

A meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Williamsport was held on June 4, 2018 at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall with the following officers present – Dave Banta, President, Dick Briles, Traci Latoz, and William Lucas, Clerk Treasurer. Also in attendance were Nancy Litzenberger, Town Attorney, Kevin Strickler, Ted Latoz, Mark Hutson, April Nowicki, Ruann Marks, Greg Taylor, Amy Cushman, Tracy Accord, Mark Robbins, Mike Hutchison, Sharon Hutchison, Steve Brock with Therber, Brock, & Associates, Kelly Arnold, and Adam Gilbert of the Fountain County Neighbor.

Minutes of the April Meeting: Dick Briles made a motion to approve, Dave Banta 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed. Minutes of the May Meeting: Traci Latoz made a motion to approve, Dick Briles 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

Ted Latoz spoke about a Town Ordinance involving getting people to clean up their property. He spoke about action taken at the Rasmussen property and progress at the Wheeler property.

Dick Briles asked Ted Latoz if he had done anything about the Plaza. Ted said there is some activity. Dick asked about the Liquor store. It is in Ted's work as well.

Dave Banta spoke about trailers owned by Jeff Scott on Grant Street.

Ted Latoz asked Nancy Litzenberger about the Town's Weed Ordinance.

Ted Latoz said Gene Snoeberger starts June 5, 2018 as the Town's new Deputy Town Marshal.

Dick Briles made a motion to hire Gene Snoeberger as Deputy Town Marshal. He will start at a salary of \$43,974.24 per year. He will also start with two weeks of vacation. This will cover 2018 and 2019. All other vacation time will be accrued per the Town's Plan. Dave Banta 2<sup>nd</sup>. Dave and Dick voted in favor, Traci Latoz abstained from the vote on the grounds that: 1. The majority of the Council is voting against the decision of the Merit Board. 2. The new Deputy Town Marshal is earning vacation in such a way that is not following the vacation schedule outlined in the employee handbook. 3. The Merit Boards recommendation was not followed. Traci Latoz disagreed with the Council as noted.

Traci Latoz made a motion to donate \$500.00 to the Fair Board for the Fireworks. Dick Briles 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

Bill Lucas asked Kevin Strickler when the Town clock will be fixed. Kevin responded that no decision has been made at this time.

Bill Lucas asked about a person to water the Town's flowers. There is no one at this time.

Bill Lucas discussed Amy Cushman having her first 90 days of employment in. She is doing well and will get a 50 cent per hour pay increase as of June 1, 2018.

Nancy Litzenberger has 2018-3 thru 2018-11 Resolutions granting tax abatements for equipment and/or real estate for TMF and Accuburn. Nancy said some of the Resolutions are for prior years. She is working with the County Assessor on the tax abatements. Nancy asked the Council to sign if they agree to the Resolutions. Traci Latoz made a motion to approve the Resolutions. Dave Banta 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

Nancy L spoke about Compliance Statements.

Dave Banta spoke about the IMPA Board of Commissioners that he is on. Dave wants Kevin Strickler to be appointed in his place once he steps down. Dick Briles made a motion to adopt a Resolution to appoint Kevin Strickler to represent the Town of Williamsport as Commissioner for the IMPA Board. Traci Latoz 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

Dave Banta had information from IMPA on renewable energy. If anyone needed information, they can pick it up at the Utility Office.

