

A meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Williamsport was held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at the Warren County Learning Center with the following officers present – Randy Wurtsbaugh, Council President and Council Members Jim Lanham and Paul Coffman. Also present were Mike Hutchison, Clerk-Treasurer and Town Attorney, Ingrid Barce, Amy Cushman, Kevin Strickler, Mark Hutson, Ted Latoz, Ben Dispennett, Wade Armes, William Wheeler, Ashley Wheeler, Dirk Garriott, Justin Thompson, Erick Jackowick, Jerry Lucas, Keith Day, Laura Slesher, and Brian Jordan.

Randy Wurtsbaugh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 15th meeting. Paul Coffman seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Coffman seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Dirk Garriott reintroduced the IMPA contract extension to the Council and opened the floor for any questions or concerns.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to agree to the IMPA contract extension as presented, conditional upon attorney review. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Ingrid Barce stated the contract extension was already reviewed and the only item that was concerning was the length of the contract term, which would extend the Town's current contract with IMPA eight years to 2050, with a thirty year termination notice required.

Brian Jordan requested that the Town put in two additional flower boxes in the downtown area next year and replace three that are in disrepair.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to approve Brian Jordan's request on flower boxes. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Kevin Strickler provided an update on the Town's submission for the Community Crossings Matching Grant. The total project cost is \$461,913.00, with the Town's twenty-five percent match being \$115,478.25. INDOT received the application and all looks favorable at this point.

Kevin Strickler stated the SWIF Grant application was submitted and he is hoping to hear back on it next week.

Kevin Strickler discussed the Transportation and Storm Water Grant. HWC has put together an application for the Town and submitted it.

Kevin Strickler provided the Council with an update on the Enterprise Fleet Management Program. He will provide the Council with a quote for the Town's vehicles through their program at the September meeting.

Kevin Strickler stated the lights and poles have been ordered for the ball diamond lights project at the Williamsport Park.

Kevin Strickler stated the TMF electric project is on hold until he hears back from Llyod McGowen.

Kevin Strickler stated the school zone signs came in and he will be putting them up soon.

Kevin Strickler provided the Council with an update on the train depot pavilion. After discussion with several contractors, the consensus is that the top structure is beyond repair and needs to be removed. He is waiting to hear back from other contractors on the best way to proceed with the deck and railing issues.

Kevin Strickler stated Nate Tarter has resigned from his position with the Town and he will be needing to fill this position in the near future.

Kevin Strickler discussed the drainage issues on Tami Lane and stated further investigation and discussion is required before any decisions can be made on how or if the Town should proceed on this project.

Ted Latoz stated one of the Police Tahoe's has been damaged in a pursuit. They are waiting on an estimate for the damages.

Ted Latoz stated the traffic study done on Oakwood Drive concluded that there was not a speeding problem that should result in the lowering of the speed limit.

The Council discussed the findings from the traffic study completed on Oakwood Drive and decided not to lower the speed limit at this time.

Mike Hutchison provided the Council with an update on the ARP funding the Town will be receiving. The Town will be receiving half of the total amount of \$418,130.74 shortly and the other half at a later date. The Council will need to discuss and come up with a plan for how to spend the ARP funding, based on the required guidelines set forth for recipients of the ARP funding.

Randy Wurtsbaugh provided the Council with the letter which needs to be signed if the Council agrees that the Williamsport Fire Department can serve alcohol during Motorama at the Williamsport Park.

Jim Lanham made a motion to approve the request and sign the authorization letter. Paul Coffman seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Mike Hutchison stated the Williamsport Fire Department has applied for a \$70,000.00 grant through SIA for turnout gear and equipment. The Fire Department has also recently learned of another grant through Firehouse Subs, that could help for the same, and they will be applying for that grant as well.

Randy Wurtsbaugh asked Keven Strickler for an update on the electrical project at the Kyger-Wright addition. Kevin Strickler stated the project will need done in phases over the next several years. He is currently short on help and time and there may be long wait times to get some of the needed material to complete the project now. Randy Wurtsbaugh asked Kevin Strickler about getting estimates from outside sources to complete the work. Kevin Strickler stated he could look into this.

