

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
July 9, 2013

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 P.M.

**INVOCATION:** Roger Wills- Trinity Free Methodist Church

**ROLLCALL:** Mrs. Barron was absent; Mr. Guernsey was absent and all other members present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRATIONS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Accounts payable register voucher approval July 9, 2013 and the approval of Town Council minutes of June 25, 2013 and the Fire Territory Board Minutes of May 14, 2013. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and second by Mr. Pettit. The motion was approved by a 6/0 voice vote.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**BUDGET & FINANCE:**

Mr. Goralczyk announced that they are moving forward with the GO Bond for paving this year.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Mr. Pettit asked that the 2013 paving list be added as an agenda item for their workshop next Thursday.

Mr. Miano discussed the railroad crossing on Madison and said they've been in constant contact with them but still have not seen any work being done and asked Mr. Spires to contact them again.

**COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

Mr. Spann commended the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade committee. Mrs. Miano explained that Mr. Lamb taped the parade and it will be available on the website.

**PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:**

Mr. Goralczyk announced that the health care reform has been delayed until 2015. He is also waiting for an answer back from Mr. Bushemi with regards to the handbook revisions.

**PUBLIC SAFETY: No report.**

Mrs. Miano read a level one commendation letter from Commander Kijurna to Chief Petruich, recognizing officers Allison Ellis and Lance Schmidt for their efforts during a burglary suspect arrest at Speedway.

There was a discussion about fireworks being shot off and Mrs. Miano explained the ordinance states fireworks can be lit off until sunset on July 9<sup>th</sup> and also New Year's Eve all day on the 31<sup>st</sup> and until 1 a.m. on New Year's Day.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

Mrs. Miano announced the dedication and ground breaking ceremony at Union Park on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. located at 7200 Broadway.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

Mr. Lake gave an update on the bid opening for the storm water building and the provisional bid was awarded to Pangere Corporation for \$849,410.00 and they will review the bids to make sure they are complete. The board awarded a contract for Robinson Engineering to complete the drainage plan for Southmoor Park. He signed an agreement with Up Cycle Products to officially kick off the new rain barrel program for 55 gallon recycled barrels. The deadline for ordering the rain barrels is September 5<sup>th</sup> with a pickup date of September 12<sup>th</sup> at public works from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Christopher Burke is going to do a special presentation with updates on the storm water master plan at their next storm water meeting.

Mr. Pettit asked Mr. Lake about retention ponds listed on tax sale and he explained that everything is up to date and they communicate with the tax sale secretary in order to pull suspicious ones or possible retention ponds and he is meeting with Mr. Petalas on Thursday to discuss the topic as well. There was a discussion with regards to the possibility of retrieving any of the old tax sale retention ponds and code violations.

Mr. Hardaway announced that beginning Monday they are holding a cap-a-thon here at Town Hall where you can bring in any type of plastic cap to the Town Manager's office or Public Works. Their goal is to receive 800 lbs. of caps to get the 2 benches for the 54<sup>th</sup> Court Rain Garden.

**ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

Mrs. Miano thanked the public works and police department for their assistance with the Independence Day Parade and a job well done. She gave a special thanks to the volunteers and judges and emcee. She read off 5 of the most impressive entries; Baker's Square, Crucial Creations, Lake County Sheriff's Posse, Pipes and Drums of Orak and Villa Del Sol. Certificates of appreciation and awards will be presented at the next Town Council meeting.

August 6<sup>th</sup> will be annual National Night Out at Town Hall from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Pettit discussed the elaborate membership directory community profile magazine that Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce is doing and asked this to be on the agenda item for the next workshop to discuss taking out an ad.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Goralczyk announced that the Rte. 30 project is almost done and estimating that it will be completely finished within the next 3 weeks. He asked about NIPSCO and Mr. Bushemi said that there will be meetings set up with Butler, Fairman & Seufert rep and the contractor's rep to review the evidence is that they have with respect to the utility relocation delay and then after that meeting they will meet with the attorney.

**UTILITY LIAISON: No report.**

**TOWN GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANIZATION: No report.**

**ADA COMPLIANCES: No report.**

**GENERAL ORDERS:**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ordinance 13-25:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies within the Clerk-Treasurer Fund. Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and Mr. Pettit second the motion. The motion was approved by a 6/0 roll call vote.

**Ordinance 13-25:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies within the Fire & Hazmat Fund. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and Mr. Spann second the motion. The motion was approved by a 6/0 roll call vote.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ordinance 13-23:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, providing that the zoning ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana be amended by changing the established zone classification A-1, Agricultural Zoning District to C-2, community commercial zoning district on the undeveloped property of Edna, Robert and Gerald Luebcke to be known as Mainstreet Property Group, LLC (MS Merrillville, LLC) on approximately 1.3 acres +/- . Mr. Pettit made a motion to remove Ordinance 13-23 from the agenda because state law only requires one reading for zoning ordinances. Mr. Hardaway second the motion. The motion was approved by a 6/0 roll call vote.

**Ordinance 13-24:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, providing that the zoning ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the parks non reverting fund of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, for the year 2013 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance on second reading and Mr. Spann second the motion. No public comment. The motion was approved by a 6/0 roll call vote.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution 13-17:** A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing temporary loans to fulfill monetary requirements necessary for a debt service payment (retroactive to 6-27-13) . Mr. Widing made a motion to approve and Mr. Goralczyk second the motion. The motion to was approved by a 6/0 voice vote.

**BZA ACTIONS: None**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Spires announced that appraisals have been done for park properties that the Town is looking to sell and forwarded to John Bushemi's office and he is ready to sit with the Council to discuss what procedure they will be using to sell and asked that this be added to the list of items for the workshop under parks. Mr. Goralczyk asked that they get various pricing for auctioneers to be discussed as well.

**NEW BUSINESS: None**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Plan Commission Meeting, July 16 at 6:30 p.m.  
Town Council Meeting, July 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.  
BZA Meeting, June 24, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.  
Workshop meeting July 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Personnel meeting July 17, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

All Town offices with the exception of emergency services will be closed Thursday, July 4, 2013 & Friday, July 5, 2013 in observance of July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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**Mrs. Miano, Town Council President**

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**Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer**