

Minutes and proceedings of the meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana.

Be it remembered that the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana held called meeting at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 7:00 p.m. on April 21, 2014.

A quorum was declared present based on the presence of the following council members: Paula Pollitt (President), Jonathan Titus (Vice-President), Tim Shoaf, Jerry Bragg and Greg Sims. Clerk Treasurer, Diane Burton was also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance by Paula Pollitt and a prayer by Jonathan Titus.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Minutes 1/28, 2/17, 3/3, 3/17

**Jonathan made a motion to approve the minutes from January 28. Greg seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Greg made a motion to approve the three sets of minutes for February 17, March 3 and March 17. Tim seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS**

**Greg made a motion for the approval of the claims. Jonathan seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

#### **PROJECT REPORTS:**

##### **PLACE BASED INVESTMENT**

Trena Carter stated the self-imposed committee met with the people from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs. They were very positive, very informative and were very complimentary regarding the project and the collaboration. We are waiting on the grant agreement. It was mentioned that we are anticipating beginning after Hope Heritage Days in the fall. They basically said you do have reports that are due. Just make sure those reports are submitted at the time and dates letting us know that you're still anticipating and there will likely be some items like possibly some design, things like that that we can report are being undertaking at that time. There'll be some things we'll be reporting on that really will not be tangible but will be in preparation for moving forward on that. Trena asked the council if they wanted that committee to be the committee that spear heads that. The council agreed. The committee members will be: Randy Sims, Paula Pollitt, Larry Simpson, Michael Dean, David Clouse and Diane Burton. Trena stated we'll keep you informed as to what is happening. Larry Simpson added they did tell us that the buy in by the public, the fundraiser, is what kind of cinched it. We were one of the few communities that had that level of buy in. They were also excited about Clayton Anderson coming down and they all plan to come. They stated that the lieutenant governor would love to be a part of the ground breaking and ribbon cutting. Since shovels are planning to be turned right after Heritage Days, we thought it might be great to have a ceremony at Heritage Days.

##### **WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS PLANNING GRANT**

Trena Carter stated everything has been submitted to the state. We are just waiting for their review. Usually it's the end of the month before they let us know anything. They allow a month to review and go over everything. Makes sure it scores out. We should have a grant agreement by next meeting. Paula is

authorized to sign so we will probably go ahead and get that signed and back up to the state as quickly as possible.

#### **HOUSING REHAB PROJECT**

Trena Carter stated this Thursday is when we find out whether we are awarding any housing funding or not. The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authorities monthly meeting is on the fourth Thursday of the month. That's when they pass or fail applications. We'll find out then.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **HARTSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Nancy Berkenstock stated I'm representing the Hartsville Town Board. As you know our Town Marshal was in a serious motorcycle accident. He had talked about retiring anyway at the end of the year so we were kind of left with what to do. We don't have a big budget for marshal. We were wondering if we could have a mutual agreement between the two towns that our money for the marshal would come to Hope to cover Hartsville. Not maybe patrol or anything constant, just like for calls or anything like that. It would have to be worked out. I just wondered what the board's feelings on that would be. What we pay is \$4500 a year. It's kind of hard to get someone to do that for that kind of money. We don't expect an answer tonight. Just something in the next couple of months. Greg asked Nancy if she has contacted the Sherriff's department. She answered that she hasn't. Greg stated I personally think that would be the first thing. Hartsville is in Bartholomew County. That's where I would start. Nancy stated the way I understand it in order for us to be incorporated, we have to have a budget for marshal. The council decided to put it on the agenda for the Working Session.

##### **STEP UP SATURDAYS**

Diane stated Mayor Blair Milo called me and she is doing a "Fitness Friday" in La Porte. It was a couple of years ago that she started it and it has went over very well. She wanted to introduce it to other counties to see if they may have interest in doing that as well. It's a free walk or run. You mark out five miles and then everybody can of course do as much as they want. She is willing to come out and do a kick off for the event if you have interest in doing the event. It is every week or at least that is how she does hers. She does it every Friday. She recommends keeping it very, very simple. No registrations. You just mark the route and have a time. Then everybody who wants to walk walks. She recommends having water at the end of the walk. It encourages health which Indiana didn't rank very high. That is why she started this at La Port and why she is kicking it off at ninety-one counties. Tim asked isn't there someone who is doing something like this at the school or the Community Center. Larry answered Reach. Bonnie Baute is our local rep. They do the open gym already at the field house where you can walk in the mornings. I would probably ask Bonnie if she would want to take it over. There is still some Reach money out there. Jonathan stated if I understood correctly Diane, she wants to come to town and kick off the first one. What is the date on that. Diane answered her first date was May 3<sup>rd</sup>. She is doing three on that same day. It wasn't working out for the others so she is wanting to change that to July 5<sup>th</sup>. Paula asked is she going to do all the promotion or is it up to us to do that. Diane answered she will do a flyer and do the promotion and work with a radio station. She wants us to advertise as well. Mainly what she wants from



us is the route. Tim stated that is going to take some volunteers so it's going to take some organization that's interested in doing that. Diane answered she recommends keeping it very simple to where all your really doing is having water at the end of the route. You don't block off streets or anything like that. The police department, Matt, did say that they would be willing to set out water since they are already here on Saturday. That would be a very minimal cost to the town. Larry is going to give Diane Bonnie Baute's contact information.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

##### **COMMUNITY CENTER**

Andrea Wallace stated we started work on our gym. We are getting ready to start replacement of the roof.

##### **ATTORNEY**

No report.

##### **POLICE**

\*A Police Report has been given to the council prior to the meeting to review and kept on file at the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

Matt Tallent stated I got a phone call Saturday from the gentleman who manages the fleet for the Sherriff's Department. The Sherriff's Department is offering us a 2010 Crown Vic for free. The only catch is once we get it, we title it in our name. Once we are done with it, we have to title it back to sell at auction. It doesn't matter how many miles we put on it or how long we keep it. They just want it back when we are done with it. If we want to do it, I have to send in a letter to the County Commissioners to make sure they are ok with it. I did a little number crunching today. To get this car, it's going to be a tan car, if we wanted to stripe it instead of painting the vehicle, what I would do is what Columbus Police Department is doing now. They're vinyl wrapping their entire vehicles. That way once they're done with them, they can pull that vinyl wrapping off and they can sell it as a white vehicle. To do that it is going to be around \$1500 to vinyl wrap plus the decals on it. After all the equipment for the vehicle, it would be around \$5100 to outfit the car. My plan if we want to do this, the Tahoe has 250,000 miles on it. We need the Tahoe for winter time. What I would like to do is take the Tahoe out of service if we get this car. Get this car in service. Use the Tahoe for the winter time. After the winter time is over this coming winter, take the Tahoe and the 2008 and trade both of those in on another newer SUV. I don't think they are going to auction them off until June. The council decided to discuss it at the Working Session. No action taken.

Matt stated the only other thing I have is the Tribute Ride. We've done it for them in the past. Basically what they want us for is to block intersections when they go through. It is illegal for them to stop on their own and block intersections. Jonathan stated he (Jason) has done a really good job organizing that. Council agreed. Jonathan asked Matt to pass on to Keith our well done.

##### **ANIMAL CONTROL**

\*An Animal Control Report has been given to the council prior to the meeting to review and kept on file at the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

## UTILITIES, STREETS, PARKS

**Streets and Alleys portion** – Jonathan asked how extensive is the pothole list. David answered thirty-six spots. We've got seventeen left after today. We started with the worst ones. The material is not that bad. We contracted for road salt through the state with INDOT to get a better price. It will be the third year we've done that.

**Parks and Misc** – David asked what the council thought about the new nylon bunting. They look better and should last longer. They're still up. Normally we put them up three times a year. Diane thought they looked pretty good. She thought they should stay up. Do you want to put them up once and take them down in the fall. They won't last as long but it does give it a festive look. The council agreed for them to be left up. Randy stated HOH should just buy it.

