

## Minutes of Regular Meeting, November 3, 2003

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, November 3, 2003, for a rescheduled Regular Meeting at Assembly Hall, Council meeting room, 131 N. Wayne Street, in accordance with the rules of this Town Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Council Members, Bill Cartwright, Ron Neff, Chod Boxell and Harold Jones; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Darrel Bice and Dennis Spitler; Others, Huntington Herald Press Reporter, Tim Ford, and Carol Pugh of HCUED.

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 13 were approved as submitted.

A letter from the United Methodist Memorial Home requesting that water and sewer lines be accepted into the municipal systems was read by President Jones. Bice reported that all necessary testing of the systems had been done, inspections during installation of the systems had been done, and the Town's engineers had approved all the preliminary plans and had inspected the systems. Following discussion, Jones moved, seconded by Boxell, to assume ownership and maintenance responsibility for the UMM Dogwood Glen project water and sewer mains. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bice reported that the electric utility pole inspection/tagging project was nearing completion. A report should be ready for review by December.

Bice reported that a representative of Indiana Construction had set final completion of the wastewater plant within thirty days, subject to any problems. Discussion was held regarding possible replacement of an old section of line in the Wayne/Matilda Street area which had collapsed but not blocked. Bice is to request that the engineers prepare a report with recommendation.

Morrison reported that \$17,920 had been received from USDA-RD which completes the grant financing of the light brush vehicle for the fire department.

Morrison submitted the 1782 budget form from the Department of Local Government Finance regarding the 2003 municipal budget. The DLGF had approved the 2003 budget as submitted resulting in a .64 tax rate. Following review and discussion, Boxell moved, seconded by Neff, that appeal of the DLGF amendment to the operating balance of the General Fund be considered and further authorized that Morrison take steps as appropriate based on recommendation from the financial consultant. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jones moved, seconded by Cartwright, approval of a contract with Resource Management of Bluffton for janitorial duties. The motion was approved unanimously.

Following discussion, no action was taken on a request from a sewer customer that the Municipal Sewer Department pay part of the cost of an invoice from Warren Service and Supply (Bolinger's) for work done in regard to a blocked lateral sewer line.

Discussion was held on a meeting date and time for training in regard to administration of the personnel policy. Council members requested that Morrison work with Attorney DeLaney and Town of Markle representatives to schedule the meeting as the proposed date of November 7<sup>th</sup> would not be workable.

President Jones summarized a request from Bill Cartwright for a sewer/water credit for a property on Wayne Street which is being renovated. Questions of water usage and billing had arisen. Cartwright excused himself from the discussion. Bice reported on the situation that led to the meter reading with Morrison recommending that the water/sewer charges stand but that the sanitation charge be credited. Following further discussion, Boxell moved, seconded by Neff, that the sanitation charge be credited but that no further credits be issued. The motion was approved unanimously.

Reviewed was a 2000 census report as received from 3A Development District showing statistics for Huntington County as well as all county municipalities.

Minutes of Regular Meeting, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003 continued

President Jones summarized a letter from Warren Area Chamber of Commerce and moved that annual dues of \$45 be paid. The motion was seconded by Boxell and approved unanimously. President Jones commended the Chamber for the Scarecrow Festival held on October 31<sup>st</sup> and thanked Town employees and Fire Chief Ford for their work in making the Festival successful. Boxell moved, seconded by Neff, that \$50 be donated to Chamber to defray festival expenses. The motion was approved unanimously.

Morrison requested that Council consider taking action to donate all outdated computers and accessories to a not-for-profit organization which provides renovated units to churches and related groups. An inventory will be completed of computers and equipment. Boxell moved, seconded by Cartwright, to approve the request. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ron Neff reported on the monthly meeting of the Huntington County Solid Waste Board.

Morrison reviewed a written report which had been submitted to each member summarizing the October 15<sup>th</sup> district Clerk-Treasurer's State Board of Accounts and Board of Local Government Finance meeting. Morrison also reported that a meeting was scheduled for November 6th with National City Bank representatives for discussion related to acceptance of credit card payments by utility customers. Information will be available by the next regular meeting of Council.

Bice reported that leaf vacuuming was being done daily with emphasis on Mondays and Fridays.

Neff requested that Council discuss a system for removal of pigeons in the downtown area. Following that discussion, President Jones requested members be prepared at the November 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting to present options.

General discussion was held.

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

By \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk-  
Marilyn Morrison Treasurer

Approved by Town Council:

As \_\_\_\_\_ President As \_\_\_\_\_ Member  
Harold Jones Bill Cartwright

As \_\_\_\_\_ Member As \_\_\_\_\_ Member  
Ron Neff Chod Boxell