

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, March 5, 2019, 6:30 PM

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Carter called the meeting to order with Vice President Vermillion, Council Member Budreau, Council Member Kauffman, Council Member Rush and Clerk-Treasurer Susan Moffitt present.

Also in attendance were John Mrozinski, Jill Doll, Josh Szuba, Dan Caruso, Cal Dittmar and Stephanie Murphy.

Minutes

Vice President Vermillion moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2019 General Meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Budreau and passed unanimously.

Visitor Comments

- Dan Caruso

Mr. Caruso stated that he is a member of the Open Space Air and Agriculture Alliance and read a letter that he has submitted for publication in the New Carlisle Gazette. His letter reports what happened in Elwood, Illinois in 2002 and compares it to current day New Carlisle. Local leaders in Elwood allowed Center Point Intermodal (CPI) to construct millions of square feet of container storage and product preparation facilities in Elwood. He describes the promises of economic growth that were made and would include local entrepreneurs and small business owners, property values that would surge and schools that would benefit. He stated that this is not what has happened in Elwood and in fact they have experienced increased truck traffic, failing infrastructure and insufficient funds for Elwood due to abatements that were given. He compared their population of 2200 to New Carlisle and the promises being made in the proposed IEC.

Employee Reports

- Police Chief Cal Dittmar

Chief Dittmar reported that they will begin interviews for the Information Clerk position open in the police department.

On April 10th the department is hosting a "Lunch and Learn" through Watchguard for in-car video and video on-person. Chief Dittmar reported that he is looking at purchasing new car video systems and body cams. He has invited Chiefs from all over the area including Valparaiso.

- Public Works Director John Mrozinski

John reported that the spring cemetery clean-up will be held on Friday March 22nd with a rain date of Monday, March 25th.

He received the Bray Street appraisals today and this is on the agenda for tonight.

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Continuance of the cemetery mowing contract would remain at the same price. The Cemetery Board will be meeting next.

John will attend the RFQ meeting Thursday at Lawson Fisher regarding wastewater assessment. Council Member Budreau will attend as well.

Old Business

- Bray Street Property Appraisals

We have two appraisals for the Bray Street property that would allow us a larger right-of-way for the lift station and also provides access to Timothy Road that could be used for connectivity in the future. John spoke with the landowner and they are willing to sell the property for \$15,000, the average of the two appraisals. Council Member Budreau asked if closing costs were included in that amount and John reports that those will be additional.

Council Member Budreau moved to approve the purchase of 716 Bray Street for the price of \$15,000 and the to-be-determined closing costs and fees. The motion was seconded by Vice President Vermillion and passed unanimously.

John will forward the appraisals to our attorney for review.

New Business

- Request to Waive Penalties

The Council received a request to waive penalties from a bank representing one of our residents. President Carter stated that it is his responsibility to make sure the bill gets to where it needs to be on time. If her bank was late issuing the check, it is their responsibility. Vice President Vermillion stated he uses the same type of banking and he can understand where she is coming from. He always keeps confirmation numbers and if someone comes back and says it is late maybe the bank should be responsible but he doesn't have a problem waiving the penalties and feels it would be a good gesture. Council Member Kauffman questioned what if the late fee was \$100 and also whether we would be setting precedence.

President Carter stated that he cannot agree with this as it is each person's responsibility to pay their bills on time whether it is by them or their bank.

Council Member Budreau asked about possibly looking into online bill pay in the future. Sue explained that there is new software that we will be changing to and one of the changes would include the ability to offer online bill pay.

Vice President Vermillion moved to credit \$4.31 to the residents account.

There was no second and the motion was not considered.

Council Reports

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Council Member Kauffman

Council Member Kauffman reports a good meeting with John and Jared to present the proposed Community Crossings Grant Projects to the residents that would be directly impacted. She feels that it was very well done and that it is great to communicate ahead of time.

Council Member Budreau

Council Member Budreau suggested that we look into Workforce Development Training that might be available for employees and possibly budget for that next year.

President Carter

President Carter stated that there will be another AIM Roundtable in Middlebury on Thursday, April 18th. He, Council Member Kauffman and John Mrozinski requested that Sue register them.

The Fire Territory meeting has been changed from March 11 to March 19th at 7 PM at the fire station. The Town Council meeting will be need to be changed to 5 PM on that day to allow for time.

Council Member Budreau motioned to move the Town Council General meeting to 5 PM on March 19th to allow the Council to attend the 7 PM Fire Territory Meeting. Council Member Kauffman seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Regarding the Praxair account, President Carter stated that evidently Josh reached out and the equipment they say we still have was from a previous administration. President Carter doesn't feel we should be responsible and has asked John to look into switching companies as the fire department and water plant have and then have Praxair pick up their equipment.

President Carter reported that he has been in contact with a lawyer that will represent the Council acting as the Safety Board so that we can move forward with that topic. She has been involved with safety board procedures before. He reported that she is available most evenings and he would like to do this in the next couple of weeks. President Carter stated that he will send texts to everyone to check availability. He reported that she will meet with the Council and give procedural guidelines for the hearing.

We tabled a bill from Olive Township for fire territory legal services that did not contain itemization of services and time periods at the last meeting. Vice President Vermillion moved to pay the legal fees, not to exceed \$477.36, to Olive Township upon receipt of an itemized statement that includes the time period the services were provided, either by check or by credit to quarterly fire and ems billing to Olive Township. The motion was seconded by Council Member Budreau and passed unanimously.


Bills to be Paid

Council Member Budreau moved to pay all bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice President Vermillion and passed unanimously.

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Adjournment

Upon a motion by Council Member Budreau and second by Vice President Vermillion the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.



Ken Carter, President

Attest:



Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer