

The Town Council of the Town of Markle, Indiana met in its meeting room at the Markle Fire Department Building on the 20th of January, 2016, 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, Rick Bower, Clerk-Treasurer Carolyn Hamilton and 11 additional townspeople were in attendance.

President Humbarger called the meeting to order.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The first order of business was for Clerk Hamilton to administer the oath to Mark L. Hamilton and Jeffrey A. Humbarger.

Rick Bower made the motion to have Jeffrey Humbarger continue as Council President. Mark Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Rick Bower made the motion to have Mark Hamilton continue as Vice-President. President Humbarger seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Rick Bower moved to approve the December 16, 2015 minutes as presented. Mark Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

President Humbarger announced that the Tracy Street bid was deemed un-awardable by INDOT. There were only two bidders. There were thirteen projects that were not awarded due to costs. There is a lot of work right now and contractors are bidding higher than the engineers' estimates. In order to let the project in April 2016, the project scope must be modified and resubmitted to INDOT by January 27, 2016.

The original project with adjusted unit prices was:

Total construction costs: \$1,879,024.59

Inspection Fee \$178,450

Federal Funds \$1,364,823.

Local Funds required: \$692,651.59

Jay Stankiewicz from DLZ reported that in order to rebid the project there would have to be some changes. He presented three different options to lower the cost of the project.

1. Eliminate the section north of US 224  
Total Construction cost \$1,804,514.51  
Inspection Fee \$178,450  
Federal Funds \$1,364,823.00  
Markle's portion \$618,141.51

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2. Eliminate the right turn lane along US 224 and the right turn lane at SR 116  
Total Construction cost \$1,719,293  
Inspection Fee \$178,450  
Federal Funds \$1,364,823.00  
Markle's portion \$532,920
  
3. Eliminate the section north of US 224, the right turn lane along US 224 and the right turn lane on SR 116.  
Total Construction costs \$1,671,050.98  
Inspection fee \$178,450  
Federal Funds \$1,364,823.  
Markle's portion \$484,677.98

New plans will have to be submitted to INDOT by Monday, January 27th. April 6, 2016 is the last letting of bids.

Jay Stankiewicz also brought to the Council's attention the fact that twelve trees need removed so that utilities can be relocated. He suggested the town employees do it, because after March trees larger than 3 inch diameter cannot be cut down due to bat restrictions. This may be a two season project.

If the Town chooses not to go ahead with the project, they would have to return the monies already received. The amount would be \$415,000.

Jay Stankiewicz advised that the longer the project goes on, he believes, the higher the price is going to get. He advised that \$186,000 will be coming back to the Town for the land acquisition cost.

Council had a short discussion about funds available.

Rick Asher questioned the need for the turn lanes. He also questioned \$85,000 for the part north of US 224. Rick stated that he had talked to Wayne Metal and they did not indicate a need for the turn lane. His discussions with Wayne Metal indicated that they do not plan to reroute all of their traffic to Tracy Street at this time, but rather to only use Tracy Street as an exit from the plant, turning east on Countryside Drive, then North on Tracy, then to continue on to US 224 in either direction.

Mike Grant questioned if the turn lanes can be put in later. Jay Stankiewicz said a study would have to be done first.

Jay Stankiewicz also suggested that the Town could work with the contractor paving Tracy Street to pave the north part in front of Hare Canvas.

President Humbarger made the motion to remove the right hand turn lanes at US 224 and SR 116 and the paving in front of Hare Canvas. Mark Hamilton seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

