

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, January 7, 2020, 6:30 PM

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

The Clerk-Treasurer called the meeting to order with Council Members Budreau, Kauffman, Rush, Colanese and Doll present.

Also in attendance were Andrea Halpin, Jared Huss, John Mrozinski, Jill Doll, Cal Dittmar, Jack Daly, Rich Waldo, Dan Caruso, Debra DuRall.

The Clerk-Treasurer opened the floor to nominations for 2020 Council President.

Council Member Colanese nominated Marcy Kauffman to serve as Council President for 2020. The motion was seconded by Council Member Budreau.

There were no additional nominations and the floor was closed.

The Clerk-Treasurer called for a vote on the nomination of Marcy Kauffman to serve as the president of the council. Upon a unanimous vote, Council Member Kauffman was elected to serve as Council President for 2020.

President Kauffman opened the floor to nominations for 2020 Council Vice President.

Council Member Doll nominated Jordon Budreau to serve as Council Vice President for 2020. The nomination was seconded by Council Member Colanese.

There being no further nominations, the floor was closed.

President Kauffman called for a vote on the nomination of Jordon Budreau to serve as vice president of the council. Upon a unanimous vote, Council Member Budreau was elected unanimously to serve as the 2020 Council Vice President.

President Kauffman welcomed everyone and thanked previous council members Ken Carter and Dan Vermillion for their years of service and dedication to the town. She will announce the council commission appointments at the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Vice President Budreau moved to accept the minutes of the December 17, 2019 General Meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rush and passed 3-0. Council Members Doll and Colanese abstained.

Visitor Comments

- Rich Waldo, New Prairie Little League President

Expressed his thanks to the Town Council and congratulated them for their public service. He is the President of New Prairie Little League this year and is employed by the USPS. He is in attendance seeking the Council's consent to install permanent fence around the minor league outfield. Rich submitted a map of property lines to the Council for review. He stated that set-up for Historical Days sets up outside the field so wouldn't be affected and permanent fence would better serve Little League. He added that they are unable to weed whip around the current fence as it is temporary and that the length of fence needs to overlap to prevent potential injury with someone running out onto the field. He would like something permanent and more aesthetically pleasing and Little League brings many to Town and would make a good impression. In closing, he asked for consideration and approval to make the park better by installing permanent fencing. He also asked who they need to contact to build a shed.

Some discussion on the fencing was held. Council Member Colanese asked if the cargo fencing wasn't used on both fields because flag football also uses that area. Rich stated that they have talked to them and no one seemed to object. Council Member Colanese asked if they have given any thought to fixing the tall fence on the major field as it looks bad. Rich responded that he was not aware there was an issue. Council Member Rush stated that in looking into this when it was first brought to her, she found that some of the reasons for only allowing the temporary fencing in the past were to allow room for parking and festivals, hometown days and flag football. Council Member Budreau suggested a work session for further discussion between everyone involved. President Kauffman stated that the Council would take this under advisement.

- Jack Daly

Jack welcomed all of the new council members and stated that with the recent changes to the town council membership and openings on the RDC, he feels that it would be a good time for the Council to submit a revised statement letter regarding the IEC to all. He suggested that the statement include a call for a moratorium on continued IEC development and respectfully requested that the Council seriously consider issuing such a statement.

- Dan Caruso

Dan expressed congratulations to the new and returning council members. Stated that Jack has just expressed what he wanted to say and if anyone was at the last commissioner's meeting where Bill Schalliol pronounced they now control twenty-one acres at Willow and 2, they understand. He expressed how proud he was to have Marcy get up there and ask Bill to use better language and to use some finishing skills. So, please, do what Jack asked.

Employee Reports

- Chief Cal Dittmar

Chief Dittmar reported that he is still working on hiring a new guy, doing background checks now and will hire by end of the month.

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- Attorney Andrea Halpin

Andrea informed the Council that she has been on vacation but did meet with developers regarding some potential issues. She has also fulfilled some interesting records requests at the police department. Andrea has discussed with Marcy several needed meetings including a work session and executive session regarding litigation that is both threatened and pending, as well as scheduling a work session and orientation for the Council. She feels that holding an orientation meeting after everyone returns from the Newly Elected Officials Boot Camp would work best. An executive session was scheduled for January 18th at 9 AM at the town hall.