David gave the council an acronym list. He attended INDOT's ERC Basic Project Development Training. David stated he did not have time to do that. It would be like Diane is the LPA, the Town Administrator as the ERC because there is a lot of paperwork. It's federal highway money but it's administered through INDOT. You have to jump through a lot of hoops. You plan four years ahead. It's for 2018. It's funding for different things like new sidewalks. David asked Trena if they get involved in this type of project. Trena answered we have done some. A lot of time it's basically engineering based. A lot of the engineers actually assist with the application. The ERC has to actually do the submission. The ones that I've seen the engineer helps the mayor, the town council president or somebody at the county level, assist them with the application. It has to be submitted online. Jonathan confirmed something like that can be used for sidewalks. David answered that's what the school got. The council agreed it would be good to get the sidewalks done. Tim stated there is no way of funding them really. David stated I think they said it's always an 80/20. 20% local money. Trena added any preliminary does not go toward the 80/20 now. No action taken.

Diane stated I have a meter installation agreement between the Town of Hope and First Wesleyan Church, 733 Washington Street. It's for a sewer tap in the amount of \$750.00.

**Jonathan made a motion to approve the meter installation agreement. Greg seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

## BUILDING & ZONING

Matt Galbraith stated I would like to start off tonight with Mr. Jordan. Mr. Jordan is with Custom Steel Technology on South Street. He's doing what he can to comply with our request to get things out of the right of way. What he is wanting to do is build an Open Structure Crane System for his steel. What we have to find out is how close can he get to the road. That's what we're here to see because that determines whether he can build this or not. David brought in some plans. We're going to try to get this narrowed down for him tonight. Mr. Jordan stated when they constructed South Street, the right of way is moved in and out all over South Street. In front of our building it looks like it's a sixteen foot right of way setback. That's what I'm wanting to make sure. Tim asked what does code call for setback. Matt answered in industrial they can cover the whole lot with the building. In our residential zoning I have a thirty foot, a ten foot backyard, six foot side yard. Industrial, it does not tell me anything. I could not find anything that said in industrial that I had to have any yard at all. Discussion. Mr. Jordan stated the first



crane system is on the north side of our building about half way down the building out over into that gravel area. Tim stated how come this is coming to us and not to zoning. Matt stated I'm just trying to find out how close to the road he can build. Randy Sims stated it depends on what the road is classified at isn't it. Matt answered I didn't have a thoroughfare plan. I could find setbacks spelled out for every zoning classifications except for I1. Discussion. Tim stated I think it needs to go to the zoning board and the zoning board needs to bring us a recommendation. We don't have the resources to investigate it right now. I think that is a big decision to try to throw out there. That's what we have the zoning board for is to look into that and do the recommendation on it and possible find out why we don't have something in there and what needs to be in there. Is that going to alleviate the unloading of trucks on the street. Mr. Jordan answered I'm wanting to run a crane system on the north side of our building basically from my office down toward the fence. What we'll do is come in from the co-op. Trucks and semis can back in off the road, lift it vertically instead of having to use fork trucks. Ron Fourman stated the property itself when I had it surveyed, the surveyor said that was what he told them; two rod road, sixteen feet from the centerline to the edge of the right of way. You would have eight feet from the edge of the road to the right of way. That's the way my survey sheet showed. It was not in the town limits when I purchased it in 77. In 83 I believe I allowed the town to incorporate it because I was using your water, your waste, fire and so forth. I felt that was where it belonged. At that point in time we zoned that property as Industrial one. I was told you could build property line to property line on industrial. That you did not have to allow for an alley or setback or anything like that on industrial but residential I would have to. No question was raised about how close you can get to the street. Technically my property is eight feet from the edge of the road. Tim's buying it but that was my understanding at the time. We did set that office building thirty feet back from the edge of the pavement which gave us off the road parking. Tim's wanting to use about half of the thirty feet for part of his bay there to get trucks in under the bay so he can lift his steel off of them and get out of the street before someone doesn't understand what is going on and has a problem. Jonathan stated the last thing I want to do is hold you up sir but I think we need answers Matt for potentially future questions of this kind. Discussion. Matt confirmed we need to meet with the board of zoning appeals to research this and come up with a recommendation to you as how to change the zoning ordinance and what to do in this particular situation. Randy questioned would that be Planning Commission or Zoning Appeals. The council agreed to would be Planning Commission. Tim stated if they determine he's perfectly within his right to build that as is then issue the permit. Discussion. Matt stated I was concerned about building a structure eight feet from the road but I couldn't find anything that would say that I couldn't do that. I wanted to make sure I was looking in the right place. Jonathan stated Mr. Jordan probably in a couple of weeks max you should have an answer, maybe even a week. I'm sure Matt will try to expedite this as quickly as he can. Discussion.

