

Minutes of the Wingate Town Council Meeting

Held May 14, 2024

ROLL CALL

The Wingate Town Council Meeting began at 6:00 p.m. Council Members Kyle Campbell, Curt Hadley, and Andrew Lorenz were present.

Also present and reporting on behalf of the town were Maintenance Supervisor Jay Busse of Busse Excavating, Marshal Jared Kirby, Troy Ellis of UMAC, Janet Alexander, and Suzy Bass of Local Government Services.

Kyle Campbell asked Janet Alexander to facilitate the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Janet Alexander asked if anyone from the community wished to speak on any matter not listed on the agenda. No one asked to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes from April 9, 2024, were presented for approval. Andrew Lorenz motioned to approve the minutes as presented, and Kyle Campbell seconded. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Town Maintenance Supervisor: Jay Busse reported that he requested and received a quote from the Howard Company for crack sealing. They quoted \$21,342.00 for all town streets. They would like to do the work in June or July. They also proposed using a new product, a liquid road seal, to extend the life of our streets. The vendor offered to demonstrate the product on a small section of the road. Jay Busse suggested that the town could use a small section of South McClure Street. They did not quote the road seal. A discussion was held about other options, including sand sealing or chip sealing. Andrew Lorenz made a motion to table the decision until we can determine how we would pay for this work. Kyle Campbell seconded this motion. The motion carried.

Jay explained that EJP no longer carries radio read meters, so he has obtained a new quote from Core Maintenance for the purchase of 133 Sensus Radio Read Meters. Core Maintenance quoted the town \$29,383.77, which is less than what EJP had quoted us. The Town Board approved the purchase last year. The equipment will be

purchased using ARP funds. The Council directed Busse to proceed with the purchase of the radio read meters.

The Lead and Copper inventory is nearly complete. As of this date, only one property has not been accessed. The deadline for completion is October 2024.

Jay Busse received and paid for the Christmas lights ordered in March. He will invoice the Town. He also stated that Ken Smith emailed him the draft of the ADA Transition plan earlier this afternoon. It will be presented at the June meeting. Lastly, he reported that the sewer main under the railroad is backed up. He will need to run a camera through it to determine the cause.

UMAC Water & Sewer Operations Report: Troy Elless asked to discuss the water tower maintenance scheduled for June 17th. Troy explained that Leary would drain the tank and then wax the interior. He explained that the tower would be out of service for a week and that fire protection service could be disrupted. Residential and commercial water service will continue without interruption. In advance of this, Jay Busse plans to install a galvanized line with a shut-off to correct an issue with water service to 3 households immediately south of the water tower. Two water samples must be acquired and tested before bringing the tower back online.

He also said that the annual Water Quality Report was sent to all water customers with their last water bill.

Town Marshal: Marshal Jared Kirby provided a written report to the Board regarding the April calls for service. He had nine (9) traffic stops two (2) trespassing reports, and thirty-four (34) calls for service.

Regarding ordinance violations, he stated that the property at 208 S. Main Cross is in foreclosure. He also stated that the grass at 103 Vine Street will be mowed tomorrow. He also said that he would send out several ordinance violations notices this week before the Town clean-up day on June 1st.

Lastly, he said that he had requested quotes for three (3) electronic speed signs. He believes that each will cost around \$2,000.00. He is also looking into whether we can post a permanent electronic speed sign on the highway.

Coal Creek Fire & Rescue – Fire Chief Darren Forman: Fire Chief Darren Forman reported on April 2024 activity. He stated that they received ten (10) calls for service in April. Six (6) of the calls were for Wingate, and four (4) were for New Richmond. Eight (8) of the calls were for EMS services, and two (2) were fires. Six (6) volunteers responded to each call. There has been a total of forty-two (42) calls this year.

He reminded everyone about the August 3rd Tractor Show and Sweet Corn Festival, as well as the Car Show, which will occur on Sunday, August 4th, at the Town Park.

Lastly, he stated that NuCore donated two defibrillators & pads to the department.

Clerk Treasurer's Office Report: There were no additional reports presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Janet Alexander presented the town's financial reports. The reconciled financial reports for the month of April 2024, including the Fund Report, Appropriation Report, Bank Statement, and Bank Reconciliation, were presented, and reviewed. Kyle Campbell made a motion to approve the reports as presented. Andrew Lorenz seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried. The Accounts Payable Docket dated May 14, 2024, for a total of \$42,821.44 was presented. Kyle Campbell made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Vouchers as presented. Andrew Lorenz seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Agreement For Professional Grant Administration Services - Kleinpeter Consulting Group: Janet Alexander presented the professional services agreement which was presented at the last meeting. Kyle Campbell motioned to approve the contract as presented. Curt Hadley seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried. Curt Hadley made a motion to allow Kyle Campbell to sign the contract on behalf of the Town Board. Andrew Lorenz seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried.

She also explained that Mike Kleinpeter requested that the Council approve the OCRA Planning Grant -Timeline, which was provided for their review. Kyle Campbell made a motion to approve the proposed timeline. Andrew Lorenz seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and the motion was carried.

