

Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 24, 2003

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, February 24, 2003 for a Regular Council Meeting in the Town Hall meeting room, 131 N. Wayne Street, in accordance with the rules of this Town Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Council Members, Harold Jones, Chod Boxell, Bill Cartwright and Ron Neff; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Janet Richison; Employees, Darrel Bice, Larry Poulson, Dennis Spitler; Others, Herald Press Reporter.

President Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m..

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 10th were approved as submitted.

John Gamble of 611 Matilda Street was present to express concern and to have questions answered regarding the wastewater project. Following discussion, it was determined that a meeting be scheduled with Gamble and representatives of Schnelker Engineering related to the specific situation.

Bice reported that work on the various aspects of the wastewater upgrade project had been delayed due to weather. Work on the plant would not continue until conditions improved allowing for pouring of concrete.

Submitted for Council review were invoices and engineers recommendation for approval of those invoices totaling \$341,838.02 and as follows:

Indiana Construction	\$173,301.03
Sullivan Exc. (A-1)	\$35,251.06
Sullivan Exc. (A-2)	\$58,285.93
Schnelker Engineering	\$75,000

Approval given by consensus of Council. The next regularly scheduled Wastewater Progress Meeting is scheduled for February 25 at 9:45 a.m.. Representing the Town will be Neff and Bice.

Bice reported that all but three of the Wayne Street property owners affected had been contacted about the need to remove or trim trees for the electric distribution upgrade and had agreed with the replacement of those trees removed with flowering pear or comparable types of trees. Reviewed was a list from Spectrum Engineering of those properties affected. Bice is to continue with owner notification. By consensus, Council approved the use of Townsend Tree to remove the trees at the same unit price as in the vegetation control project and as recommended by Spectrum Engineering.

President Jones read a letter from the Department of Community Development granting a special exception for placement of Centennial communication antenna on the Eleventh Street water storage unit with condition that appropriate landscaping be placed around the security fencing to be used by Centennial to protect a small building necessary on site.

President Jones updated Council on the recent move to Starmark Insurance, a division of the current provider, Trustmark, for employee benefit insurance. The application and transfer has progressed with the first premium being paid.

President Jones summarized a letter from IDEM in which details of the variance granted to the United Methodist Memorial Home for construction of fifteen villas was outlined. The variance calls for certain reporting requirements which must be implemented by the Town. Bice had also received a copy of the variance and the stipulations included.

Following review of a development plan as submitted to the Department of Community Development by Heartland Aluminum for construction of a warehouse, Jones moved, seconded by Neff, to give favorable recommendation to the project with stipulation that the DCD closely monitor compliance with drainage plans. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jones reported that INDOT, Bluffton subdistrict, had notified Town officials that the state roads within the incorporated areas of the Town would be placed on the list of late summer paving projects. The paving had been delayed pending completion of highway cuts necessary due to the wastewater upgrade project.

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Richison reported that the budget software upgrade had gone well with final training scheduled for March 12. Installation of payroll software upgrade will also be completed on that date. The Clerk's office will remain open as it is during the billing period and as the payroll upgrade and training will not be as extensive as for the budget program. Copies of the 2002 annual report as advertised were included in council packets.

Bice reported that snow plowing had taken considerable time and that several hours of overtime had been expended due to weekend snow events. President Jones and members of Council commended employees for their prompt response and attention to the snow conditions.

Announcements were as follows:

March 10, 24	Council Meetings
February 25	Progress Mtng, Wastewater, 9:45 a.m., Annex
February 27	IMEA Training Meeting, 1:00 p.m., Annex
March 3	Art's Festival Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Annex

General discussion was held.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted _____ Deputy-Clerk
Janet Richison Treasurer

Approved by Town Council:

As _____ President	As _____ Member
Harold Jones	Bill Cartwright
As _____ Member	As _____ Member
Ron Neff	Chod Boxell