Jim Lanham discussed his interest in the Town hiring an economic development representative.

Ben Dispennett, the economic development representative for Warren County, presented some areas for focus, work load, and funding models if the Town were to hire an economic development representative.

Paul Coffman made a motion to table this idea for review and discussion at a later time. Randy Wurtsbaugh seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Jim Lanham asked if the Town could begin using direct deposit for payroll.

Jim Lanham made a motion to switch Town Payroll to direct deposit. Randy Wurtsbaugh seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Paul Coffman discussed making a donation to the Learning Center for allowing the Town to use a room for monthly Council meetings.

Paul Coffman made a motion to approve a \$300 donation to the Learning Center.

Mike Hutchison suggested a monthly \$100 donation vs a \$300 one-time donation.

Paul Coffman amended his motion to \$100 per month. Randy Wurtsbaugh seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Paul Coffman presented the Council with a Town-Wide Cleanup flyer and stated he would like to send these flyers out with the monthly utility bills. The Council agreed.

Paul Coffman discussed a meeting he attended for the Community Center Proposal. At the meeting, it was requested that the Town appoint a representative for the project. Paul stated he would like to be the representative. The Council agreed.

Paul Coffman stated he would like it on record that Town employee pay scale and insurance benefits should be looked at and discussed in the near future.

Amy Cushman presented a leak adjustment that totaled \$199.20, which includes penalty recently added.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to approve the leak adjustment. Paul Coffman seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Laura Slesher, with Purdue's LTAP, discussed recent traffic concerns in Williamsport, current code requirements, and low-cost alternatives to address and help with traffic problems.

The Council requested that Laura complete traffic studies on the curve of Oakwood Drive, Washington Street, and North Monroe from 125 South. Laura will report her findings back once she completes the traffic studies at the requested locations.

Ingrid Barce opened the UBO Hearing.

Ingrid Barce swore in William Wheeler.

Ingrid Barce asked William Wheeler to provide an update on his progress to clean up the property at 401 Market Street. William Wheeler stated he burned wood, mowed, and cleaned up his back yard over the weekend. Ingrid Barce stated that per John Kuiper, there is still brush and debris on the property that needs cleaned up. Randy Wurtsbaugh and Paul Coffman both agreed, that upon inspection of the property, there is still much to be done to clean the property to come into compliance with the UBO request before the order can be released.

Jerry Lucas discussed property lines between his property and the Wheeler's property.

Ingrid Barce stated that based on information provided, the Wheeler's are not in compliance with what was requested of them in the UBO order. Ingrid asked William Wheeler for a timeline on how long it would take them to clean the property up. William Wheeler stated they could take stuff to the Town-Wide Cleanup in September. Paul Coffman stated he did not want to allow this to go two additional months due to the timing of the next meeting and the Town-Wide Cleanup and that significant improvement needs to be made by the September 16th meeting.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to affirm and extend the order for the Wheeler's thirty days. Paul Coffman seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Ingrid Barce advised the Wheeler's that should they remain out of compliance when they report back at the September meeting, fines can be imposed or the Town could go in and clean the property and attach the fees to their property taxes.

Ingrid Barce discussed the UBO for Kathy Fultz at 36 Ash Cove. John Kuiper informed her there is only a small amount of debris remaining that needs cleaned up.

Paul Coffman made a motion to affirm and modify the order to allow an additional thirty days to clean the debris up. Randy Wurtsbaugh seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Ingrid Barce provided the Council with updates on the remaining notices issued to properties in Town and then closed the UBO Hearing.

Ingrid Barce opened the hearing for AHW's Waiver of Non-Compliance concerning late filing of their tax abatement request. Ingrid provided the Council with AHW's Statement of Benefits for review.

Paul Coffman made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-0819, waiving AHW's non-compliance for late filing of their tax abatement request. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to approve AHW's compliance with their Statement of Benefits. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Eric Jackowick requested permission to place umbrellas on a few of the Town's tables at the train depot pavilion by the Hotdog Station. The Council agreed to Mr. Jackowick's request.

Randy Wurtsbaugh made a motion to adjourn. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

With no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST _____, President

_____, Member

_____, Member