The timeline includes a requirement to obtain letters of support from residents for the Town's application for the planning grant. A discussion was held.

Another requirement is the appointment of a scoring committee to select the engineer to perform the study. After a discussion, Andrew Lorenz motioned to appoint Kyle Campbell, Troy Elless, and Jay Busse to this committee. Curt Hadley seconded the motion, which carried.

As a related matter, Andrew Lorenz asked if any information was available about the ownership of the wells and the land. Janet explained that she was told that the Town has a 100-year lease on the property. She will try to locate a copy of the lease.

Cats Limited (tabled from April): The petitioner did not appear at the prior meeting and was not present at this meeting. Kyle Campbell made a motion to remove the item from the agenda. Andrew Lorenz seconded the motion. The motion carried. Removed.

Appointment of the Park Advisory Board: Kyle Campbell motioned to appoint Phil Bane, Mark Fruits, and Joyce Stonecifer to the Park Advisory Board. Curt Hadley seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion was carried.

Readi 180 Makeover Program – Park Improvement Project – Update: Janet Alexander reported that Rose Scovall has notified her that the proposed project is in final review. This is positive news.

Petition for a Voluntary Annexation of Town Park: Janet Alexander reported that Attorney Stu Weliever had provided a petition for the Board's approval to begin the voluntary annexation process to annex the park into the Town. Andrew Lorenz made a motion to approve the petition as presented. Kyle Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried.

ADA Transition Plan—Report: Jay Busse has informed the Council that the draft plan has been completed and will be presented at the June 11 meeting. Andrew Lorenz made a motion to table the ADA Plan. Kyle Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried. Tabled

NEW BUSINESS

Cease & Desist Demand Letter: A discussion was held regarding a letter received via certified mail ordering Jay Busse and the Town Marshal to stop entering a specific property. Jay Busse goes to the property to read the water meter. The property in question is also the last one the Lead and Copper consultant selected to be surveyed. A discussion was held. Janet Alexander stated that she spoke with Stu Weliever about the letter, and he advised that the town has the right to access the property to read the water meter. The Council directed Janet to respond by certified mail, explaining that the town has the legal right to enter the property. Jay Busse requested that the Marshal accompany him when necessary to enter the property.

OTHER BUSINESS

The following items of other businesses were discussed.

The **Town Clean-Up Day** will be held on Saturday, June 1st. Jay and Kathy are posting notices around town. Instructions to residents were included with the last water bill. Jay Busse is coordinating with T & S Trash Service.

Readi 2. – Greater Lafayette Request for Proposals: Janet Alexander stated that she has not submitted a proposal yet. Many options must be considered, but the town will have to put up matching funds, which is why she has hesitated. She will put this on the next agenda.

Town Website—Update: Janet Alexander showed the Board members the new website. It is not ready to launch, but it is very close. She is also working with the vendor that provides email addresses via IN.Gov. Curt Hadley volunteered to assist her with both projects.

The Town Board discussed the deteriorating **Bank Building**. The building is going to cave in from the top. Fire Chief Darren Forman recommends that the Town adopt an unsafe building ordinance. Janet will reach out to Stu Weliever and learn what can be done to adopt an ordinance and to prepare for the eventual collapse.

Codification with American Legal Publishing: Janet Alexander informed the Board that she had requested and received approval for an extension from American Legal Publishing of the legal review of the draft code until July 12. However, she recommended that the board members review the code and be ready to discuss it at their June 11 meeting. She will deliver a copy of the proposed code to Stu Weliever for his review.

She also informed them that the new basketball goals will be installed on May 22, 2024. Jay Busse is coordinating with the vendor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Janet Alexander asked if anyone from the public had any comments.

Joyce Stonecipher explained that the Park Advisory Committee wants to begin fundraising using a visual tool that can be displayed to inform the community about their plans and financial needs. She also stated that they wanted the Town Council to consider approving a fundraising letter to be sent out on Town Letterhead requesting donations and directing that any funds collected be sent to the Montgomery County Community Foundation. They plan to use the templates provided by Indiana University. Kyle Campbell made a motion to approve the fundraising letter project as presented. Curt Hadley seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion was carried.

Marshal Jared Kirby asked if the Town would be willing to provide security cameras for the park. Janet stated that the Town could purchase the cameras through Public Safety LIT.

Board Member Andrew Lorenz brought up speeding issues and wondered if the Town could change the direction of roads to one way to redirect traffic patterns. A discussion was held. No action was taken.

Board President Kyle Campbell stated that he thinks the town should secure the lift stations using chain-link fences. He would like the Town to pay for a survey to ensure that the fences don't encroach on neighboring properties. A discussion was held. Kyle Campbell made a motion to table this matter. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion was carried. Tabled. Kyle also stated that he has spoken with Katie and Tyler Wilson about updating the dug-out and painting murals. There are four dugouts. They have requested \$2400 to pay for the murals. Tabled for the June 11th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to be conducted by the Town Council, a motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. was offered. The next regular meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on June 11, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Kyle Campbell
Council President
Acting Clerk Treasurer