- Public Works Director John Mrozinski

John welcomed the two new members and thanked them for taking the time to go around with him looking at town buildings and equipment. John reported that he is leaving tomorrow and will be back on Saturday.

- Engineer Jared Huss

Jared welcomed the new members to the Council. He has been primarily working on the Community Crossings Matching Grant. Closeout of the second round is complete and we will be going for another in the grant application process that opened yesterday. We will be submitting two projects including Zigler Street and Filbert Street. This is again a 75/25 matching grant with the watermain replacement on Zigler Street not covered as part of the grant.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Discussion Regarding Hiring Policy and Employee Handbook

President Kauffman stated that in order to familiarize the Council with policies and procedures of the Town we need to have one or two work sessions, with it taking up to a month to review everything. She would like for the Council to implement a hiring freeze for one month until everyone has a good understanding of the Town's processes and policies. Vice President Budreau expressed agreement and motioned to establish a hiring freeze for thirty days effective immediately. Andrea stated that the timeframe could be adjusted as necessary with Council approval. The motion was seconded by Council Member Doll and passed unanimously. Council Member Colanese asked if this was going to cause a problem for Cal and where he is in the hiring process. Cal replied no because the department has their own hiring policy in the SOP. Andrea stated that the SOP has to be approved by the Council and they must have a good understanding of what he wants to put into place. Cal stated that they are using the 2008 SOP that was finally distributed to them last year.

Council Member Doll asked if it would be permissible to have two liaisons for each of the commissions appointed by the President. Andrea replied that statute allows one and she would need to research whether there can be two, although she is not aware of any prohibition. Council Member Colanese asked if it would be better to have one liaison and one additional council member present. Andrea responded that the liaison could have an additional council member with them.

Ordinances and Resolutions

- None

Council Reports

Council Member Rushl

No report.

Vice President Budreau

Vice President Budreau reported that the Town holiday party sponsored by Lawson Fisher and Halpin Slagh will be held on Wednesday, January 15 at 6 PM at Moser's. He would like to speak with Andrea later regarding the shredder plant as he recently had a lengthy discussion with Commissioner Dave Thomas on what the Town can do in that case but needs to discuss with Andrea first. Even though it is in Olive Township and not the Town limits, there is another way for the Town to address the issue with that plant. He reported that Commissioner Thomas stated that the shredder is not abiding by the rules that were originally established since the new company came in following the bankruptcy of the other company.

Vice President Budreau will be sending his comments regarding the IEC Statement that is being reviewed to Marcy as was requested.

Council Member Colanese

Council Member Colanese stated that there is supposed to be an impermeable mat for protection that the shredder company has outgrown and that the fire chief has the authority and is completely on board with. He would like to address the committee from OSAA to suggest that they make this one of their key projects as they are not protecting the aquifer. Dan Caruso responded that they are focused on that now. Council Member Colanese expressed that he is happy to hear that as the fire department has been making approximately twelve runs a year out there and are pumping hundreds of thousands of gallons of water. Andrea stated that we don't want to make statements at this time as you are speaking as a council member and should instead consult President Kauffman to request it be put on the agenda so that everyone can prepare for the conversation. There should be no action without a majority of the council to enact any official action and if you don't have that, it is a personal statement only. Andrea will address this in more detail in the orientation. Resident

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Jack Daly stated that, as a private citizen who opposed this, he is happy to hear that the Council is investigating and looking into it.

Council Member Doll

Thanked everyone who voted in the election, whether or not it was for him, as he truly appreciates everyone taking the time to do so.

President Kauffman

President Kauffman is working on revision of the IEC statement using the suggestions she has received and asked for any additional input the council members may have. She would like to schedule a work session for discussion on the employee handbook, SOP and hiring procedure policy.

Because most members of the council will be attending the AIM Newly Elected Official training in Indianapolis, it is necessary to reschedule the next meeting. It was decided to move the meeting to Thursday, January 23rd at 6 PM.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report

All of the close-out documents for the Community Crossings Grant have been submitted to INDOT and have been accepted.

Bills to be Paid

Vice President Budreau moved to pay all bills as presented on the Claim Docket. The motion was seconded by Council Member Doll and passed unanimously.

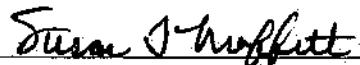
Adjournment

Upon a motion by Vice President Budreau and second by Council Member Rush the meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.



Marcy Kauffman, Council President

Attest:



Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer