

**Town of Meridian Hills
Town Council Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2004**

Following the pledge of allegiance, the regular meeting of the Meridian Hills Town Council was called to order by President Terry O'Brien at 7:31 pm, at the Hilbert Early Learning Center of Park Tudor School.

Present were: Terry O'Brien, President	Sue Beesley, Town Attorney
Abigail Hohmann, Councilor	Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer
Katherine Ivceвич, Councilor	Rick Batza, Deputy Marshal
William Nunery, MD, Clerk-Treasurer	Jeff Lumpkin, Deputy Marshall

Changes to the agenda:

Presentation by BKD was moved up on the agenda. Items d and e under New Business were combined, to be discussed as one Resolution. Councilor Hohmann requested that Use of Robert's Rules of Order under New Business be discussed first.

President O'Brien reported that the Town of Meridian Hills Municipal Code calls for the use of Robert's Rules of Order as the method for conducting Town meetings. He asked that participants address the Chair with their reports, questions and comments.

Mort Large was introduced as a Republican candidate for state representative.

Old Business:

Joe Vanderbosch, from BKD, discussed that BKD performs audits and provides consulting services to nonprofit organizations and municipal governments. No action was taken.

Police Report:

Rick Batza, Deputy Marshall, provided a report of police activity for February. A break-in occurred at the Meridian Hills Country Club, and cash was taken from a vehicle. A position paper was submitted, recommending the purchase and use of the Taser non-lethal weapon. The request was referred to the Public Safety Committee for recommendation.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for the January/February Town Council meetings and two special meetings in February were submitted. President O'Brien moved that the minutes be accepted, Councilor Ivceвич seconded the

motion. Councilor Hohmann requested the motion be tabled, and it was tabled to the next meeting. Town Engineer Whitaker noted that Tom Sturmer was in attendance at the special meeting at Schneider Corporation on 2/23.

Report of Town Engineer:

Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer, reported that storm water drainage is a significant issue for the Town. Councilor Hohmann proposed formation of an ad hoc committee on drainage issues. Town Engineer Whitaker requested that a letter from the Town Attorney be sent to HNTB and former engineer Carleton Waite, as his efforts to retrieve Meridian Hills engineering records have been unsuccessful to-date. He further requested clarification of the Town's policy on drainage issues that affect multiple residencies in the Town. He also requested that a letter be written to Mr. and Mrs. Fite, requesting a response to the request for an easement. He reported that no additional Town action is required for the Nunery/Park Tudor drainage issue, but requested and received approval for a meeting with Park Tudor Grounds Superintendent Bishop and Dr. Nunery.

Report of Town Attorney:

Sue Beesley, Town Attorney, reported that the Schneider agreement has been signed. She is investigating the City of Indianapolis insurance coverage as it relates to closing of Holliday Park.

Report of Clerk-Treasurer:

William Nunery, Clerk-Treasurer, reported on training completed in February/March by the Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer. He requested an ordinance for mileage reimbursement, and a resolution to move electronic funds transferred to the Town by the State and Marion County treasurers. He reported that the 2003 Annual Report has been published in the Indianapolis Star, and submitted to the State Board of Accounts, as required, by the end of February. The financial summary as of February 29, 2004 showed cash on hand of \$277,957.12.

Old Business:

President O'Brien reported that Sue Beesley had been officially sworn in as the Town's Attorney. He advised that the database and website agreements had been circulated for comment, and that the Councilors needed to provide comments back to Sue as soon as possible.

New Business:

President O'Brien moved that Resolution MH 18-04, which would add Councilors Hohmann and Ivceвич as signatories on the Town's municipal accounts, and remove Deputy Clerk-Treasurer as a signatory on said accounts, be accepted. Councilor Ivceвич seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Nunery reported on conversations with Charlie Pride from the State Board of Accounts, which indicated this motion would be opposed by the State Board of Accounts and would be, in Mr. Pride's opinion, in violation of the Indiana Code. Town Attorney Beesley reported that she had reviewed the Code, discussed it with Mr. Pride, and that they disagreed on whether state law would be violated by this action. She also did not believe that the State Board of Accounts would cite the Town if it chose to implement the policy. Councilor Hohmann moved that the resolution be passed, in conjunction with an ordinance revising the Municipal Code to require the Clerk-Treasurer be one of the signatories.

