

The Town Council of the Town of Markle, Indiana met in its meeting room at the Markle Fire Department Building on the 16th of July, 2014, at the hour of 7:30 p.m. in accordance with the rules of the Council and applicable laws.

Town Council Members present: Jeff Humbarger, Mark Hamilton, and Rick Bower. Clerk-Treasurer Shelley Monticue and (8) additional townspeople were in attendance.

First order of business were the minutes from the June 18th Meeting. Councilmember Bower motioned to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Vice President Hamilton. Motion carried 3-0, and Minutes were signed.

Town Council Correspondence began with a request from Huntington County Emergency Management Advisory Board (EMA) for EDIT funds from any and all taxing units within Huntington County. These funds would be used to purchase a used sandbagger for \$17,000. The sandbagger would be used county-wide in the event of an emergency and include 9,000 bags. A new sandbagger costs approximately \$26,000 and does not include bags. The used sandbagger has been tested and is in good working condition. Mike Grant, General Town Assistant and Town representative for the EMA Board, stated that while the Town may never need the sandbagger due to its levy system, it would be a good idea for the County to have one for emergencies. President Humbarger suggested the Town call around to other municipalities within Huntington County and allocate appropriately. Vice President Hamilton would like to see the allocation done on a per capita basis. Mr. Grant will contact the EMA Director for further information. The issue is tabled to Old Business at the August Meeting.

Further Council Correspondence included a letter from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) regarding a parking restriction on the south side of S.R. 116/Morse Street for approximately 130' in front of the Markle United Methodist Church (MUMC) and its education wing and parsonage. President Humbarger noted that while the community has not been concerned about the area, when something happens, the safety of the crosswalk located between the Church and its parking lot needs to be addressed. INDOT has conducted an investigation, and while this would be the safest way to prevent a tragedy, INDOT is approaching the Town for its support. While Marshal John Markley feels that it is a good idea, he would like to see a programmable flashing light to warn drivers of pedestrians. Town General Assistant Mike Grant stated that if installed, lighted signs are usually at a cost paid by the municipality. Vice President Hamilton, a MUMC member, requested that the discussion be tabled until the August Meeting, so that he may discuss the issue with other MUMC members. President Humbarger will email INDOT and request that INDOT work out a solution between itself and the MUMC.

Next in Town Council Correspondence, President Humbarger summarized the Redevelopment Commission Report and confirmed receipt of notification that the Town wishes to capture any excess to save for a large project in the Industrial Park.

Town General Assistant Mike Grant delivered the report for Town Supervisor Rick Asher, who was on vacation:

- Storm damage to trees within the Town's Right-of-Way has been cleaned up by Arborworx.
- The new construction at Six Novae Parkway will have the utilities installed within the next week.

Meeting Minutes Continued | July 16, 2014

- Mr. Grant, also a member of the Markle Volunteer Fire Department (MFD), requested permission to use the parking lot located at the Town Hall for a safety demonstration during the Markle Wildcat Festival. Instead of using the parking lot at iAB Financial Bank, where traffic would be an issue, the lot could be roped off for limited access and a tarp placed down for a vehicle that has been part of an extrication.
- Two of the flower pots in the Downtown area have been stolen.
- The mixer at the new Water Tower has been repaired, and the radio is scheduled for either repair or replacement before the August Meeting.

Marshal John Markley submitted his monthly report:

- Marshal Markley participated in Camp Hero, whereupon 205 local area children participated in learning about law enforcement.
- The circus on June 21st was successful and without incident.
- The MPD's final move to the former EMS quarters is scheduled to take place on July 17th.

Next on the Agenda was time allowed for Public Comment. None was heard.

Old Business began with adoption of the revised Employee Handbook, effective July 2014, via Resolution 2014-1. The final draft was presented, with all revisions concerning PTO time complete. President Humbarger read Resolution 2014-1 in its entirety. Councilmember Bower motioned to approve Resolution 2014-1, seconded by President Humbarger. Motion carried 3-0, and both the Employee Handbook and Resolution 2014-1 were approved. Resolution 2014-1 was signed.

Further in Old Business, the easement at 501 Tower Drive was reviewed by Town Attorney Mike Hartburg and returned to Council. Mr. Hartburg suggested two amendments, and Clerk-Treasurer Monticue will send it back to Indiana Fiber Network for final review. The easement discussion was then tabled until Old Business at the August Meeting.

A final addition to Old Business was an offer from Jon & Tracy Goetz for the Town to rent a newly-renovated storefront located at 165 East Morse Street beginning October 2014. This would allow the Town Hall to be vacated and allow the Huntington City-Township Public Library (HCTPL) to build on the lot. Mr. & Mrs. Goetz's offer for the 1600 square foot store front was a monthly rent of \$600 and included a month-to-month tenancy, one month deposit, and wastewater/water utilities provided by the Goetz's. Councilmember Bower confirms with Town General Assistant Mike Grant that the elevator is disabled and will not allow access to confidential items by tenants in the apartment above. Mr. Grant stated that the HCTPL planned to get a timeline for demolition and construction at 155 West Sparks Street, and vacation of 197 East Morse Street. By consensus, Council approves the interim relocation of the Town Hall to 165 E. Morse Street beginning in October 2014.

At this time, Clerk-Treasurer Monticue delivered her monthly report and annual Redevelopment Commission Financial Report. She also submitted a preliminary Budget for 2015, which included a projected 2% raise for Town Employees. She answered questions regarding specific line items, noting few changes from the 2014 Budget. Clerk-Treasurer Monticue submitted 84 vouchers in the amount of \$139,317.39 for approval: 47 vouchers from the General Fund in the amount of \$73,360.10, 21 from the Water Fund in the amount of

Meeting Minutes Continued | July 16, 2014

\$36,064.85, and 16 from the Wastewater Fund in the amount of \$29,892.44. Vice President Hamilton motioned to approve all vouchers, seconded by Councilmember Bower. Motion carried 3-0, and vouchers were signed.

Upon hearing no other business, President Humbarger motioned to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.

By Absent
Jeff Humbarger President

By Rick Bower
Rick Bower Councilmember

By Mark Hamilton
Mark Hamilton Vice-President

Attest: Shelley Monticue
Shelley Monticue Clerk-Treasurer