

**February 19, 2019**

The Trail Creek Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana.

President, Jennifer Heath led us with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2009 Dodge Charger Sealed Bids:**

Engineer, John Doyle read a loud the five sealed bids received before 2:00 pm, February 19, 2019.

- Bid #1: Kelly Binkley \$2,656.00
- Bid #2: Mark Quartuch \$ 1,251.00
- Bid #3: Bill Cota \$ 1,260.00
- Bid #4: Kip Piper \$ 1,477.77
- Bid #5: Yousef Dabbagh \$ 1,668.00

After a short discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Studtman to accept the bid from Kelly Binkley in the amount of \$2,656.00, the motion was seconded by Mrs. Neumaier and then was unanimously carried. Mr. Binkley indicated that he or his wife would satisfy this in the morning at the town hall.

**Minutes** A motion was made by Mrs. Neumaier to approve the meeting minutes from January as written, motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried.

**Approval of Fund** A motion was made by Mr. Silcox to accept the January Fund report; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Neumaier and was then unanimously carried.

**Approval of Claims:** A motion was made by Mr. Studtman to pay bills in the amount of \$51,936.34 (FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED THIRTY- SIX DOLLARS AND THIRTY-FOUR CENTS) motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox the motion and was then unanimously carried.

**Correspondence:** None

**MS4:** MS4 Coordinator; Kate Doyle:

- Annual MS4 Invoice: Kate indicated that there was a small increase, the total amount of the invoice for 2019 is \$ 1,579.90.
- Year to Date Totals: 1868; 49 Recorded complaints
- Bags on Board: This program helped to remove more than 220 tons of waste
- MS4 Non-Reverting Funds: Creek Ridge Dog Park was voted in to receive \$4000.00 from this fund for erosion problems, also to LaPorte City, \$5000.00 for the flood mapping. Currently the non-reverting fund has \$142,359.88 to put toward capitol projects.

**Attorney:** Mr. Bill Herrbach, Town Attorney in to report:

- Vacant Seat on Board: Town Attorney indicated that there will be a Democratic Caucus held at the town hall on Monday, February 25, 2019 at 6:00pm. This Caucus will be ran by the Democratic Chairman of LaPorte County, Jim Kimmel.

**Engineer:** John Doyle in attendance.

- Sealed bids for Redwood Extension/Parking Lot of Dog Park: Mr. Doyle prepared an estimate of this extension. He broke the project into 2 divisions: (A): Extension of Redwood and (B) Parking Lot

A motion was made by Mrs. Neumaier to put these projects out for bid, motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried. Mr. Doyle requests a special meeting to open bids on March 15, 2019 at 10:00 am. He explained that only one council member needs to be present since the bids will be taken under advisement only, until our regular scheduled meeting on March 19, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Council President Jennifer Heath will attend.

- INDOT CCMG: John Doyle & Associates with the help of Clerk Treasurer, Joshleen M. Denham filed the grant of six applications through the LTAP portal. The town will know if grant is awarded by April 2019.
- Streets Eroding due to weather: Mr. Doyle along with Jeff Bruder, Street Commissioner will work together to review all streets not included in the impending grant that may need to have urgent work done this year.
- Hwy 20 Project; Drainage Issues: Attorney Bill Herrbach will work with Mr. Doyle in sending a letter to the state regarding the drainage concerns with this project.

**Park Department:** No report

**Building Department:** No report

**Planning and Zoning:** No Report

**Police Department:** Marshal Dick not in attendance. Police Liaison and Council Vice President reported for Marshal Dick

- 2019 Dodge Charger: Should be in service by the end of February 2019.
- All training completed for officers.

**Street Department:** Mr. Bruder, Street Commissioner not in attendance. No Report

**NIRPC:** No report

**New Business:** Discussed at top

**Old Business:**

- **Chicken Ordinance:** Attorney Herrbach gave copies of this ordinance during January meeting, however it was tabled until this month. Mr. Herrbach gave an overview of the ordinance; up to four hens, no roosters personal use only, no slaughtering within town limits and no free-range chickens.

After careful review and a short discussion, Mr. Silcox made a motion to approve ordinance # 2-2019; the chicken ordinance, motion was seconded by Mrs. Neumaier and was then unanimously carried.

- **Special Meeting Scheduled for February 25, 2019 at 6:00** to discuss inspections, permitting fees and inspector pay.
- **CCDF Increase Public Hearing: (Cummulative Capitol Development Fund)** Mr. Herrbach gave an overview of this small increase. Mr. Herrbach explained that this is the beginning of a legal process to get increase from 0.02% - 0.05%. Increase will take affect for the 2020 budget year. A motion was made by Mrs. Neumaier to increase the CCDF, motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried.
- **Dog Park Rules:** After review of the rules provided by Mr. Herrbach a motion was made by Mrs. Neumaier to approve the rules as written, motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried.

**Public Comment:**

- **Dave Teeters; 7605 W. U.S. Hwy 20 (JT Auto Sales);** Mr. Teeters expressed concern over the "feral cat problem" between himself and a near by business. He indicated that this was a topic for discussion on Facebook. He would like for the town to assist more with the problem in getting rid of these wild cats. Town Attorney; Mr. Herrbach reported that they did work with Michigan City to collect 15-20 wild cats, have them spayed / neutered and released the animals back where they were. Mr. Herrbach further explained that the town does not have an ordinance restricting the number of pets a business owner can have nor does it specify feral cats. After a lengthy discussion it was recommended that Mr. Teeters obtain an attorney since this is a civil issue at this point.
- **Jerrally Stark; 2109 Red Oak Drive;** Mrs. Stark asked Mr. Herrbach if it was possible Mr. Teeters could get a few friendly traps to catch and release elsewhere. Mr. Herrbach indicated that this is a civil matter.

**Clerks Comment:** No Report

**Council Comment:** No Comment

There being no further business a motion was made by Mr. Silcox to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm; motion was seconded by Mr. Studtman and was then unanimously carried.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Jennifer Heath, Council President

  
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Scott Silcox, Council Vice President

ATTEST:   
Joshleen M. Denham, Clerk-Treasurer  
March 19, 2019