

Minutes of Regular Meeting, May 12, 2003

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, May 12, 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, Chod Boxell, Ron Neff, Bill Cartwright, and Harold Jones; Employees, Dennis Spitler and Larry Poulson, Others, Warren Weekly Reporter, Herald Press Reporter, Jack Troser, Park Board Members.

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

Jack Troser, 422 Jefferson Street, requested that the owner of property at 407 Jefferson be sent notice to improve the condition of that property, specifically removal of an abandoned vehicle and repair to a fence. Notice in 2002 had resulted in improvement but Troser stated that additional improvements were necessary. Officer Spitler will investigate.

Ruth Herring, Advisory Park Board, reported that netting on the backstop at Schwob Field still was not adequate, the drinking fountain had not been installed, a flyer had been prepared to be distributed to the public citing recent upgrades within the park and those being planned, and requested that gardening tools be purchased for use in landscaped areas of Tower Park and at the Town entrance sign and that weed control be used at the sign site. Council, by consensus, approved purchase of small garden tools, cost projected to be under \$30. Bice will be directed to schedule completion of the remaining projects.

Larry Poulson, Bice being absent, reported that the Electric Distribution Upgrade project was on schedule although work on the past Friday and on this date had been suspended due to high winds. Acting upon a recommendation from Spectrum Engineering, Cartwright moved, seconded by Boxell to accept the quote, by unit price, from AEP for the inspection and treatment of electric utility owned poles in the amount of \$18,413.14 and to accept a quote to supply the identification tags at the cost of .23 per letter/number and slides at .12 each. The motion was approved unanimously.

Following review of a recommendation from Schnelker Engineering, Cartwright moved, seconded by Neff, approval of Change Order #5, Indiana Construction, in the amount of \$7002 for installation of a backflow preventer and an additional drain for sludge removal. The motion was approved unanimously. The next public meeting for discussion concerning the wastewater projects is scheduled for May 14th at 2:00 p.m.. Morrison was directed to schedule, as soon as possible, an additional meeting for 7:00 p.m. on a date that engineers can be present. Morrison submitted copies of the current sewer construction permit form noting that action would be necessary to remove a \$25 inspection fee as Council had previously stated that no fees would be assessed home owners as part of the wastewater upgrade project. Neff moved, seconded by Cartwright, that the form be amended for use related to the upgrade project, waiving the fee. The motion was approved unanimously.

Morrison reported that calculation of connection fees for the United Methodist Home project had been received on this date from Financial Solutions Group and upon review had been found to be incomplete. The information should be available by the next regular meeting of Council.

President Jones requested that Poulson assist in the placement of a sign for the Art's Festival display area as the festival is a Town sponsored event.

Council reviewed documentation from Karen Campbell, chairperson of the Warren Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting Committee. Total cost of the current project would be \$3258 with the Chamber having \$2600 from the sale of memorial ribbons (Christmas Tree). Requested was that Council consider covering the remaining cost of \$650. The project is being developed through General Plastics of Marion, supplier to the Town of banners, Christmas lighting, and pole braces for landscaping. Expressing appreciation to the Chamber for its support of past Christmas lighting projects, Jones moved, seconded by Neff, to use \$650 from the Town promotional fund to complete the project as detailed. The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes of Regular Meeting, May 12, 2003 continued

President Jones read a notice that the annual meeting of the Indiana and Michigan Municipal Distributor's Association (IMMDA) would be held in Niles, Michigan on May 29th. To be discussed at the meeting will be the need to develop a negotiating team as the current contract with AEP will expire in 2005.

Morrison submitted a quote from Keystone Consulting in the amount of \$4,495 for upgrade of the utility billing programs to WINDOWS. The utility program would complete the upgrade project. Jones moved, seconded by Boxell, to accept the quote. The motion was approved unanimously. Morrison stated that the installation and training would be scheduled after the 15th of the month as it would be necessary to close the office for that day. Council concurred.

Bice, absent from the meeting, had submitted information to Council in regard to the certification of a composting center to IDEM in order to receive the remaining portion of grant monies used for purchase of the leaf vacuum. Without the certification, grant monies of \$5,625 would not be awarded and any monies already received would have to be repaid by June 24th. Morrison, reporting for Bice, stated that Bice had determined in discussion with an IDEM official that there was not a permitting cost and that IDEM inspection of the site would lead to recommendations but not to penalties. Following discussion, Boxell moved, seconded by Cartwright, to take steps to certify the compost site. The motion was approved unanimously.

Following determination that Heartland Aluminum was within the town limits, Deputy Spitler reported that wood pallets had been burned at the site. Council, by consensus, requested that company officials be informed about the local burning ordinance.

Announcements were as follows:

May 27	Council Meeting
May 17	Art's Festival
May 26	Memorial Day, Office and Utilities closed

Neff moved, seconded by Boxell, approval of accounts payable vouchers as follows:

Electric	161-200	\$111,019.11
Water	160-200	\$14,142.60
Wastewater	126-149	\$480,348.37
Sanitation	6, 7	\$3,226.75
General	185-218	\$25,297.55

The motion was approved unanimously.

General discussion was held.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m..

Marilyn Morrison Clerk-
Treasurer

Approved by Town Council:

By _____ President
Harold Jones

By _____ Member
Bill Cartwright

By _____ Member
Ron Neff

By _____ Member
Chod Boxell