

Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 24, 2002

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, June 24, 2002 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, Jacqueline Huffman, Chod Boxell and Ron Neff; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Larry Poulson, Darrel Bice, Dennis Spittler; Others, Tim Ford, Carol Pugh of HCUED, Warren Weekly Reporter, Huntington Herald Press Reporter and Greg Guerrettaz, Financial Consultant.

President Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced that bids for the Grover Street paving project would be opened. Bids were as follows:

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| E&B Paving | \$51,231.26 |
| Brooks Construction | \$52,505.00 |
| Wayne Asphalt | \$62,887.00 |

By consensus of Council, all bids were taken under advisement and a Special Meeting was called for July 1 with the paving project to be an agenda item.

Also, as a Special Order of Business, Carol Pugh, recently appointed Director of Huntington County United Economic Development was introduced and discussion was held related to her goals for the future of HCUED and her desire to work with all Warren groups on development issues.

Greg Guerrettaz updated Council on the status of the Town of Warren Business Plan. The binder type system should be ready to distribute within thirty days. In related discussion, Guerrettaz informed Council that indications are that a water rate increase would need to be addressed within 2002.

Neff and Jones reported on the wastewater project meeting held on June 24 at 9:00 a.m. with the engineers and Bob Deal of Rural Development. Following discussion, Neff moved, seconded by Jones, to proceed with a wastewater project as proposed with bids to be opened on July 25th at 4:30 p.m.. The motion was carried unanimously.

Bice reported that landscaping at the water treatment plant had not been completed. Neff and Jones urged that Bice take steps to ensure its completion by the Salamonie Festival, July 4-7 as that area in Tower Park would be used for activities.

Jones reported that additional discussion had been held with Spectrum Engineering, electrical engineering, in an Administrative Meeting just prior to the regular meeting. Also attending was Greg Guerrettaz, Financial Solutions Group. Under discussion was the role Spectrum was to play in the implementation of the electric distribution study completed in 2001 by Power Systems Engineering. The meeting was held to further detail expectations of the Council related to that implementation process. Jones reported that Spectrum Engineering would be preparing and presenting an additional proposal for consideration at the July 22nd Regular Council meeting.

Further discussion of the proposed changes to the Personnel Handbook was moved to the agenda of the Special Meeting called for July 1st.

No discussion was held on Ordinance 2002-4, Records Request, as further information regarding implementation by other Huntington County towns was not available.

Following discussion, Neff moved, seconded by Huffman, to approve a proposal from J&K Communications for update to the Base Radio system in the amount of \$3,903 with the cost to be split with Salamonie Township. The motion was carried unanimously.

President Jones reported that the "Our Town" Board had scheduled the Arts Festival Committee to meet July 1 at the Annex and had scheduled a meeting with a representative of Schneider Corporation for presentation of a method of computer profiling which could be helpful with the proposed streetscape project. That meeting is to be held July 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the annex.

President Jones reported that proposals for purchase of the North Central Co-op site and the building at 202 N. Wayne had not been accepted and that the Council would not continue with negotiations for purchase of either site.

Morrison reported that a request for waiver from the sewer moratorium as requested by the United Methodist Memorial Home and as approved by Council had been submitted to IDEM. Submitted to Council were copies of the request.

President Jones read a letter from the Salamonie Summer Festival Committee requesting donation toward the cost of annual fireworks. Following discussion, Jones moved, seconded by Huffman, that the Town's annual donation be increased from \$100 to \$250. The motion was carried unanimously.

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Morrison reported that all papers had been filed and certified notification sent to and received by the property owner at 339 E. First Street and that the time period to correct the existing nuisance had elapsed. Copies of the notifications were submitted to Council along with the citation of nuisance. By consensus, Council directed Bice to abate the nuisance immediately with all costs to be filed as a lien against the property.

Morrison reported that Mike Haggerty, owner of Heartland Aluminum, had requested preliminary information regarding possible abatement related to moving of the business to 906 E. Ninth. Morrison requested permission from Council to open discussion with Rick DeLaney, municipal attorney, regarding such an abatement request. Council concurred.

Morrison reported that \$450,000 in Municipal Electric Utility could be moved to short term investment at a higher rate of interest. However, such a move could be dependent on the Spectrum Engineering report as is to be presented in July. Council concurred that such investment be delayed pending the consideration of the proposal.

Bice reported that Citizen's Telephone had completed its Tower Park project and had hired Ben's Landscaping to restore that area of the park. Bice requested that Council consider hiring Ben's Landscaping to complete the restoration of the area where a house and property purchased by the Town had been cleared. Following discussion, Council concurred with the request citing that Bice was to supervise and make sure the project is completed prior to the Festival, if possible. Bice reported that the mosquito spray had been received. Following discussion, President Jones, with consensus of Council, requested that spraying be done twice weekly until after the Festival. It would then be determined if once weekly would be sufficient.

Assistant Marshal Spitler reported he had been called to Jones Avenue and Nancy Street in regard to dead birds. Upon inspection, it was noted that the birds had been electrocuted and no further steps needed to be taken as far as testing. Council, by consensus, directed Bice to clear the lines in question.

Announcements were as follows:

- July 8, 22 Council Meetings
- July 4 Holiday
- July 9 HCUED, 7:00 a.m.
- WALDC, Noon
- Our Town, 7:00 p.m.
- July 15 W.H.A.R.M.M.

Neff moved, seconded by Huffman, approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers as follows:

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| General Fund | 250-315 | \$68,258.12 |
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The motion was approved unanimously.

General discussion was held.

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

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| Submitted | | Clerk- |
| | Marilyn Morrison | Treasurer |

Approved by Town Council:

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| As _____ | As _____ |
| President | Member |
| Harold Jones | Jacqueline Huffman |
| As _____ | As _____ |
| Member | Member |
| Ron Neff | Chod Boxell |