

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting
March 7, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.
Municipal Building
90 N. West Street
Spencer, IN 47460

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

Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Moke, and Town Attorney Richard Lorenz and Wastewater Superintendent John Hodge and Police Chief Richard Foutch. Street Superintendent Larry Parrish was absent.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was passed.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES

Chris Conner, with the Owen County Humane Society presented an update on the organization for 2015. Even though the intakes in 2015 compared to 2014 were lower, they have increased significantly in 2016. They have also begun a program to control the cat population by live trapping and neutering. This program has just begun.

An event request for Boston Scientific for the 3rd Annual Boston Scientific 5k to be held on May 14th, 2016, scheduled to be begin at 9:00 a.m. and be complete by 10 a.m. was presented. They are requesting no street closures on the race will take place entirely within the May Addition, and will not cross any major roads. The event will benefit Girls Inc.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve the event request. The motion was seconded and passed.

Next, Brooke McIntosh presented an event request for OVSC Baseball/Softball Opening Day Parade to be held on May 7th, 2016. This is an annual event that starts at the fairgrounds, proceeds up Cooper to Main Street, then along SR46 to 5th Avenue. They are requesting a police escort, and will obtain a permit from the State of Indiana as well. The parade will begin at 10:00 a.m., and will last for approximately 30 minutes.

Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the event request for May 7th. The motion was seconded and passed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Nothing to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Michael Spinks reported that everything was in place and published in the newspaper to set up the Riverfront Development District.

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Foutch requested that the contract for Leads Online be renewed for one year.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to renew the contract in the amount of \$1,188. The motion was seconded and passed.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Sheila Reeves, along with Jon Stantz updated the Board on the task force's recommendation to hire a new building administrator.

Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the recommendation for the building administrator.

Discussion regarding this recommendation ensued. Cynthia Hyde questioned whether the recommendation for the administrator should be voted on, because she did not know that the Board would not have more input. Donnie Minnick was also present, and requested that the Board not vote in favor, but rather split their vote 1 in favor, and 2 against, so that the total votes are 3-3 and the decision tabled. Discussion continued on regarding the process of hiring. Dean Bruce commented that because we are at this point in the process, that it would be difficult to change now. A call for a vote was made.

Jon Stantz and Dean Bruce voted in favor and Cynthia Hyde voted against. Motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT

The Clerk-Treasurer requested on behalf of Larry Parrish that approval to buy a used Elgin Sweeper for \$3,000. The Sweeper was originally owned by Monroe County and has fewer miles on it than the one we currently use. A question of fund should be used, and if there are no funds available in the general fund, then the CEDIT fund can be used.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve the purchase of the Elgin Sweeper, not to exceed \$3,000. The motion was seconded and passed.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT

John Hodge reported on the plant. He requested that he be allowed to look at the possibility of purchasing a jetter for the department. Currently, they outsource whenever they need to have lines cleaned, and Ellettsville is no longer interested in doing this. If they have to rely on Commercial Services, they cannot always get them immediately, and they charge a lot more. Having their own jetter, would also allow them to do preventive maintenance instead of waiting until there is a problem. A jetter model he was looking at would cost about \$49,000. The board agreed to have John research this further and get quotes.

The Clerk Treasurer reported on the annual report and the Funds statement for 2015. She recently found out that she had not been reporting a fund that is being held at the Mellon Bank of New York for approximately \$478,000. This fund can be used for final payments, or be returned at the end of the loan period. In addition, she has been reserving approximately \$1.2 million in maintenance reserves that can be used for rehabbing lines. John Hodge will look at areas that need to be rehabbed, and estimate the cost.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY

Richard Lorenz asked for an update on the SR46 project, and whether or not we had to pay for any more engineering. According to Jon Stantz, the State has now approved the plan, and no more engineering service from GRW will be required.

Next, discussion regarding the replacement of certain water lines along the State 46 project that will occur during the construction took place. A question of sending a courtesy letter to the customers who will be affected was discussed. There was some thought that the Town should send this letter, but since the water pipes and water service is not under the control of the town, it might be better that the letter come from Bean Blossom Patricksburg Water Corp. Mr. Lorenz said he will look into this further.

Next, Mr. Lorenz said that Mr. Gates, a manager for Demil, Inc. would be in to the Municipal Building in the next week to pay the sewer bill. He also said they were not interested in capping it because it would be sold very soon. (*Note: Pain Real Estate Holdings, LLC, former owners of the Rostone property sold the property to Demil Holdings, LLC on December 30th. To date, the Town has received no payments for sewer service since August 28, 2015. A lien was filed on January 27, 2016 for \$570.41, and since that time, they owe an additional \$351.70.*)

Next, Mr. Lorenz reported that Community Natural Gas would like to install a regulator line for a new line to Cook. It will be placed on Town property, but Richard said he would discuss with Larry Parrish, but did not see any issue with it. He said he would proceed with creating the documents for the easement.

Lastly, Richard Lorenz asked to have his agreement amended to bill at \$175 per hour. He requested this change a couple of years ago, but never processed the amendment.

Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the request to amend the agreement for services. The motion was seconded and passed.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

Cynthia asked about the list of RFQ's for selection for the Downtown Revitalization Grant application. They discussed choosing a couple that they have worked with in the past. Dean and Cynthia will put together a list.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

Chief Foutch asked for the Board's permission to advertise for Police Reserves. Permission was granted.

Discussion regarding the speed limit in the business district along Main followed. A suggestion was made to make the streets around the square all four-way stops to slow the traffic.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Claims were presented and approved.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

/S/ JON STANTZ
Jon Stantz, President

/S/ DEAN BRUCE
Dean Bruce, Vice-President

/S/ CYNTHIA HYDE
Cynthia Hyde, Board Member

Attest /S/ CHERYL MOKE
Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer