

The Town Council of the Town of Markle, Indiana, met in its meeting room at the Markle Fire Department Building on the 22nd day of March, 2017 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. in accordance with the rules of the Council and applicable laws and appropriate notice. Town Council Members present: President Jeff Humbarger, Vice-President Mark Hamilton, and Councilmember Rick Bower; Clerk-Treasurer Carolyn Hamilton and nineteen additional people were also in attendance.

President Humbarger called the Regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The first order of business was to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes for the February 15, 2017. Councilmember Rick Bower moved to approve the minutes for February 15, 2017. Vice-President Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Minutes signed.

Town Attorney Mike Hartburg addressed Council concerning an issue with the Town's boundary in the Town's industrial park. Neighboring property owners, NC2, LLC (Novae) and J&L Enterprises, discovered that a historical property swap by their predecessors in title was not properly recorded and that during a subsequent annexation, the Town's boundary, while drawn in accordance with the records that existed at the time, was in fact drawn to intersect these two properties. The property owners have since completed and appropriately recorded their swap; however, County authorities are now requiring that the Town's boundary be adjusted so the properties subject to the swap can be combined. According to Hartburg, to achieve this result, the Town must consider annexing one triangle of property while disannexing the other triangle, both parcels being less than one half acre in area. Accordingly, Hartburg presented Council with a petition for voluntary annexation signed by NC2, LLC and a petition for disannexation signed by J&L Enterprises, as owner, and Hill Custom Work, LLC, as contract purchaser. Council then introduced: Ordinance No. 2017-1, an ordinance to voluntarily annex certain real property to the Town; Resolution No. 2017-5, a fiscal plan for that voluntary annexation; and Ordinance No. 2017-2, an ordinance to disannex certain real property from the Town. Public hearings were set for Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. to hear from the public regarding these petitions. Hartburg presented Council with a timeline for completing both the voluntary annexation and disannexation.

Larry Jenks, Markle Post Commander from Post 6671 Markle Veterans of Foreign Wars, introduced retired Colonel Rick Whikel from the Huntington VFW Post 2689, who presented President Humbarger with two sets of new flags for the Veterans Park. Larry Jenks also announced that the Markle VFW Post would be joining the Huntington VFW Post 2689 due to the local post not having enough officers.

Kim Hostetler, Huntington County Community Development, CFM CBI, Floodplain Committee Chair, presented Council with information about the Huntington County Response Plan (evacuation plan) and noted that it will also cover part of Markle in Wells County. They will serve as Markle's Floodplain Manager with Indiana's Department of Natural Resources. Copy of materials presented attached.

Mandy Woods, Huntington County Community Development, CFM Executive Director, noted that the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Markle was from the 1970s. All the small towns in Huntington County are going to have a Comprehensive Plan update made with the possible assistance of a grant, applied for by Region 3-A, through the USDA. Copy of materials presented attached.

Town Correspondence.

President Humbarger noted that he had talked to Tamra Boucher. She is willing to remain on the Redevelopment Commission and the Wells County Chamber. President Humbarger moved to approve

her appointment to the Redevelopment Commission and the Wells County Chamber. Rick Bower seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

President Humbarger also noted that Saturday April 8th is the Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 a.m. The rain date will be Saturday April 15th.

Rick Asher gave the written Superintendent report. He also reported that most of the LED lights have been completed in the fire station, water department, and wastewater dept. and the Clerk's office. He noted that 36 street lights will be replaced with LED bulbs on Morse St. and Clark St. after the supplies arrive. The lights will have to be rewired. He reported that they would have to go to Goshen to get a neon light for the Veteran's Park Clock.

Rick Asher also reported that he had purchased a 4 inch pump for the Town. It was noted by the Clerk that the money for the pump came from selling scrap etc. from the Town building that was demolished and May Clean Up which was deposited to the Wastewater Account and then paid for out of there. Basically the Town employees work paid for the pump.

John Markley submitted his written Marshal's report.

There were no public questions.

Public comment made by Jeff Stockman, 245 N. Lee St., Markle, IN. In the matter of the disannexation and the annexation perhaps the Town's or whomever ERRORS AND OMISSION insurance would pay for the attorney fees, etc. to fix the mistake.

Rick Asher noted that the work on Tracy St. will resume soon.

Old Business - NONE

Clerk-Treasurer Hamilton submitted 120 vouchers for approval, totaling \$136,330.68. 80 were from the General Fund totaling \$89,979.84. 27 were from the Water Utility Fund totaling \$33,015.63 and 13 from the Wastewater Utility Fund totaling \$13,335.21. Councilmember Rick Bower moved to approve the vouchers as presented and Vice-President Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk-Treasurer Hamilton requested water adjustments on the following accounts:

101545-22 Brandon Best Water \$94.58 Tax \$6.63 Wastewater \$159.18 Total \$260.39. Leak due frozen water line.

102-351-42 George's C & J International Water \$26.63 Tax \$1.86 Wastewater \$60.50 Total \$88.99. Billing error.


President Humbarger moved to approve the leak adjustments. Vice-President Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Council Meeting Minutes

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continued

Hearing no other business to come before Council the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

By 
Jeff Humbarger President

By _____
Rick Bower Councilmember

By 
Mark Hamilton Vice-President

Attest: 
Carolyn Hamilton Clerk-Treasurer