Steve Brock from Therber, Brock, and Assoc. discussed the rate study they are conducting for the Town's water, wastewater, and storm water. He stated our water and sewer tap fees are too low. He questioned if the Town has a returned check fee. The Town charges \$20.00 plus the bank's charge. Steve Brock discussed late charge max not being able to exceed 10% and payments in lieu of tax for water and sewer. Storm water can be set up under Title 36 (out of town, as well as in town) or Title 8 (in town only). Water and sewer rates for the Town were discussed and noted as too low by Steve Brock. Loans and grants available to help fund water, wastewater, and storm water projects were briefly discussed. A special meeting regarding Therber, Brock, & Associates rate study has been set for Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Dave Banta asked about April Nowicki's property. April said there will be someone coming to look at the roof on June 5, 2018. Dick Briles said there has been nothing done in the last 30 days as far as what can be seen. Dave Banta suggested the Town go ahead with the hearing to determine what the next step is. April was advised she could have an attorney present on her behalf. The hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Dave Banta asked about the work done to the Park Pavilion. Kevin Strickler said he has set new posts to hold up the existing posts. The existing posts could not be replaced as originally thought due to the extent of deterioration on them. A discussion of an engineer coming to inspect the structure took place. Traci Latoz made a motion to have the Pavilion taken down and cleaned up by Friday, June 8, 2018. Dick Briles 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

Tracy Accord with Wabash Valley Church spoke about service work their church would like to do for the Town of Williamsport the week of July 21<sup>st</sup> thru July 26<sup>th</sup>. There could be 12-20 people involved in providing the services.

Mark Robbins spoke. He is running for Commissioner, District 3, in the fall. He lives in Warren County, but wanted to see if the Town needed anything.

Sharon Hutchison said The Tippecanoe Arts Federation, that painted the Town's mural, would be meeting from 3-5 pm on June 5, 2018.

Kelly Arnold proposed putting six foot wide speed bumps being placed on Monroe Street by the school and on to River Road to deter speeding. Dave Banta said the Council will look into it.

Ruann Marks spoke about the Fountain-Warren Master Gardeners. Winnie Clark donated plants, roses, day lilies, and ornamental grasses. The Town will send a thank-you card.

Ruann spoke about signs for the Falls area. She has checked on prices with a business in Attica. The large 48" X 60" cost is \$310.50. It is made with exterior sign board and has an aluminum wrap. The 66" X 48" sign cost is \$286.50. A new sign by the bridges to be determined is \$60.00. Total of all three signs is \$657.00. Traci Latoz asked that Ruann look into a fourth sign regarding handicap access. Ruann to look into this. Price will increase to include the cost of the fourth sign. Dick Briles made a motion to have the signs made. Traci Latoz 2<sup>nd</sup> with the stipulation that the Council gets to proof the sign verbiage and spelling before they are printed. Voted and passed.

Adam Gilbert asked about Kevin Strickler's new responsibilities once appointed as the Town's Commissioner for the IMPA Board. Dave Banta explained some of the responsibilities.

Kevin spoke about the State Rd 28 rebuild project. IMPA costs were less than expected. The Town Crew worked with IMPA.

Kevin wants to order \$10,000.00 in new poles. He needs 15-35' / 9-40' / 5-45'

Kevin said the poles at the ball diamond will need replaced.

Kevin spoke about security lights that belong to the town that are on residential and commercial properties that are not being paid for.

The Town's water tower has been cleaned. It will need new paint in a few years.

The wells will be tested soon.

Kevin spoke about some of the water problems in town.

Kevin spoke about paving streets. He will be working on Community Crossing Grant Money. Our Asset Management Plan must be updated. HWC can do it for a cost of \$2,000.00- \$3,000.00. This is 75% to the Town's 25%.

Dave Banta spoke about having HWC make the loan application for utilities. Sewer project is priority.

Traci L. made a motion to have HWC start the application for loan money for the sewer work. Dick Briles 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

Kevin Strickler spoke about a roller that Jerry Myers has. He would like to purchase it. This is 47 inches wide and the cost is \$13,500.00.

Tennis court nets have been replaced. This cost \$800.00 instead of the estimated \$500.00.

The pool needs twelve new chairs. Council approved.

Traci Latoz made a motion to purchase the poles Kevin spoke about. Dick Briles 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

Dick Briles made a motion to bid on the roller that Jerry Myers has. Traci Latoz 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted and passed.

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

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member