

The Town Council of the Town of Markle, Indiana met in its meeting room at the Markle Fire Department Building on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, 2014, at the hour of 7:30 p.m. in accordance with the rules of the Council and applicable laws.

Town Council Members present: Mark Hamilton and Rick Bower. President Jeff Humbarger was absent. Clerk-Treasurer Shelley Monticue and (10) additional townspeople were in attendance.

The Public Hearing for the 2015 Budget was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Vice President Hamilton. He read the appropriation amounts for the following Funds aloud:

- Casino/Riverboat: \$16,000
- Rainy Day: \$250,000
- General: \$821,429 with a maximum levy to be raised of \$388,719
- Local Option Income Tax: \$60,000
- Motor Vehicle Highway: \$72,000
- Park: \$31,692 with a maximum levy to be raised of \$13,720
- Cumulative Capital Improvement (Cigarette Tax): \$10,000
- Cumulative Capital Development: \$32,129 with a maximum levy to be raised of \$8,983
- Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT): \$250,000
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF): \$162,521

Vice President Hamilton opened the floor to any public comments. Hearing none, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:33 p.m. The Regular August Meeting then opened at 7:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

First order of business was the minutes from the July 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting. Councilmember Bower motioned to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Vice President Hamilton. Motion carried 2-0 and Minutes were signed.

Next on the agenda, Mark Mussman of the Huntington Department of Community Development (DCD) came to propose formulation of an official services and fee agreement between the Town and the DCD. Mr. Mussman stated that even though the DCD has been providing building inspection and zoning services since the early 2000s, there is no written agreement for the DCD to authorize permits, schedule the Board of Zoning Appeals meetings, and provide a Planning Commission. Administratively, the DCD administers and enforces subdivision regulations, zoning restrictions, and building codes. The goal in 2015 is for the DCD to have written agreements through out the county and in all incorporated areas with the exception of the City of Huntington. Since it is too late to incorporate a fee for services into the 2015 Budget, it is his hope to draft a written agreement in time for the 2016 Budget.

Vice President Hamilton asked if the DCD would be providing any additional services, since the Town has not had to pay for the DCD prior to 2015. Mr. Mussman anticipates that with Industrial Park expansions and annexation of flood plain areas, the Town will need new flood plain management. The Town does not currently have a flood hazard area. Further discussion ensued regarding user fees and jurisdictional boundaries. Lindsay Goss of Emergency Management stated that user fees for flood plain areas are hard to institute as most people living in flood plain areas are low income, and when floods happen, FEMA mitigation frequently ends in a buyout of the property. The Council requested that the DCD develop a draft agreement to review at a future Council Meeting.

## Meeting Minutes Continued | August 20, 2014

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Next on the Agenda, Jon and Tracy Goetz, owners of The Pickle, located at 102 E. Morse Street, came to discuss placement of tables along Morse Street to accommodate additional seating, non-smokers, and families. Mr. & Mrs. Goetz request permission to place the additional seating, with (4) tables approximately 24" square each along the sidewalk beginning in 2015. Mr. Goetz stated that the seating would be seasonal with the average season being Memorial Day to Labor Day. Marshal John Markley stated that the sidewalk could not be blocked per Town Ordinance, so sidewalk access would still be necessary. Since an excise tax would have to be imposed if alcohol was served outside, alcohol would be limited to those patrons within The Pickle. By consensus, the Mr. and Mrs. Goetz will work with Marshal Markley to ensure that the placement will not affect usage of the sidewalk. Vice President Hamilton asked them to look into the feasibility of seating on the west side of the building, but the discussion included that the heat and sunshine on that side of the building makes that side almost unusable.

Town Correspondence was next on the Agenda:

- Lindsay Goss of Huntington County Emergency Management came to officially request a donation to the County toward the purchase a mobile sandbagger as discussed at the July Meeting. The nearly new, two year old, bagger will produce approximately 2,000 bags per hour rather than the 500 that can be done manually. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of the machine, and how the communities of Huntington, Andrews, and Roanoke are already contributing at least \$11,500 toward the \$16,000 total cost. Councilmember Bower motioned to approve \$2,000 of EDIT funds to be contributed toward the cost of the sandbagger, seconded by Vice President Hamilton. Motion carried 2-0.

Next on the Agenda, Town Supervisor Rick Asher submitted his monthly report:

- Tracy Street parcels have been secured with the exception of the Markle Health Care, which is currently working out verbiage regarding storm sewer redesign. A request to INDOT has been made for a separate storm sewer from the Forest Cove Subdivision. The storm sewer would run parallel along State Road 116 and would allow the subdivision to grow the full 80 homes that have been platted on its own individual drainage system. DLZ recommends separate storm sewers running east of Town, as the Corp of Engineers would like less water to be run into Town to be pumped out over the dyke. Federal funds will cover the cost of the separate storm sewer at the 80/20 rate as per the Group IV project guidelines. A retention pond is not anticipated, and a 36" pipe would begin at Tracy Street and end as a 24" pipe at the outlet into the Wabash River east of Town.
- All of the new reflective street signs have been installed.
- Mr. Asher presented a quote from Utility Services for painting of the old water tower located at 140 Logan Street. This is a new estimate incorporated \$26,500 in fees already paid by the Town to Utility Services. Following this rebate, a 10 year payment schedule was presented to Council, who will review the schedule with President Humbarger. Both Councilmen present requested a second quote and a payment schedule that would include both water towers. Mr. Asher stated that while the painting could wait until 2015, it would be preferred to approve a mixer to be installed in the old tower in 2014. Following the receipt of a second quote, Council would like to have a Special Meeting to go over each quote and payment schedules in detail.

## Meeting Minutes Continued | August 20, 2014

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Marshal John Markley submitted his monthly report:

- The Ride to Provide went well, and the MPD is ready for the Wildcat Festival this upcoming weekend. He has extra officers in place to spread out coverage for the entire festival.
- The Markle Police Department is currently having problems with its radios, and Marshal Markley anticipates a replacement cost of \$4,700. This will be discussed at the September Meeting.

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

Next on the Agenda is Old Business:

- The proposed easement agreement for 501 Tower Drive to allow placement of fiber optic cable was reviewed by the Town Attorney and was returned for consideration and approval of the Town Council. Vice President motioned to approve the changes made by both Indiana Fiber Networks and the Town Attorney and to approve the right-of-way easement at 501 Tower Drive. Councilmember Bower seconded the motion, and the easement agreement was signed.
- Carolyn Hamilton, former Town Clerk-Treasurer and member of the Markle United Methodist Church, came to state the disadvantages of removing parking from the south side of State Road 116. She stated that while there is parking across the street, it is not in the best interest of the Town to remove handicapped parking from in front of the Church. Discussion ensued as to whether the Town or the MUMC will be able to give input toward INDOT's decision. The proposal is placed back on Old Business at the September Meeting.

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

- Clerk-Treasurer Monticue submitted a sewer adjustment for Brian Clabaugh, 104 E. Morse Street in the amount of \$57.81 due to a running toilet. Vice President Hamilton motioned to approve the leak adjustment, seconded by Councilmember Bower. Motion carried 2-0.

Clerk-Treasurer Monticue submitted 94 vouchers in the amount of \$180,304.50 for approval: 46 vouchers from the General Fund in the amount of \$120,594.21, 30 from the Water Fund in the amount of \$42,903.72, and 18 from the Wastewater Fund in the amount of \$16,806.57. Vice President Hamilton motioned to approve all vouchers, seconded by Councilmember Bower. Motion carried 2-0, and vouchers were signed.

Upon hearing no other business, Vice President Hamilton motioned to adjourn at 9:05 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