

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, March 28, 2017 5:00 PM

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also in attendance were Andrea Halpin, Jared Huss, Josh Schweizer, Jeff Roseboom, Jason Quirk, Tonya McKee, Jill Doll, Bob Middlebrook, Carol Middlebrook, John Gelow, Dave Doll, Sandy Raabe, Matt Wood, Mary Ann Swope, Ryan Beall, Marcy Kauffman, Perry Hinton, Ed Niespodziany, Madison Niespodziany, Chad Harmon and Cal Dittmar.

Bid Openings

President Carter opened the two bids received for the surplus emergency equipment.

Bid #1	Kenny Warner	\$4,000.00	2000 Freightliner Arrow
Bid #2	Wolf Pen Hollow Fire Service	\$7,001.00	1997 Freightliner FL-80
		\$6,810.00	2000 Freightliner Arrow
		\$7,050.00	1988 Pierce Arrow Ladder

Neither of the bids received met the minimum bid amount and were taken under advisement.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Vermillion moved to accept the minutes of the March 14, 2017 Public Hearing and General Meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Vice President Vojtko and passed 4-0. Council Member Rypma abstained.

Visitor Comments

- Matt Wood, 321 Tiger Court

Mr. Wood presented a packet of information regarding the Tiger Court Walkway/Easement which included a letter and several Google photos of the walkway/easement and his property. Mr. Wood was in attendance to again express his concern over the existing easement/walkway and his opinion that a walkway behind the school that would access Bourissa Hills Park would be a much better option.

Several things were discussed including connectivity, the need for an additional access to the park and potential future growth west of the subdivision that was taken into consideration when the Town required the walkway/easement be included when the subdivision was developed.

- Chad Harmon, 729 Gentry Lane

Mr. Harmon is president of the Edge of the Woods Homeowners Association. He stated that he was surprised that the town would spend money for the few people that he feels use this path as he and his wife live in the subdivision but have never used the path.

Mr. Wood stated that he received a letter from the Town some time ago requesting he remove items he has placed in the easement by April 30th but he will not have time to get anything moved by then should the town decide to proceed.

Engineer Jared Huss stated the importance of easements and protecting those that the town has. He recommends that, whether or not the walkway/easement is improved, the easement be cleared and remain as an easement because it can serve for utilities for future growth of the park in addition to connectivity.

Employee Reports

Electric Superintendent Jason Quirk

Jason is meeting with IMMUDA tomorrow afternoon and will have a follow-up for the next meeting.

Attorney Andrea Halpin

Following discussion at the last meeting, Andrea prepared a draft hydrant ordinance and sent it out for review and comments. One comment was to include a permit process. Fines for violation of the ordinance already exist in the fee schedule in the Town Code and are in place to be a disincentive to those pulling water without permission to protect the Town's water supply. Also discussed were possible costs that would be incurred should the system be contaminated by someone violating the ordinance and pulling water without permission and proper backflow prevention. Jared will check with other municipalities to see what they do in these instances.

Engineer Jared Huss

Following a meeting between Kathleen Weissenberger of KW Consultants and Lawson Fisher, Jared reports that the income survey is complete and we are eligible for an OCRA Grant for water. A letter of intent would be due January 18, 2018 for the next round and Jared would like a work session in May to discuss the grant.

Jared will coordinate a meeting with Tim, Pat and St. Joe County for discussion regarding the existing water plant.

There was a meeting between the town and the Chapman Drive apartment complex developer and we are now awaiting a letter from the developer.

Work on the INDOT project will include a 30 day closure at the viaduct and some disruptive activities downtown. There is a meeting scheduled here at the town hall with INDOT and Rieth-Riley to get a better idea of the plan. Jared reports that detours and associated signage will be handled by Rieth-Riley. Permitting issues with Norfolk Southern resulted in some detour signage removal.

Vice President Vojtko asked about tree trimming between railroads on the viaduct. Jared reports that there will be very specific guidelines and he doesn't feel the railroad would allow anything done between the rails.

The 2017 Sidewalk Project is proceeding with plans and a walk through ready in April. Bids are expected in May with the project done in June.

Jared reports that the street project grant is being delayed this year. He and John will review roadways for anything critical but otherwise wait for the matching grant funding to be released.

Old Business

- Surf-Air Contract discussion

Chuck has been in contact with owners of Surf Air and prepared a list of suggested contract changes similar to what is offered from other companies that include Town hall bandwidth increase to support the police departments programs and reduced or free internet for employees. Vice President Vojtko stated that he feels free internet is not a good idea. Council Member Budreau stated that it has taken six months to look at this issue and feels we need a plan for better service. Sue stated that when the Surf Air representative attended the meeting at the Council's request in January, he informed us that they had an equipment upgrade ready to install on the water tower at that time but it was decided to review the contract first.

Vice President Vojtko suggested a two year contract with the equipment remaining on the water tower and a monthly fee paid to the Town. We want to be certain that the bandwidth they provide will be sufficient for the police department's programs as well as the phone system.

New Business

- Master Fire Plan

Chief Josh reports that he received a proposal for preparation of a Master Fire Plan which was approximately \$9,000 less than what he expected. Total cost of the plan would be \$29,400 and Josh will need to move some things around in his budget but believes they can make it happen.

The Master Fire Plan is important for many reasons including future planning and determining the impact that the new industrial area has on our emergency services. The County has asked for assurance that they are not "throwing" money at us should they decide to purchase an aerial truck for the department and the plan shows due diligence on our part.

The plan would include Olive Township and the Town and also options of with and without Hudson Township.

Council Member Rypma moved to accept the Emergency Vehicle Response Quote of \$29,400 for Fire Protection Review. The motion was seconded by Council Member Vermillion and passed unanimously.

- New Truck Purchases

Council Member Vermillion reports that the Electric Department pick-up and one of the Utility Department pick-ups need to be replaced. Three quotes have been obtained and Jason and John request approval, following legal review, to purchase two trucks as follows:

For the Electric Department: 2017 GMC Sierra 2500 HD Regular Cab 4x4 for the sum of \$31,246.15 with trade in of 2005 Chevrolet Silverado pick-up with 134K miles, and;

For the Utility Department: 2017 GMC Sierra 2500 HD Regular Cab 4x4 for the sum of \$33,105.00 with trade in of 2002 Chevrolet Silverado with 142K miles.

Council Member Vermillion stated that the two existing trucks are in poor condition and the two new trucks were included in the 2017 budgets of the respective departments.

Council Member Vermillion moved to approve the purchase of two 2017 GMC Sierra 4x4 trucks with plows for \$31,246.15 with trade-in and \$33,105.00 with trade-in, following legal review. The motion was seconded by Vice President Vojtko and passed unanimously.

President Carter suggested that these departments set up a rotation schedule for vehicles similar to what was implemented by the police department.

Ordinances and Resolutions

- Draft Ordinance – An ordinance to prohibit unlawful use of fire hydrants

Discussion of the draft ordinance was held.

Council Reports

Council Member Vermillion

Council Member Vermillion and President Carter worked with Pat Cummings to begin preparation of a Water Superintendent job description and will continue again soon.

Bills to be Paid

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

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Council Member Vermillion and second by Vice President Vojtko the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 PM.

Ken Carter, President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer