

Minutes of Regular Meeting, November 22, 2021

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, November 22, 2021 in a Regular Meeting at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne Street, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Town Council, Ethan Stivers, Carrie Miller, Steve Buzzard, Tavis Surfus: Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison. Employees, Dennis Spitler: Others.

President Stivers opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 8 were approved as submitted.

Ben Adams, Commonwealth Engineering, introduced Chris Harrison, Business Development Manager, who will be overseeing the remainder of the Water Upgrade Project and will continue to provide water and wastewater assistance as needed. Adams updated the status of the Upgrade Project noting that the construction of the Water Tower should be completed this year although the exterior painting and some additional work will be delayed until Spring 2022. The installation of a new well has been delayed pending the need for reissuing of permits by IDEM as the well had to be moved from the initial site due to the condition of the piping at that site. No time line available for that portion of the project. Also discussed was project report for the ten year comprehensive plan as prepared by Adams with updated project cost estimates as requested by Council. The report includes water, wastewater, and stormwater proposed projects with replacement of the Nancy Street Left Station being at the top of the priority list. The report will also be used as the basis for the update of the Town's CEDIT Comprehensive Plan which expires on December 31, 2021.

Marshal Spitler submitted photographs and provided a verbal report on the progress of the ordered cleanup of a property located at 826 N. Nancy Street. Discussion continued with the owner and Council as to progress at the site. A deadline of December 31, 2021 was set for removal of six vehicles located on the property. The owner is to attend the January 10, 2022 meeting of Council for continued discussion of the situation.

Marshal Spitler submitted two quotes for Motorola Radio systems for two of the police vehicles necessary due to updating of County Communication system:

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|-------------------|------------|
| Cops Gear | \$ 6642.00 |
| ERS of Fort Wayne | \$10164.92 |

Surfus moved, seconded by Buzzard to accept the quote of Cops Gear. Motion approved unanimously.

Further discussion regarding renewal of a lease of land in Tower Park with the Warren Sportsman club was delayed until 2022 as draft revision of a new lease was rejected by that group.

Ordinances 2021-28, 29, 30, Wages and Benefits for 2022, were submitted in introduction. The ordinances reflect a .65 cents per hour increase in hourly wage for employees and establishment of a set wage of \$20 per hour for part time police officers with removal of automatic annual increases for part time officers. There were no amendments to the benefit sections of the ordinances.

The Accounts Payable Register in the amount of \$\$442,272.28 was approved by consensus.

Morrison reported that the newly amended disconnect policy was now in use. Morrison asked for preapproval of payment for 2021 Firemen Compensation as that invoice will not be available until December 1st and payment is needed at that time of submittal. Approved by consensus.

Morrison recommended that due to disparity in bidding for tree/brush trimming effecting primary electric service lines that Council consider using an outside company to handle the project. Following discussion and by consensus, Council approved moving forward with the recommendation.

Due to the age of the accepted quote on installation of a heating/air conditioning unit at Town Hall, the vendor is to notify the Town by January 1, 2022 with a schedule for the project and notice as to whether the bid will be honored.

The next Regular Meeting of Council is scheduled for December 13th. There is also an Executive Meeting and Special Session scheduled for that date for discussion/selection of an individual to fill the January 1, 2022 vacant Council position.

General discussion was held.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

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Submitted _____ Clerk-Treasurer
Marilyn Morrison

Town Council:

As _____ President
Ethan Stivers

As _____ Member
Steve Buzzard

As _____ Member
Carrie Miller

As _____ Member
Tavis Surfus