

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting  
September 6, 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: Chief Foutch, Street Superintendent Larry Parrish, Sewer Superintendent John Hodge, Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Moke, and Town Attorney Richard Lorenz.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES**

Craig Newforth asked the Town Council why he was required to pay a \$50 fee before he could turn his electricity back on at a location. Duke required an inspection before they would turn it on, and the Town Ordinances specifies fees related to this inspection. He was referred to the ordinance.

Andrea White presented an event registration for Spirit of the Doughboy 5k & 10k on behalf of Spencer Main Street, Inc. for September 9<sup>th</sup> between 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The race will begin at the Doughboy; continue down Main to Cooper, and across the bridge. They are requesting no facilities, but wanted to make the Town aware of this.

Next she submitted an event request on behalf of the Tivoli for the Halloween Happenings to take place on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 5 to 10:30 p.m. They are requesting street closure along Washington from the alley to Franklin Street. The event will include hay rides which will utilize this area for drop offs and pickups.

Lastly, she requested an event registration for Christmas on the Square to take place on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. They are requesting the parking meters on the east side of Main St be marked as no parking from 1-6 for horse drawn carriage rides and full street closure of South Main Street to Cooper St and Cooper Street be closed to the fairgrounds from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Dean Bruce made three motions to approve all three events. All motions were seconded and passed.**

Clifford McGuire spoke to the council about a complaint he made about a neighbor on Tanner Street. He stated that the neighbor may clean a little, but never cleans it up entirely, and he has

to constantly keep coming back in to complain. He would like the Town to be able to enforce the ordinance so he doesn't have to keep complaining. This particular property is located at 64 W. Tanner. Chief Foutch said he is following up on this complaint on a regular basis and is stepping up the fees if he is not in compliance. In addition the shed he built will need to be inspected by the building department to make sure it is safe and in compliance.

He also made a complaint about the property located at 25 W. Tanner. After some discussion, it was decided if the bank did nothing about it by the end of the week; it would be turned over to Richard Lorenz for legal action. Mr. McGuire asked if there was any way to get a progress report on the resolution of these properties. He was told to come back to follow up at a subsequent meeting.

Next, Tom Pitman with Barnes & Thornburg presented information about TIF districts in general, and answered questions about Spencer's proposals in particular. In summary, he did not feel there was any reason not to include all businesses properties in a TIF district, as the Redevelopment Commission recommended. After some discussion, the Board, along with Mike Spinks and Richard Lorenz thought it might be better to take the TIF district only a half a block on either side of Morgan so as not to include as many residential parcels. Tom advised if any parcels are a drag on the money, than remove them from the district.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Gwen Tucker reported that the Owen County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development will hold their annual meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup> out at Abram Farm from 6pm to 8:30 p.m. Also a joint session of the Redevelopment Commissions will be held on September 13<sup>th</sup>. She will send out a message later to the commissions.

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

Mike Spinks reported their next meeting will be on September 21<sup>st</sup>. He said during the joint session of the Redevelopment Commission to be held on September 13<sup>th</sup>, he will discuss the changes in the new proposed TIF District so that the Commission will be up to speed, and be ready to approve the proposed district at the regular September meeting.

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Foutch recommended that Alan Lewis be allowed to be added as a chaplain, along with Alvin McFadden.

**Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve the request to add Alan Lewis as a secondary chaplain. The motion was seconded and passed.**

Chief Foutch reported that they should be hearing about the grant to purchase vests sometime in October.

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Jon Stantz reported that Rick Smeltzer was recommended and hired as the Building Superintendent and will begin as soon as possible.

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

Larry Parrish reported that all paving was completed for the year.

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

John Hodge reported that during a power outage on August 28<sup>th</sup> a motor on a blower at the plant went out. He said he could get it rebuilt for \$1,592.71 or a new one for \$2,171.45. The old one is approximately 10 years old.

**Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the purchase of the new motor from Wabash Valley Motor in the amount of \$2,171.45. The motion was seconded and passed.**

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

Richard Lorenz stated that he got a request from the Owen County Courts about distributing a parking tag to perspective and active jurors allowing them to park without paying the meters. They are requesting the Town give permission to allow this. It was decided to give temporary permission for this and further discussions on how to do this on a long term basis.

Next he reported to Larry Parrish that he got a response from a property owner about a tree being removed that was interfering with the power lines and they will be removing it soon.

Finally, he reported that Re-establishment of the Cumulative Capital Development was denied because of a glitch in the publishing in the Evening World. After talking with Dan Jones, he thought he followed his instructions, but was later told that he should have sent him what was completed by August 1<sup>st</sup>. If they do in fact deny our request, we will have to wait until next year and resubmit.

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

Dean Bruce mentioned that the HighPoint Global workshop would be held on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Jon Stantz made a motion to approve an event registration for the Apple Butter Festival put on by the Lions Club, based on the 2015 registration. The motion was seconded and passed.**

Discussion about Halloween hours took place.

**Dean Bruce made a motion to establish the Halloween Trick or Treat hours for 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Cynthia Hyde seconded the motion and the vote was 2-1, with the negative vote being cast by Jon Stantz.**

The 2017 Budget Notice was distributed to the Board by the Clerk-Treasurer for review.

### **IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Claims were presented and approved.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 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