Councilor Ivceвич seconded this motion, and the motion was passed.

President O’Brien moved that all Councilors sign the vouchers for claims, Councilor Hohmann seconded the motion, and Resolution 19-04 was passed.

President O’Brien moved that the Town share data with IMAGIS, a consortium that developed a multi-purpose digital base map of Marion County. IMAGIS has agreed to allow the Town of Meridian Hills to use the information and waive fees in exchange for sharing data gained from any project that is the result of the use of the information. Councilor Ivceвич seconded the motion, and Resolution 20-04 was passed.

President O’Brien moved that the State of Indiana and Marion County be authorized to transfer Town funds electronically into the municipal account at Bank One. Councilor Ivceвич seconded the motion, and Resolution 17-04 was passed.

David Kingen, Urban Planner, provided information on a petition for rezoning by First Congregational Church. This petition won’t be voted upon until April. The zoning reclassification is requested in order for First Congregational Church to build a memorial garden and its associated walkways. The Zoning Subcommittee will meet with First Congregational Church and provide a recommendation at the next Council meeting.

President O’Brien moved that an ordinance be passed amending the Municipal Code to establish a rate for reimbursement of mileage for training attended by Town officials. The rate would be equal to that awarded to employees of the State. Councilor Ivceвич seconded the motion. After further discussion, President O’Brien revised the motion to adopt the ordinance with one reading, it was seconded by Councilor Ivceвич, and Ordinance MH 01-04 was passed.

Council Hohmann requested that discussion of the policy for tracking hours by town officials be tabled until the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Councilor Ivceвич, as committee chair for Streets & Thoroughfares, as well as Police and Finance, provided an overview of her committees’ plans for this year. Councilor Hohmann reported that the Development Standards & Residential Construction Committee has met with the City Permit group. They are developing a packet for any residents planning to build. President O’Brien reported that the Communications Committee has as its goals to improve communications within the Town. They will publish a newsletter three times a year, and provide information on a public website.

President O’Brien moved that the following claims be approved as submitted:

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	
-	37 William Nunery	Clerk-Treasurer Salary	650.00

	38	Bingham McHale	Attorney Salary	800.00
	39	Schneider Corp	Engineer Salary	650.00
	40	Bedwell Const	Snow Removal	5,475.00
	41	Ipls Power & Light	Street Lights	623.80
	42	SBC	Police Phone	
49.16				
	43	State Bd of Accts	Printing	1.90
	44	Jerry Alderman Ford	Police Car Maintenance	118.10
	45	Municipal Electronics	Radar Repair	142.29
	46	Beerling Enterprises	Auto Maintenance	150.00
	47	Prime Pay	Payroll Service	118.10
	48	WR Nunery	Copy Expense	31.55
	49	MH Police	Payroll 3/3	3,593.68
	50	MH Police	Payroll 3/17	3,729.31
	51	MH Police	Payroll 3/31	3,575.92
	52	NBI (February)	Service Charges	193.66
	53	WR Nunery	Town Stationary	287.50
	54	WR Nunery	Postage	3.85
	55	Ipls Star	Legal Advertising	
50.85				
	56	Terry O'Brien	Transition expenses	27.91

Motion was seconded by Councilor Ivcevich, and the motion carried.

Councilor Hohmann requested that a policy be established for access to the Town's public records. It was agreed that requests would be submitted in writing to the Clerk-Treasurer, and a response provided within five business days.

President O'Brien moved that the meeting be adjourned at 10:38 pm. This was seconded by Councilor Ivcevich, and the motion was passed. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Nunery, MD
 Clerk-Treasurer
 March 8, 2004

Minutes were approved with the following amendment:

- 1) Under New Business, paragraph 5, the reference to “Zoning Subcommittee” will be changed to “Developmental Standards and Residential Construction Committee,” as requested by Councilor Hohmann.

William R. Nunery, MD
Clerk-Treasurer

Terrence O’Brien
Council President