Matt stated I got a construction design release for Premiere Ag. They're building a structure to put a tank on. I talked to Mike Carson. He is supposed to be getting me a copy of the plan that they submitted to the state. I issued a building permit to Mr. Buckley to build a garage on his property at 509 Robbins. I had a building permit for a remodel for 316 Locust that's ready to be picked up. Did not get in compliance at 142 Meadow Place. A certified letter went out to them. They have probably fifteen to twenty-five bags of garbage behind the house. We got a certified out for that. 149 Hitchcock there was a couple of sofas out in the front yard. We got a letter out on that. Jennifer Hardy got compliant. She chopped up the tree. We just got ahold of the tenants now to mow down the cedar trees that's grown



up underneath it. I think we'll have a court date on that one. I don't know if it has been set yet or not. Now we won't have to go to court. 160 Meadow place, it's the one we had the police deliver the notice to. He's gotten rid of the unlicensed truck, unlicensed car and unlicensed motorcycle. He's still got two or three junk lawn mowers and other stuff that needs to be gone. Hopefully he keep working on that before we get to court. 205 Robbins Street, there's a big pile of junk out in front of the house and ungodly amount of garbage behind the house. I've talked to the tenant. He said I don't have a car. I'm disabled so I just throw my trash out there. I then talked to Tracy Thayer. We are scheduled to go to court on this property I think on May 1st. I told her if she got that cleaned up we would not have to go to court but we expect it to remain clean. 1107 Jackson Street, they tore the back part of the house off. There's not a demolition permit issued. No remodel permit issued. I've got a letter out to him. 223 Union, the Steining property we were supposed to go to court on that last week and the court could not get proper notification. It got continued. It's still a mess. Good news about 506 Elm Street. The Wesleyan Church bought that. That's Jackie Cutsinger's property. They closed on it on April 7<sup>th</sup>. In thirty days they'll have possession of it. They're going to tear that property down and they're going to make a parking lot out of it. Pastor Goodman said he's going to try to get in touch with the fire department and see if they'll do training on that. I got a call from Joe Whittington. He's thinking about buying 154 Elm. I gave him the contact number for the owners. As far as I know on that one. Cindy was having the court change the documents to the new owner. 704 Jackson Street there's a box spring mattress in the yard. 732 Walnut box spring mattress in the yard. Terry Baxter is half way in compliance. I sent him another letter. WW Auto Parts, I sent Wendy Warriner a letter because they are now parking cars and equipment on her property. Her property is not the one that is allowed to do that. She is zoned residential. I wrote her a letter telling her to get all the cars and equipment back on the proper property. Marjorie Hull, 732 Harrison, I sent her a letter to either get that garage up and sturdy or get it torn down. I have another permit application for a shed at 334 Maple Street.

#### **HOH**

Randy Sims stated we did meet last week. We voted Larry Simpson to be the CEO of Heritage of Hope. I'm still President of the Festival of Bandstand Division.

