

Town of Meridian Hills
Minutes of Town Council Meeting
September 13, 2004

President O'Brien called the regular meeting of the Meridian Hills Town Council to order at 7:45 pm. The meeting was held at the Hilbert Early Learning Center at Park Tudor School.

In Attendance:	Terry O'Brien, President	Cecil Whitaker, Town
	Abbe Hohmann, Councilor	Engineer
	Kay Ivceovich, Councilor	Toby McClamroch, Deputy Town
	William Nunery, Clerk-Treasurer	Attorney
	Mathieu Nunery, Deputy Clerk- Treasurer	Mike Russo, Town Marshall

Following the pledge of allegiance, President O'Brien advised there was one change to the agenda. He wished to include approval of the September 1st meeting minutes under that agenda item.

Police Report

Mike Russo, Town Marshal, reported on recent events in the Town, including a shooting, and a reported car theft. Training on the new taser weapon will begin September 18th. He indicated that speed enforcements remain in effect and appear to be helping on Pennsylvania Street.

Approval of Minutes

Councilor Hohmann moved to accept the August 9th, August 13th, September 1st and September 8th meeting minutes as submitted. Councilor Ivceovich seconded the motion, and it carried by a vote of 3-0.

Report of Town Engineer

Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer, advised that a meeting has been scheduled with HNTB to review the Town's engineering records. Engineer Whitaker agreed to deliver the Town's records to the Town Hall for storage. Engineer Whitaker requested approval to move ahead with the bid process for the work associated with the 2004 street repair program. After some discussion, Councilor Hohmann moved to authorize the Town Engineer, along with the Streets and Thoroughfares Committee, to proceed with the bid process, and to select contractors to complete the 2004 work program as long as it was within 5% of the estimated project amount. The program was amended to include the addition of stone at the intersection of 73rd and Williams Creek Blvd. Councilor Ivceovich seconded the motion, and it carried with a vote of 3-0.

Councilor Hohmann reported that the City of Indianapolis has agreed to maintain Illinois street north of 79th Street. Clerk-Treasurer Nunery requested a copy of the letter of agreement with the City be sent to the Town Hall.

Mike Russo advised that the snow plow contract needs to be reviewed and approved for the upcoming winter. President O'Brien requested that it be sent out for bid. Mr. Whitaker agreed to pursue what is a reasonable cost per mile as a way of comparing the current cost from Bedwell.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Schneider Corporation would not be allowed to operate as the grant administrator for the drainage study projects. He recommended that the Town hire someone who is a certified grant writer, and who may serve as the overall project manager for projects that are funded by grants.

Mr. Whitaker reported that the bridge in Sherwood is failing, and needs to have the guard rails replaced. Dr. Nunery agreed to pursue repairs as needed.

Report of Town Attorney

Toby McClemrock, representing the Town Attorney, submitted a summary of activities completed in August on behalf of the Town. There was no further discussion.

Report of Town Clerk Treasurer

William Nunery, Clerk-Treasurer, reported that Bank One will now treat the Town's municipal accounts as a "Private Client Account," and as a result will now earn interest at a rate of 2.03% annually. This compares to the 0.25% previously earned at NBI prior to moving the account to Bank One, and restructuring the account.

Clerk-Treasurer Nunery advised that a certified letter had been sent to Mr. William Tolbert, requesting information on the final surfacing of Washington Blvd south of 75th Street.

A financial summary for August was submitted, showing a cumulative cash balance on hand of \$290,399.99. Because various line items of the 2004 budget were under-funded, transfers between appropriated line items of Category 03 Other Services and Charges will be made as follows:

- \$500.00 from Police Auto/fuel to Insurance
- \$2,000.00 from Litigation to Insurance
- \$900.00 from Transition Expense to Insurance
- \$500.00 from Service charges to Street Lights
- \$1,000.00 from Transition Expense to Street Lights
- \$300.00 from Dues & Subscriptions to Payroll Service

Old Business

None

New Business

Finance Committee - Councilor Ivceвич reported that the Finance Committee held two special meetings in August to discuss the 2005 Budget. A salary review committee is being formed to evaluate the salaries of the elected officials, deputy clerk treasurer position, and the police and will provide recommendations after the first of the year.

Streets & Thoroughfares Committee - Councilor Ivceвич, chair reported that her committee will be meeting on September 27th to review the bid packages for the street repair program.

Police Committee – Councilor Ivceвич, chair requested that the Meridian Hills Police Department continue with the increased ticketing on Pennsylvania Street.

Development Standards & Residential Construction – Councilor Hohmann reported that work has begun to draft an ordinance for setback and drainage requirements. There will be a public meeting to review this information. A meeting was held between members of the committee and the pastor of 1st Congregational Church to discuss the homeless ministry of this church. Councilor Hohmann reported that she had been asked to pursue this issue by the Town Council president. She advised that no changes to or violations of the current zoning variance were identified.

The committee has identified several violations to the Town's setback and fence height policy. She reported plans to send letters to these residents requesting that they apply for zoning variances. After discussion, it was agreed that letters of this nature should be properly sent from the Clerk-Treasurer's office. Councilor Hohmann was asked to send a draft of the letter to the Clerk-Treasurer's office for further discussion at the next Town Council meeting.

Communications Committee - Terry O'Brien, chair reported that the newsletter is ready for publication later this month.

Resident Forum - Kathy Finley questioned whether there was any plan to fix the curbing along 75th and Pennsylvania. Mr. Whitaker responded that the condition of the curbing had been noted, however, it was not high on the priority list for the Town given the number of issues related to drainage and general road repair. Mr. Russo cautioned residents from working in the roadways because of safety concerns.

Another resident asked that we pay our mowing contractor a little extra to address the weeds at the corner of 75th and College. Dr. Nunery agreed to pursue this with Freije Lawncare.

Residents voiced concern about the condition of Park Tudor's property at the corner of 75th and Park Avenue. President O'Brien requested that the Clerk Treasurer contact the school to discuss plans for cleaning up the property. Councilor Hohmann was asked to contact the school regarding its long term plans for the property.

Approval of Claims and Warrants

President O'Brien moved to accept the following claims as submitted. Councilor Ivicevich seconded the motion, and it carried by a vote of 3-0.

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	
148	William Nunery	Clerk-Treasurer Salary	650.00
149	Bingham McHale	Attorney Salary	800.00
150	Schneider Corp	Engineer Salary	650.00
151	MH Police	Payroll 8/6	3,681.68
152	MH Police	Payroll 8/20	3,227.13
153	Ipls Power & Light	Street Lights	623.80
154	Prime Pay	Payroll Service	77.76
155	SBC	Police Phone	52.37
156	Speedway	Police auto fuel	203.37
157	Mathieu Nunery	Office supplies – foam board	10.60
158	Indiana Newspapers	Legal advertising – 2005 budget	103.84
159	Traffic Signs Inc	Yield signs in Wellington/Sherwood	1,116.00
160	Kinko's	Copying	3.20
161	Schneider Corp	Drainage Study	2,225.00
162	Schneider Corp	Street Repairs – project management	1,425.00
163	Taser Int'l	Taser Training – Al Kasper	195.00
164	Traffic Signs Inc	Sign painting	148.00
165	Freije Lawncare	Mowing service	220.00
166	Schneider Corp	Prof. Services - Road Surface Pgm	1,200.00
167	Schneider Corp	Prof. Services - Signage Pgm	1,200.00

Adjournment

There being no further business, President O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Nunery, MD
Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Meridian Hills