

North Liberty Town Council Minutes – November 19, 2014

The regularly scheduled meeting of the North Liberty Town Council was held at the North Liberty Community Building. Gerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. He led the Pledge of Allegiance. Richard Warner gave the Invocation.

Will Groves, Jr., Brett Voreis, and Matthew Peterson Town Council Members, Utilities Manager Skip Davidson, Eric Walsh of Umbaugh and Vicki Kitchen Clerk-Treasurer were in attendance. There were three citizens present and no representation from the press.

Richard Warner made a motion to approve the consent agenda including November 5, 2014 Town Council Minutes, Fund Transfer Resolution #2014-14 and vouchers. Matt Peterson seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

Kevin McNeill asked about closing the alley at 305 S. Main Street and if the Town was interested in selling the vacant lot. The town council was not in favor of selling the lot at this time. The Town would like to see a First Time Home Buyers or Habitat for Humanity on the vacant lot. The Town is looking at closing several alleys and a street. Will Groves, Jr. stated the Town would pay the fees for the alley vacations. Vicki Kitchen will check with Attorney Peddycord. Kevin McNeil wants to be included on the 2015 50/50 Curb & Sidewalk Program.

Gerry Brown opened the public hearing for establishing a stormwater Department. Eric Walsh distributed charts with the Town's proposed stormwater rates compared to other communities. A copy is filed with the minutes. The proposed rates will generate an estimated \$8,000.00 the first year and \$16,000 the second year. The fund can be used for catch basins, curbing, and grant matches. Eric Walsh confirmed that the stormwater fees are subject to penalties and liens can be filed for unpaid or delinquent accounts. Richard Warner made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-06 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN INITIAL RATE FOR TOWN SEWER SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSE OF STORM WATER MANAGEMENT. Will Groves, Jr. seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

Eric Walsh distributed charts on the North Liberty rates compared to other communities. The Town is not increasing water rates but establishing a fire protection (hydrant) charge. He explained the impact of the 2008 property tax circuit breakers on the Town's general fund. The Town of North Liberty has lost about \$50,000.00 per year due to the tax circuit breakers. The fire protection charge will be phased in over a three year period. There was no discussion. Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2014-05 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE USE OF AND SERVICES RENDERED BY THE WATERWORKS OF THE TOWN OF NORTH LIBERTY. Richard Warner seconded the motion. All voted to approve. The public hearings were closed.

Vicki Kitchen gave the grant updates. INDOT, DLZ, Walsh & Kelly and the Town did a walk-through of the project area for the SRTS grant. A plan has been determined for Vaughn Eastburn's driveway. He was informed of the plan. School Trail and Tamarack Trail are being surveyed for the grant. Letters were sent to the property owners. The Comprehensive Plan is

complete and will be adopted at the December Area Plan Commission meeting. The Town of North Liberty will adopt at the January meeting and submitted to OCRA prior to the January 20, 2015 deadline. There is not an update on the SRF Wastewater project. Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann will be awarding the Town of North Liberty the OCRA Wastewater grant in Indianapolis on December 1, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.

Skip Davidson stated that he has spoken with INDOT regarding the two hour parking and signage that was there prior to the OCRA Downtown Beautification Project. INDOT no longer makes their own signs so they are ordered and INDOT will install when they receive the parking signs.

Skip Davidson reported DLZ expressed the need for the former slaughter house triangle for future expansion of the plant. The property is currently being surveyed by the property owners.

Skip Davidson has received three quotes for fire extinguishers and service. The quotes are not all the same. He passed the decision over to the town council and the clerk-treasurer.

Skip Davidson reported that prior to the meeting Richard Warner and himself interviewed Jason Lambert for a part time employee to work until spring not to work approximately 20 hours. Vicki Kitchen reported that the hours not exceed an average of 30 hours per week. The current salary ordinance is for \$11.00 per hour. Skip Davidson said he would like to see the salary ordinance amended to \$14.00 per hour. The town council concurred. Vicki Kitchen will have it ready for the next meeting.

The town council discussed vacating Henry Street north of East Center Street. Vicki Kitchen will notify Attorney Marcel Lebbin.

Liberty Township has not provided any invoices for site work at the Indiana Brownsfield at the Liberty Township Emergency Facility site.

Vicki Kitchen made a request to increase the cash change drawer from \$100.00 to \$150.00. Richard Warner made a motion to authorize the clerk-treasurer to increase the cash change fund from \$100.00 to \$250.00. Brett Voreis seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

With no further business before the North Liberty Town Council, Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to adjourn at 7:42. Matt Peterson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Vicki L. Kitchen, Clerk-Treasurer