will be present. The Public meeting was closed, and the Town Board Meeting was resumed.

A request from Shelley Mitchell for an event registration for Grant Daughtery Fund Raiser to be held at Cooper Park on June 27th, 2015 was presented. The event will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the event request. It was seconded and passed.

Les Jordan also presented a request for an event for the Tivoli Theater for June 20th, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event, "Dino Daddy", is in conjunction with the showing of Jurassic World, and they are requesting closure of Washington Street between the alley and Franklin Street. Les did not have any details regarding the event, but will have someone call with more information.

Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the request, (contingent upon what they are doing is appropriate). The motion was seconded and approved.

Andrew Peterson was present to discuss an issue regarding the closing of the exit/entrance for his property where Pizza Hut is located. He said he made a call to Mr. Lorenz and was told that

all properties along Morgan would have a right turn only exit. He has since learned that this is not the case. He is questioning why he was being forced to make this change. He also stated that INDOT told him that the decision was made at the town level. Mr. Peterson asked for permission to pursue this with INDOT. He would like the opportunity to do what he could to remain viable and competitive, but does not want to pursue this if the Town is against. Dean Bruce told him to do what was best for his business.

Matt Sward with SIDC, presented two pay applications for the Spencer Rural Health Clinic Project. Pay applications 12 and 13 for Building Associates in the amount of \$51,557.00. These include Change Order #7 in the amount of \$566. Payment is \$31,577 from Centerstone, and \$20,000.00 from the Town Edit Funds.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the change order 7 for \$566, and pay applications 12 and 13 for a total of \$51,577 and approval of substantial completion. The motion was seconded and passed.

The Clerk-Treasurer asked if the fee for sewer tap on was waived, and yes it had been.

IN THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Nothing to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Nothing new to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Nothing to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Foutch reported that he was expecting a resignation in the next week. Because of that, he would like the Town Council to permit him to offer the open position to one of the reserves if and when that position becomes open.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to allow Chief Foutch to hire Reserve Officer Anthony Pope to a full time position when the resignation is received. The motion was seconded and passed.

Next Chief Foutch said they were going through an application process to bring the reserve officers back up to ten. He also reported that he ordered the new Interceptor, is looking at equipment packages, and thinks he will end up coming in \$2,000 lower than originally anticipated.

IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Larry Parrish reported on a tree at 389 N. Washington that needs to be removed. He asked permission from the Board to do this. The Board agreed for him to do it. Larry stated he has been spending a lot of time looking at trees, some at homeowners' request, and trying to remove the worst of them.

Larry then asked about a pay increase for one of his employees. There was some discussion about whether there is a category missing on the salary ordinance. Cynthia said she looked at it, and thought it should be at \$13.54. There was some discussion about discrepancies between the salary ordinance and the personnel policy. The Clerk-Treasurer said she would take a look at the policy and the ordinance and get them in alignment. If it requires an amended salary ordinance, she will prepare it for the next meeting. The change in pay will be retroactive to the payroll date of June 19th, 2015. This change will affect the three most recent new hires.

Larry Parrish next discussed his search for a truck. He reported that he could get a trade-in value for the two vehicles in the amount of \$4,500.00. He would like to know what the Town would approve, in addition to the trade-in. The Clerk-Treasurer suggested that Larry be allowed a total of \$19,500 for a budget, with a minimum of \$4,500 trade in value.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to allow Larry Parrish a budget of \$19,500.00, which includes a minimum of \$4,500 from the two vehicles for trade-in or sale. The motion was seconded and passed.

Michael Spinks asked a question about damage caused by trees in the tree plot. The question is whose responsibility is it when there is damage to the property owner? The Clerk-Treasurer said she would check with the Town's insurance agent and the attorney and report back.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT

John Hodge had nothing new to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FIRE TERRITORY

Nothing to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY

The Attorney is on vacation.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Claims were presented and approved.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Jon Stantz motioned to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.

Dean Bruce, President

Jon Stantz, Vice-President

Cynthia Hyde, Board Member

Attest: _____
Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer