

The Town Council of the Town of Markle, Indiana met in its meeting room at the Markle Fire Department Building on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, 2015, 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. Clerk-Treasurer Shelley Monticue and (8) additional townspeople were in attendance. Councilmember Rick Bower is absent.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

First on the Agenda is the election of officers. It is noted that, while Councilmember Bower is ill, they will proceed with nominations. Councilmember Hamilton nominates Councilmember Humbarger to remain President. Motion is seconded by Councilmember Humbarger and carries 2-0. President Humbarger nominates Councilmember Hamilton to remain Vice President. Motion is seconded by Councilmember Hamilton and carries 2-0.

Next on the Agenda are Minutes from the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Regular Meeting and the January 13<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting. Vice President Hamilton motions to approve both sets of Minutes as written, seconded by President Humbarger. Motion carries 2-0 and Minutes are signed.

Town Correspondence begins with a Memorandum of Understanding between the Markle Area Historical Society and the Town of Markle. The memorandum involves storage and display of Historical Society artifacts both during and following the demolition of the current Town Hall building. By consensus, the memorandum is under review and moved to Old Business at the February Meeting.

Next in Town Correspondence, a local area girl named Addison Misch was named as a Riley Children's Hospital Champion and the Hospital asked the Town to proclaim January 23<sup>rd</sup> as Addison Misch Day, with a larger celebration to follow on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at Norwell Middle School. President Humbarger read the proclamation verbatim and proclaimed January 23<sup>rd</sup> Addison Misch Day.

Finally in Town Correspondence, President Humbarger announced those who have agreed to continue into another term in their various appointments. John Markley was nominated to fill Linda Reed's seat on the Park Board, serving a three year term beginning January 1, 2015. All other appointments are the same as 2014, with the only exception being Tamra Boucher to the Redevelopment Commission and the Wells County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development. President Humbarger anticipates formalizing her appointment to those two Boards at the February Meeting. President Humbarger moves to approve all continuing appointments with the exception of Tamra Boucher, leaving those currently vacant and nominating John Markley to his new place on the Park Board. Vice President Hamilton seconded the motion and motion carried 2-0. All approved appointments were signed and sealed.

Next on the Agenda, Town Supervisor Rick Asher submitted his monthly and annual reports:

- Mr. Asher recapped the decision made at the January 13<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting to engage engineers as needed to inspect, maintain, and paint both water towers. Clerk-Treasurer Monticue will send a 60 day notice to Utility Service Group to end the contractual agreement on the older water tower. Discussion ensued regarding costs and lead time for painting the older water tower. President Humbarger

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motioned to engage Dixon Engineering regarding bids for contractors. Motion was seconded by Vice President Hamilton and carried 2-0.

- Mr. Asher noted a rate of unaccounted water at 16.1%, and while this is an improvement over 2013's rate of 29%, five or six repaired leaks contributed to this "unacceptable" rate.
- Wastewater Superintendent Scott Spahr will have his annual report at the February Meeting.

Marshal John Markley submitted his monthly and annual reports. As it gets closer to Spring, Marshal Markley anticipates discussing signage around Town.

Next on the Agenda was time allowed for Public Comment. Duane Brumbaugh, Markle Volunteer Fire Department Chief, distributed a breakdown of fire runs for 2014. Mr. Brumbaugh noted that while the overall average is the same as previous four years, the number of runs was raised by twenty-four runs by the addition of Huntington Township.

In Old Business:

- Mr. & Mrs. Wooster of Turnpointe Community Church are present to answer any questions regarding rental of its former parsonage for use as a temporary Town Hall. President Humbarger noted that while this is an option, the option is still open to utilize temporary facilities behind the Fire Department building. Mrs. Wooster noted the size of the building as well as handicap accessibility and parking. President Humbarger noted that while the space and handicap accessibility are pros, the location is a definite negative. This is why the Town is still investigating mobile options. Town General Assistant Mike Grant recapped the costs of a suitable mobile office without utilities. He estimated the costs of \$366 per month for 12 months, \$332 for 18 months, and \$315 for 24 months. Discussion ensued regarding storage for archived Town Hall files. While the Church is willing to do a month-to-month lease, they would like the guarantee of one year. President Humbarger mentioned that the lease would probably estimate around eighteen months. Further discussion ensued with Vice President Hamilton confirming that the \$500 monthly rent proposed by the Church is negotiable, that Mr. Grant would be able to get a handicap accessible mobile office for an additional \$40 per month, and that the Town would be responsible for any utilities at either location. The discussion was then moved to the February Meeting to allow Councilmember Bower to give input.

At this time, Clerk-Treasurer Monticue delivered her report:

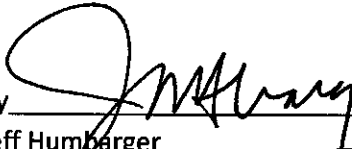
- The 2015 Keystone contract was submitted for approval in order to maintain the current accounting software. President Humbarger motioned to approve the contract, seconded by Vice President Hamilton. Motion carried 2-0 and the service contract was signed.
- A write-off request for Frank McCurley, deceased, was submitted for the property located at 460 North County Line Road. Vice President Hamilton motioned to approve the write-off request, seconded by President Humbarger. Motion carried 2-0.


Clerk-Treasurer Monticue submitted 102 vouchers in the amount of \$156,618.99 for approval: 51 vouchers from the General Fund in the amount of \$90,413.79, 32 from the Water Fund in the amount of \$43,548.86, and 19 from the Wastewater Fund in the amount of \$22,656.34. Vice President Hamilton motioned to approve all vouchers, seconded by President Humbarger. Motion carried 2-0, and vouchers were signed.

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Upon hearing no other business, President Humbarger motioned to adjourn at 8:02 P.M.

By   
Jeff Humbarger                      President

By   
Rick Bower                      Councilmember

By   
Mark Hamilton                      Vice-President

Attest:   
Shelley Monticue                      Clerk-Treasurer