

May 16, 2017

The Trail Creek Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana.

Council President, Warren Schacht, led us with the Pledge of Allegiance via conference.

Special Guest: Jennifer Birchfield, NWI Urban Waters Coordinator. She wanted to come to our meeting to discuss the septic outreach program. She is helping to spread awareness on septic system maintenance. Septic systems should be pumped and inspected every 3-5 years. She would like to work with Trail Creek to spread the word by leaving some literature at the town hall as well as yard signs for residents. The yard signs will be picked up in a few weeks, a sign in sheet will be located at the town hall with resident name and address to pick up the signs.

Minutes A motion was made by Mrs. Heath to approve the meeting minutes from April 2017 as written; motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox, and was then unanimously carried.

Approval Of Fund Mr. Bayler made a motion to accept the April 2017 Fund report; the motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was then unanimously carried.

Approval of Claims A motion was made by Mr. Silcox to pay bills in the amount of \$ 99,118.61 (NINETY NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN DOLLARS AND SIXTY ONE CENTS) the motion was seconded by Mr. Bayler and was then unanimously carried.

Correspondence: Admin Assistant, Rhea Bruder reported that the street department had Asphalt Restoration Services out of come out to do some patch work on Chapala Parkway. Ms. Conway at 404 Chapala Parkway wanted to commend the street department on a wonderful job.

Department Reports:

MS4: Kate Doyle, MS4 Coordinator in attendance. She did have one item to report, that her dog Ollie will be the mascot for the "Bags on Board" program. She passed this around for council review. Our prayers are with Kate as she has since lost Ollie.

Attorney: Mr. Herrbach in attendance.

- Building Codes; Mr. Herrbach explained that these new codes will go into place on July 01, 2017. He asked if the new codes have been uploaded to the website. Ms. Bruder, admin assistant explained that yes those have been uploaded and are under town forms. The town hall will also put this in the ticker information as to where the codes can be found.

- Franchise Fee: Mr. Herrbach indicated that this will be drawn up to include Comcast, Acme, Frontier and any other utility of this nature. He will have something drawn up for the June 2017 meeting.

Engineer: Mr. Doyle in attendance.

- Driveway Permits: Mr. Doyle has found that the town hall is handing out driveway specifications and having the contractor or resident sign off that they received the specifications, we are still having problems with the understanding of those specifications. Mr. Doyle indicated that we did have an instance where the contractor indicated that they did not receive the specifications. Attorney Herrbach and Mr. Doyle will review the process and come back next month to the board with recommendations.
- Highway 20 Project: Mr. Doyle indicated that he met with members of INDOT as well as representatives of Lawson Fisher who are the engineers on the Highway 20 Project. They presented the hydrologic study findings; they came up with three options to fix this. However, none of those options will completely fix our concerns. Mr. Doyle explained they have agreed that the solution is inadequate.
 1. First Option: To widen the ditches along the front of the plaza up to the Abraham property or the woods. They would be eight foot bottom ditches. Then they would put a sixteen foot ditch at Hammers and that creates more storage capacity for the system. They might end up putting a nine acre retention pond near Hammers on the Abraham property. This estimate would be about one million dollars.
 2. Widen the ditches and put in an additional box culvert or replace the box culvert underneath Hammers driveway with two twin twelve by six's, the same size as what is under Johnson Road. This would estimate about one and a half million.
 3. Replace pipes under this contract through all the drives but create a twenty three acre retention pond roughly four foot deep and would hold thirty million gallons of water, on the south side of the highway, west of Roeske Avenue. This would estimate about two million dollars.

There was no commitment made by any representative that any of these options would be done. There was a representative there from the LaPorte County Highway Department and himself, but no other representative from surrounding highway departments. Mr. Doyle indicated that he was hoping to have the report in hand tonight. He is not sure at this time what the next step is. He stated that they are looking to have some financial help from the town to complete one of the above options. The Highway Project should start in the next two weeks. The options above would be a future project. No future meetings were discussed.

Mr. Warren Schacht, Council President asked for Mr. Doyle's recommendation on the options presented. Mr. Doyle responded by saying he felt option two would be the best for the town. Right now, we are waiting for them to get back to us.

Street Department: Mr. Bruder, Street Commissioner in attendance. He reports that spring clean up is complete. Four full loads of leaves were picked up, and approximately nine pickup trucks full of debris.

The chipper will be in on or around June 6, 2017, it is currently in final assembly. The generator is in; Mr. Bruder wanted to bring a few items to council attention. The generator is going to require the pole to be replaced and bury the service. If council decides to renovate the town hall, since it is only running on 100 amp services, that this service should be buried too. The cost for this project would be approximately \$3500.00 in addition. Also, Nipsco will be doing the relocate and this would cost approximately \$1600.00. Mr. Bruder indicated that this is in the budget. Council asked that Mr. Bruder double check with Ms. Denham Clerk Treasurer on the budget. Once this is complete there will be a five foot fence with a gate put in around the generator.

Lastly, the landscaping is currently being completed in the front of the town hall and near the police department.

NIRPC: No Report

Park Department: Liaison for the Park Board, Scott Silcox reports that there will be a park board meeting on June 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the town hall. Mr. Silcox indicated that we may have another park board member, once approved by council. Also, he received a phone call regarding the development of Pritz Park. This was an anonymous call, but they wanted to build a sports complex. Mr. Silcox stated that this would have to be brought before the board.

Building Inspector: Steve Thomas, not in attendance. Rhea Bruder, Admin Assistant reported that Mr. Thomas has completed the final inspection of the Trail Creek Police Department Renovation. He indicated that Michigan Construction did a wonderful job.

Planning and Zoning: No Report

Police Department: No Report

Old Business:

- Building Codes (Attorneys Report)
- Franchise Fee Ordinance (Attorneys Report)

New Business: None

Public Comment: Jerraly Stark, 2109 Red Oak Drive in attendance. She would like to say that the Next Door Application has been helpful to her and her neighbors. She asked about garage sale permits. Ms. Bruder indicated that the garage sale permits are \$5.00 and is good for three days. Ms. Stark asked who enforces this. Ms. Bruder stated that both the officers and the street department have done an excellent job reporting this during office hours; however on the weekends it does make it difficult. Mr. John Bayler, Council Member stated that since the officers are on twenty four hours a day, he would like to see them look for these types of ordinance violations more frequently.

Ms. Stark asked about the water drainage issue.

Clerk-Treasurer's Comment: Ms. Denham, clerk-treasurer not in attendance. Administrative Assistant, Rhea Bruder reported for Joshleen Denham.

- Ms. Denham is at training today. The training included the purchasing and selling of assets, cyber security and other information. She will be attending the INDOT Cross Matching Grant Program on May 31, 2017
- Last week, liens were done. This year there 100 liens filed at a cost of \$1,100.00. The collections through MCSI have been going very well. She expressed concern that another batch of people should be sent to MCSI. Attorney Herrbach indicated that anything over \$1000.00 should be sent to collections.

Council Comment: None

There being no further business a motion was made by Mr. Studtman to adjourn the meeting at 8: 15 pm; motion was seconded by Mr.Bayler and was then unanimously carried.

APPROVED:



Warren Schacht, Council President
Jennifer Heath, Council Vice President

ATTEST: 
Joshleen M. Denham, Clerk-Treasurer
June 20, 2017