#### **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Paula read the Hope Area Welcome Center's monthly report into the minutes. It reads as follows: The Hope Area Welcome Center had sixty-seven phone calls that were recorded. Some of the area codes were 317, 561, 574, 765, 812 and 920, cities of Greensburg, Seymour, Nashville, Plainfield, Franklin, Goshen, Indianapolis and Appleton, Wisconsin. Our calls range from questions about area events such as Civil War Days, Arts and Antiques, Heritage Days and Smoke on the Square to questions about our Moravian cemetery. We have calls for the Post Office's phone numbers wanting to know if Elsbury's Greenhouse is still in business. One gentleman from Appleton, WI requested a visitor's packet. We took calls for Hope Summer Playground registration and accepted payment here.

We recorded thirty-three plus visitors. We had one couple from Seattle, Washington that said they had fallen in love with Hope. It was their third visit to Hope. Their son lives in Indianapolis. We had two men from Kokomo that were interested in the Yellow Trail and the history of Hope. The Welcome Center had visitor's seeking maps, Festival Guides, Hope items, the Hope Star Journal and many for any brochures we have available. We had people stop in about rental properties available, directions to the clinic and seeking a town map.

All in all this month has been very busy. We are receiving more and more brochures from other area counties and posters from organizers of upcoming events. Steve Pumphrey has his book available at the Welcome Center as well. As always, thank you for your ongoing support! Respectfully submitted by Lori Robertson.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Bruce Neal stated Ed chased down everybody he needed to to sign our contract and gave that to Diane. We had twenty-eight runs last month. Six of them were fire related, the other twenty-two were ambulance. We had nine ambulance runs in Hope. On the reports that I got we responded to all nine of them. We transported to Squad 15 on five of them. We're still making progress on the new fire house. Paula stated Bruce you and I are supposed to get together and set up a committee. Bruce stated I had one individual approach me about wanting to be a member. We've got people talking about it anyway.

#### **CLERK TREASURER**

Nothing to report.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **EDIT COMMITTEE**

Tim stated the first one is for a request for the speaker, Sharon Randall. Nancy Banta and Julie Swagman approached us about that. They have really done a lot of investigating for money from different places. They're working in conjunction with Bartholomew County Library. She's a big time speaker. She is going to make one talk in Columbus and two in Hope. What they are asking for from us is \$2,000 from the Edit Committee which is half of the speaking fee. They also have to cover her travel expenses. They still have some request outstanding that they haven't heard back from. **The Edit Committee is recommending after they get whatever money that they have solicited in, that we would fund them up to the \$2,000 that they've requested. Motion carries 5/0.**

The second edit request came from Barb Johnson. It's for the Old Fashioned Independence Day Celebration in behalf of the Yellow Trail Museum for \$4500 for the musical entertainment and the pyrotechnics. At that meeting they decided that the Welcome Center ran across some money that they were going to finance it. We left it that they were going to finance it.

**The Edit Committee recommended the quarterly draw for the Welcome Center in the amount of \$6,000. Motion carries 5/0.** Tim stated Chad did come in and gave us an update on what the Welcome Center has done to strive to get them on a positive path.

#### **PLAN COMMISSION**

Matt Galbraith stated Plan Commission met last Monday. The agenda item was a variance request by Joe and Melissa Seal to run a retail shop out of their garage on their property. The Plan Commission discussed amongst ourselves how this is not in accordance with the Master Plan, how previous request for this had been denied. Mr. Seal did not like the way the discussion was headed and he left. The plan commission made a motion to table until next meeting which is May 12<sup>th</sup>. We are going to discuss with Cindy where to go from there. When he left he said he would just look for a place on the square. It was



the consensus of Plan Commission that we thought that was a real good idea. I will send him out a letter and make sure that the Plan Commission members and Town Council members get a copy of that letter.

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS**

None.

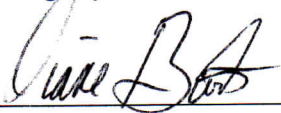
**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Larry Simpson requested a copy of the Police Report. Matt stated he emailed it to him.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.



Attest







