

North Liberty Town Council Minutes – April 2, 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 (left at 8:30) gave the Invocation.

Will Groves, Jr., Brett Voreis (left at 7:35) and Matthew Peterson Council Members, Town Marshal Michael Sawdon, Utilities Manager Skip Davidson, Attorney Courtney Kuelbs, and Vicki Kitchen Clerk-Treasurer were in attendance. Four guests were present. There was no representation from the press.

Richard Warner made a motion to approve the consent agenda including March 5 and March 10 Minutes, Resolution #2014-07 Acceptance of the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) prepared by DLZ, and vouchers. Will Groves, Jr. seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

Rick Smith inquired about paying utility bills on unoccupied apartments. Vicki Kitchen provided him pages from the code book and an email from our rate consultants. He accepted the documentation and will get back to Town Council with questions.

Senator Jim Arnold gave an update on the short legislative session. He stated what he expected in the summer study sessions.

Eric Walsh and Ricky Curtis, Umbaugh, gave an overview of the rate studies they completed for stormwater, wastewater, and water. The studies were made with several scenarios based upon OCRA grant and State Revolving Funds and worst case not receiving either funding source. The rate study also included rates charged by the surrounding communities. The Town Council will discuss at the April work session.

Morris Precision sent a letter requesting consideration of a sewer credit for a broken water pipe that did not go through the sewer but onto the floor and through a wall to the outside. Richard Warner made a motion to give Morris Precision sewer credit for the water line break. Will Groves, Jr. seconded the motion. All in favor none opposed.

Skip Davidson reported that most of the frozen water lines have thawed. He also brought to the council attention of the Water Use Ordinance in regards to frozen water line. Skip Davidson is also looking into a used cold patch machine. Our pile of cold patch is still frozen. Walkerton has received shipments of salt and sand.

Town Marshal Sawdon had previously submitted the March 2014 Police Report. A copy is filed with the minutes. Town Marshal Sawdon reported he was having problems finding information on getting a landline for the police station. Vicki Kitchen reported she requested information from the Town of Walkerton on their new phone system. The canine agreement was

discussed. Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to accept the revised canine agreement. Matthew Peterson seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

Town Marshal Sawdon reported at the department head meeting with Gerry Brown and Skip Davidson that first aid kits should be put in the Town utility trucks at a cost of \$75.00 per vehicle. All the Town vehicles need shot gun kits to stop bleeding at a cost of \$94.00 per vehicle. The squad cars have a powder form of shot gun kits that have been replaced.

Town Marshal Sawdon stated he had been contacted by neighbors on S. State St. regarding tire shreds on the highway left by Liberty Tire. Prior to the meeting Marsha Mlekodaj brought in a large bag of the tire shreds.

Attorney Peddycord is working with Skip Davidson regarding the Unsafe Building Town Code in regards to 110 E. Rupel St.

There has been no work on the building at 108 W. Harrison St.

There has not been a response from JRayl regarding the letter sent by Attorney Peddycord on the fence encroachment on the Town property.

The INDOT T/E construction will begin later this month. Vicki Kitchen wants to send a letter to all property owners so they are aware of the construction. The Town Council concurred. American Legion will be removing the fence for the construction.

Vicki Kitchen reported the owner of 108 W. Harrison Street has purchased a lot in the North Liberty Industrial Park. He has been given the zoning chart. He stated when he met with the clerk-treasurer he was going to work on the former church when the weather breaks.

Social Media/Media Request was tabled.

St. Joseph County Emergency Management sent a letter requesting \$3,750.00 - \$5,000.00 to upgrade the storm antenna within the corporate limits of the Town of North Liberty. The Town Council tabled the storm antenna request.

The WPA Park Restoration Project contract is waiting on language approval by DNR Historic Preservation. Since this work needs to be completed by June 30, 2014, Kurt Garner suggested approving the \$92,711 contract with Ziolkowski Construction pending approval by Historic Preservation and Attorney Peddycord. Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to approve contract with Ziolkowski Construction for \$92,711 pending approval by DHPA and Attorney Peddycord approval. Matthew Peterson seconded the motion. All voted to approve.

The former slaughter house appraisals have been received. The two required appraisals came in at \$26,000.00 and \$20,000.00. Will Groves, Jr. will contact Kelly Prentkowski regarding the appraisals. These costs have been included in the wastewater rate study currently being conducted.

Tree Ordinance #2014-03 was not received prior to the meeting. The ordinance was tabled until next meeting.

The Town received an invitation to the Open House of the Walkerton Municipal Building and Police Station for April 4, 2014 and April 5, 2014.

With no further business before the North Liberty Town Council, Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to adjourn at 9:00. Matt Peterson Warner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Vicki L. Kitchen, Clerk-Treasurer