

Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting
September 8, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.
Municipal Building
90 N. West Street
Spencer, IN 47460

Board Members present: Dean Bruce, Jon Stantz, and Cynthia Hyde

Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Street Superintendent, Larry Parrish, Sewer Superintendent John Hodge, Assistant Chief Rannix Tinsley, Redevelopment Commission President Michael Spinks, and Town Attorney Richard Lorenz

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES

First order of business was a request to revise an Event request from the Owen County Farmers Market. They requested to angle the barricades for staging at either end of Main Street to further protect their workers.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve the revised request, and the motion was seconded and passed.

Next up was a request by the Owen Valley Sports Complex/Owen Valley High School to put on a fireworks display after the football game on Friday night. The display will be set off from the Sports Complex. On hand for the school was George Jennings, Assistant Principal. A letter was received from the Sports complex indicating their approval for this display. Also on hand, was Lee Freeman, Fire Chief for the Owen Valley Fire Dept. Discussion followed regarding the danger if there was no rain. Jon Stantz requested three fire units be available, and Lee Freeman agreed.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the request for the fireworks display, with 3 fire units on hand. It was seconded and passed 3-0.

An event request for the Apple Butter was submitted by Cynthia Hyde on behalf of the Lions Club. The request was to barricade streets on all four sides of the square, consistent with previous years.

Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the request, including the early setup of the stage. The motion was seconded and passed.

A request on behalf of the Spencer Nazarene Church by Becky Monroe was presented for a Trunk or Treat Event to be held on October 23rd. She requested that Market Street be closed between Washington and Harrison Streets.

Jon Stantz made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded and passed 3-0.

Next, Mike Spinks spoke regarding a drainage ditch along his property that was recently dug. He had photos that showed it was collapsing in on the sides. He requested that the Town consider putting a culvert in, and covering it up. He stated further, that he would not be responsible for any personal injuries, in its present condition. In the past, he was able to mow it, but now he cannot. He requested that the Town take over the maintenance of the ditch. Larry Parrish stated that all over the town, there are ditches because of the drainage problems. He agreed that this time the depth of the ditch was a little deeper. He said if it collapses, he will take care of it. The Board agreed to take a look at his request.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Nothing to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Michael Spinks reported that they have completely registered and certified the economic development area. It will be eligible for the incremental tax increases next year, however, that does not apply to residential housing. They will be looking at additional areas for development.

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Rannix requested an additional Bereavement day for two employees.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve the request. The request was seconded and passed 3-0.

The Clerk-Treasurer reported that they recently had printed new hanging tags for issuing orders to abate nuisance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Larry Parrish reported that he received a Notice to Proceed from INDOT with regards to the grant agreement for the FY15 Grade Crossing Fund award. The grant period extends through November 30, 2016. The grant awarded is for painting and signage at the crossings and is in the amount of \$10,440.00. Larry said he would get hold of John Secor to proceed.

Next, Larry reported on the Railroad meeting regarding the closing intersections and alleys. He said he told them the only one that could be closed is the library parking lot opening. He said that he suggested that the alley behind Lorenz's office and the Evening World be made one way heading south.

He requested an additional \$1,500 approximately, for bituminous to finish some roadwork. The Clerk-Treasurer said it was doable, but she would see what line or fund it would be coming from, since the bituminous is spent.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT

John Hodge reported that the sludge removal was complete with the help of the Street Dept. The cost of the removal payable to the Sycamore Land Fill was \$9,725.85.

Cynthia Hyde made a motion to approve the payment for the sludge removal. The motion was seconded and passed 3-0.

John Hodge also reported that the Street Dept presented them with a bill for reimbursement of the fuel expense for hauling in the amount of approximately \$1,500.00. He also requested that he be allowed to order another dewatering bag for about \$1,500.00.

Jon Stantz made a motion to allow the purchase of a new dewatering bag. The motion was seconded and passed.

Lastly, John Hodge reported that in regards to the 46 Project, they do not have any elevations for the sewer lines. He thought it was possible that GRW may have these, but if not, it might be a good idea that they look into this. Richard Lorenz said he would send a letter to discuss this with GRW. John Hodge offered to give Darren Wells a call tomorrow to see what he has, and what it would cost for them to come down and take a look at it.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY

Richard Lorenz reported on communication with Greg Prince in regards to the 46 Construction Project. He stated that there are 21 luminaries planned, but there will be an additional 63 future locations that are infrastructure-installed. There was some discussion about adding additional lighting at certain points at the time of construction. Additional review of plans and discussion with INDOT on costs will need to take place.

Richard Lorenz also discussed a request for information he made to Darren Wells from GRW for the sewer extension on 46. Dean Bruce pointed out that HWC originally did the work on the 46 extension, and they may be a good resource as well. Richard said he would get back to GRW about paring down their proposal and get back to the Board.

Michael Spinks reported on some future plans along 43.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

Fred Dorsett asked if there was any progress on enforcing people to clean up their properties. Jon Stantz reported that letters were sent out to several residents and they have a number of days to correct.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

Mike Spinks mentioned that Brown-Forman was looking for a place to interview potential employees and if the Municipal Building would be available. He was told it was, and to contact the Clerk-Treasurer for availability and access.

The Clerk-Treasurer asked for additional information about the residents who received letters regarding their properties. She wanted to make sure that these are following procedures already set up as far as ordinances being issued, and also copying the Clerk-Treasurer so that she is included in the process for purposes of collecting fines or processing information.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Claims were presented and approved.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Jon Stantz motioned to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Dean Bruce, President

Jon Stantz, Vice-President

Cynthia Hyde, Board Member

Attest _____
Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer