

A meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Williamsport was held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 5, 2019 at the Town Hall with the following officers present – Mike Hutchison, Council President and Council Members Jim Lanham and Traci Latoz. Also present were Bill Lucas, Clerk-Treasurer and Jud Barce, Town Attorney, Amy Cushman, Mark Hutson, Justin Davis, Kevin Strickler, Ted Latoz, Ingrid Barce, Dave Banta, Allie Lockwood, Bill Trimble, Travis Beckett, Steve Brock, and Susan Wright with the Review Republican.

Mike Hutchison called the meeting to order. All in attendance were advised the meeting was being recorded.

Mike Hutchison opened the Budget Hearing for 2020's proposed budget. There were no public comments or questions regarding the 2020 budget.

Mike Hutchison made a motion to close the budget hearing. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Regular meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Bill Trimble discussed the stray cats in the area. He asked the Council if there was any assistance he could get from the Town in helping the stray cats. The Council advised Bill there is no funding available to help with the stray cats in Town.

Mike Hutchison made a motion to approve the minutes for the special meeting on August 8th. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Traci Latoz abstained from the vote due to her absence from the special meeting. Voted and passed.

Jim Lanham made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Mike Hutchison made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 21<sup>st</sup> special meeting. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Travis Beckett, with Troop 344 of the Boy Scouts of America, would like to build and place three benches along the trail at the Falls, as well as staining the lookout area for the Falls. Travis would begin his project in early October. Mike Hutchison made a motion to approve the project. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Mike Hutchison asked if anyone was in attendance for the disconnect hearing. No one was in attendance for the disconnect hearing.

Mike Hutchison made a motion to approve all disconnects on the list. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Kevin Strickler presented a memorandum of agreement from HWC to update the Town's pavement asset plan for the Community Crossing Grant. This plan now has to be updated every year. The work is paid on an hourly basis, not to exceed \$8,500.00 and has to be completed by December 1, 2019.

Jim Lanham made the motion to approve and pay for HWC to provide the service to update the Town's Pavement Asset Plan. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Kevin Strickler asked if a Town resident can drill a well in Town Limits. Jud Barce stated he will review the Town's ordinances and if the Town does not currently have one, one will need to be made.

Mike Hutchison asked Kevin Strickler if there has been any progress on the upcoming electrical project in the Kyger-Wright addition. Kevin Strickler stated he will work on planning this out in stages for the Council to review.

Kevin Strickler stated the electrical project at Accuburn is done and the electrical project on Front Street is ninety percent complete. The electrical department is continuing to change out poles and work on outages as they arise.

Mike Hutchison discussed recent Comcast outages and the lack of cell service in the area. There is a Board of Zoning Appeals meeting at the Court House on Sept 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. to discuss putting up a cell tower on Dick Briles property.

Mark Hutson presented the Council with a brochure from the Alliance of Indiana on the 2019 Wastewater Operator Certification exam review that will take place every Tuesday from September 17<sup>th</sup> to October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Lebanon, Indiana. The cost of the classes is \$400.00.

Jim Lanham made a motion to approve Justin Davis attend these classes. Mike Hutchison seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

The Council discussed the hiring of a new Town employee for Kevin Strickler's crew. Kevin will review the applications received and narrow down the applicants. Once the applicants are narrowed down, the Council will review them with Kevin and discuss compensation.

Mike Hutchison asked Kevin Strickler if the Town approved enrollment in the skid steer program. Kevin Strickler said this was not approved.

Jim Lanham made a motion for Kevin to enroll in the skid steer program. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Mark Hutson provided the Council with information on WeCare. Bill Lucas told the Council, if WeCare is going to become an included benefit, some other employee benefit would have to be cut. The employee benefits currently run 48% of their wages. The Council will review this information. No decisions were made at this time regarding adding WeCare coverage for Town employees.

Ted Latoz discussed replacing the Town's second patrol vehicle. The cost for the 2020 Tahoe would be similar to the new Tahoe the Town just purchased. Bill Lucas stated there is funding available to purchase the second patrol vehicle this year, as Kevin Strickler is not planning on needing to replace any Town vehicles for the remainder of 2019.

Jim Lanham made a motion that Ted Latoz order the 2020 Tahoe. Mike Hutchison seconded the motion. Traci Latoz abstained from the vote due to her relationship with the police department. Voted and passed.

Ted Latoz discussed putting together the ordinance on park rules. Allie Lockwood, with the Park Board, provided the Council and Jud Barce with a list of park rules.

Ted Latoz discussed getting the Town on the computer-aided dispatch system in the future.

Mike Hutchison discussed an issue in Town concerning a dog left outside without food or shelter. Jud Barce will look at the Town ordinance regarding animals and get back with the Council on what can be done.

Traci Latoz stated that there is a state law that says there must be four people on the Park Board and they all must be residents of the Town. The previously made motion to amend the Park Board ordinance to allow just three members and non-residents as members is overruled due to state law. Two new members will need to be appointed the Park Board.

Allie Lockwood discussed renting the pavilion at the Park and provided the Council with a proposed plan and contract for the same. The Council decided to keep the pavilion rent free and let the community use it on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Bill Lucas asked Jud Barce about collecting fees for ordinance violations at the Town office including moving violations. Jud Barce stated moving violations would be infractions and the Ordinance Violations Clerk would not collect fees for infractions.

The Council discussed the Park Board rules Allie Lockwood provided for the Town Parks.

Traci Latoz discussed an issue with a utility customer in which excessive water use is happening at a multi-unit complex that only has one water meter. Jud Barce will review the Town's ordinances for any sort of regulations that are in place to keep this from happening and further discussion will take place if the Town would like to set up any sort of ordinance to regulate this, if there is not.

Traci Latoz discussed the Town's Christmas Party and questioned if the Town would like to make changes to what has been done in the past. Traci will gather input from the employees on possible changes and this will be discussed at a later time.

Jud Barce presented the amended sewer rates. There were no public comments.

Mike Hutchison made a motion to approve ordinance 2019-0905 A amending the sewer rates of ordinance 2018-16. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Steve Brock discussed the financing of the sewer project and requirements for the SRF loan.

Jim Lanham made a motion to have Jud Barce hire Richard Fox as bond council on behalf of the Town. Mike Hutchison seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Jud Barce discussed the Ordinance Violations Clerk Ordinance. This will be tabled for a future meeting.

Jud Barce discussed the rezoning of AHW. Warren County Area Plan Commission made a favorable recommendation to change AHW's request for rezoning. The Council will decide at a future meeting to allow this change.

Jud Barce discussed April Nowicki's property and a phone call he received from USDA on April applying for a loan to fix the roof on the property.

Jim Lanham asked about the Town's electric supplier. The Town is currently signed into a forty year agreement with IMPA.

Dave Banta questioned the sewer project. The project has been pushed back around six months due to both parts of the project not being bid.

Mike Hutchison made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Lanham seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

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

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

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Member

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Member