

Town of Meridian Hills
Minutes of Town Council Meeting
August 8, 2005

President O'Brien called the regular meeting of the Meridian Hills Town Council to order at 7:15 pm. The meeting was held at the Hilbert Early Learning Center at Park Tudor School.

In Attendance: Terry O'Brien, President
Abbe Hohmann, Councilor
Kay Ivceovich, Councilor
Sue Beesley, Town Attorney
Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer
John Taylor, Clerk Treasurer
Bernie Bruno, Asst Clerk Treasurer

Rick Batza, Representing Town
Marshall, Mike Russo

Following the pledge of allegiance,

Police Report

Officer Rick Batza, in absence of Mike Russo, Town Marshall, submitted the month's report and highlighted incidents over the prior 30 days

Officer Batza reported one vehicle theft from a home on Illinois Street and reminded residents to report suspicious activity to 911.

The council requested the Police Dept. step up the use radar along 71st Street. The council discussed when warnings versus tickets are given. Officer Batza explained that this is at Officer's discretion and dependent upon circumstances.

The council suggested that as schools start in a couple of weeks that the schools should be notified of increased Police activity to slow traffic to proper speeds.

President O'Brien made a motion to approve the semi annual clothing allowance of \$200 per working officer. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0 subject to the Town Marshall and Clerk Treasurer approving the list.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Monthly Meeting, July 11th, 2005 Minutes were approved as amended by the Town Council by a vote of 3 to 0. It was requested that minutes should be sent with the approved claims. Clerk Treasurer Taylor agreed to include them in future correspondence.

Report of Town Engineer

Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer, had submitted his written report to the council.

President O'Brien reported that he had checked with the City of Indianapolis about the ability to close street intersections with secondary streets that intersect Meridian Street.

There was discussion about possible street closure. No action was taken.

President O'Brien reported that he confirmed the Town can modify street intersections.

President O'Brien had spoken with Cecil on Town Entry Signs. The desire to upgrade our signage was a beautification project that is intended to be funded through philanthropic means rather than on the Town's Budget. President O'Brien was planning to move forward soliciting input from Town Residents.

President O'Brien reported that two Town signs have been damaged at 79th and Pennsylvania, and 64th and Springmill. These are in addition to the signs at 71st and College, and 64th and Arden that have been targeted for repair and approved in the July Town meeting.

Councilor Ivceovich reported that letters to residents had recently gone out concerning trimming of trees and shrubs that might be blocking street signs.

Report of Town Attorney

No current projects to report.

Report of Clerk Treasurer

John Taylor, Clerk Treasurer, reported that the State Board of Accounts will be auditing the Town's financial reports and documents for the year 2003 and 2004. This audit process occurs every two years. The State Board of Accounts will be picking up the documentation during the month of September.

Prior to the Town Meeting, the Finance Committee had met to review the status of the 2006 Budget. Assistant Clerk Treasurer Bruno provided the dates of Budget meetings and publication deadlines. The Finance committee plans to approve a recommended budget at the August 22nd committee meeting. The first publication in the Indianapolis Star will be on August 26th, and second publication of the budget

will be Sept 2nd. The pre-adoption budget hearing will be September 6th and the formal Town Council approval will be on Friday, September 16th, 2005.

Old Business

There was no old business to report.

New Business

President O'Brien plans to publish information in the upcoming newsletter on the topic of creating new Town entry signs.

Committee Reports

Street and Thoroughfare Committee- Councilor Ivceвич reported the Tree trimming letters to residents had gone out during the month. Councilor Ivceвич submitted a proposed Hazardous-Tree Risk Management Policy for discussion. She also advocated that the Town Council allocate some budget money for this purpose and recommended that we hire a contractor, Vine and Branch, for \$7500 for a week per year to do maintenance tree work in the town.

Discussion with the Town Council led to Councilor Hohmann making a motion to approve the Hazard-Tree Risk Management Policy and allocate \$5000 for maintenance during the third quarter of 2005. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Officer Batza reported that the Town Police will be increasing the number of radar patrols.

There was discussion on signs that the City of Indianapolis will replace that are high visibility signs for School Zones, Pedestrian signs on City streets. President O'Brien made a motion to approve the town buying 16 black painted posts from Traffic Signs Inc, if the City can provide signs with black backing similar to the signs that the Town recently installed. The posts would be ordered as needed and not exceed a total cost of \$1000. The motion was approved by a vote of 2-1 with Councilor Hohmann voting against.

Development Standard and Residential Construction Committee – Councilor Hohman submitted the committee report.

Councilor Hohmann updated the Town Council on efforts to obtain a Memorandum of Understanding with the DPW on Capital Projects over \$75,000 in costs.

The Committee would like to see the Town provide funds for drainage projects. No specific idea for where this money was to come from was discussed.

Councilor Hohmann updated the council on some specific projects that had been discussed previously.

The Dr. Carter Wolfe project no longer needs variance, as the project was modified and meets side and rear set backs of the City.

75th & Pennsylvania – Fry Property Committee member, Greg Jacoby, was to talk to the property owner concerning storm water run off from driveway.

Finance Committee - Councilor Ivcevich reported that the committee had met just before the town meeting and had nothing to add at this time

Communications Committee Report -

President O'Brien mentioned that the Town web site had been updated Terry also solicited input for the Town Newsletter.

Resident Forum

Don Matson inquired on the drainage issue and tree trimming and requested more information.

Approval of Claims and Warrants –**Submitted August 8, 2005**

<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
EFT	Police Payroll 8/4/05- 8/17/05 (estimated)	\$3,950.00
EFT	Police Payroll 8/18/05- 8/31/05 (estimated)	3,950.00
1272	IPL	625.01
1273	Freije Lawn Care	240.00
1274	SBC	87.40
1275	Butler Ford	674.90
1276	Speedway	268.59
1277	Redding-Troy Insurance	10,080.00
1278	Globe Asphalt	602.32
1279	Waymire Group Inc.	98.00
1280	Waymire Group Inc.	53.00
1281	Terry O'Brien	134.00
1282	John Taylor	650.00
1283	Bingham, McHale	1,000.00
1284	Schneider Corp	683.33
1285	Bernard Bruno	300.00
1286	Void	0.00
1287	IPL	625.01
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		\$24,021.56

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Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

John H.R Taylor
 Clerk-Treasurer
 Town of Meridian Hills

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