

Town of Meridian Hills  
Minutes of Town Council Meeting  
May 8th, 2006

President O'Brien called the regular meeting of the Meridian Hills Town Council to order at 7:00 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 Ivceвич, Councilor  
John Taylor, Clerk - Treasurer  
Bernie Bruno, Asst Clerk Treasurer  
Sue Beesley, Town Attorney  
Rick Batza for Mike Russo, Town Marshal  
Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer

Following the pledge of allegiance,

### **Police Report**

Officer Rick Batza submitted the monthly Police Report in absence of Town Marshal, Mike Russo.

Officer Batza commented on highlights for the month of April. A fire reported on Park Tudor Campus was being investigated and three young men were known to be involved. Anyone who has further information should call the Fire Marshall at 251-6658.

Officer Batza also reported that a stolen weapon reported last year from one of the Town's officers had been recovered from Shelby County.

No further questions.

### **Approval of Minutes**

After discussion, the April 10th Town Council Minutes were approved as amended by a vote of 2 to 0. Councilor Hohmann abstained as she had not been in attendance at that April meeting.

The minutes for the February 1<sup>st</sup> Special Town Meeting were approved as amended by a vote of 3 to 0.

### **Report of Town Engineer**

Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer submitted the monthly report of the Town Engineer.

Town Engineer updated the Town Council on three locations having current drainage issues.

- Morningside Drive – met with residents and representative from DPW (Dept of Public Works). Photos showed areas where debris had been cleared and removed. Area may require upsized culverts and potential new culvert to handle excessive flows and channels. Town engineer suggested seed money from Town along with local residents to address problem. Meeting minutes for review are to be sent out for a follow-up meeting to obtain consensus. No commitments made at this time. DPW stated they would clean the culvert.
- 73<sup>rd</sup> and Penn storm sewers had been televised by DPW. Town Engineer was going to check for results of this action. Town Engineer commented that drainage swale had different size culverts and ditches filled in with different size culverts that have produced some of the pooling and drainage problems in the area.
- Pennsylvania and 75<sup>th</sup> Street – Drain seemed to be submerged and the Town Engineer would look into this and make this location a higher priority.

Town Engineer discussed Pavement Deterioration. Along Pennsylvania Street at the First Congregational Church there is erosion of the street from water channeling along the edge of the road. Town Engineer committed to copy the council on recommendations. Considerations are ditching or curbing or cutting a shallow swale with a culvert to direct and prevent road damage.

Town Engineer discussed Long Term Maintenance Program for the Town. A spreadsheet was presented and will be reviewed by the Streets and Thoroughfares committee. Town Engineer is going to request at the June meeting the Council approve cracking and patching locations listed that will cost approximately \$30,000 for 2006.

With the spreadsheet of paving issues, Town Engineer Whitaker discussed having an assessment of the eleven miles of roads in the Town of Meridian Hills. A comprehensive assessment has never been done and although current funding is not enough to tackle all road projects, the assessment will allow the Council to plan and budget appropriately. The Assessment will cost approximately \$5200 and provide a 15 year window for the Town's road maintenance needs. Additional updates to the assessment could be done yearly to keep it current at a cost of \$2000 - \$3000 per year.

Council discussed the assessment proposal. President O'Brien made a motion to approve the assessment. Council Ivceвич discussed presenting this at a June 1<sup>st</sup> Streets and Thoroughfares Committee meeting. The motion was tabled until the June 12, 2006 Town Council meeting.

Town Engineer mentioned that he was to receive 3 estimates on striping cost for certain intersections and roads in the Town and would report findings at future meeting.

### **Old Business**

Property request for variance at 7498 North Penn was presented by town resident and landscape

architect, Ken Remenschneider and property owner, Jim Frye.

Mr. Remenschneider presented drawings of proposal.

- Property owner is committed to swale to improve run off problems.
- Reduced driveway – 23% reduction
- Significant increase in landscaping
- Fencing – to use existing fence with renovation

Councilor Hohmann made a motion to approve and accept site and grading plan as presented provided there was a commitment to put in landscaping changes within the current growing season. Sue Beesley was authorized to create encroachment document.

Motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Town Resident and Attorney Brian Tuohy representing long time Meridian Hills residents, John & Sue Lerchen of 6470 N. Illinois Lerchen's were seeking variance approval of architects sight plan for the building of their home at the Illinois Street address.

Councilor Hohmann had provided a list of 7 bullet points dated May 8<sup>th</sup> that Attorney Tuohy addressed. The Development Standards committee had supported the plan by a vote of 6-2. Councilor Hohman questioned the set back measurement on the property line where property had been sold between neighbors. Attorney Tuohy had agreed to a setback of 25 feet to solve this issue.

President O'Brien made a motion to approve. Attorney Tuohy agreed to send a list of approved items from his stenographer that was in attendance. Motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

### **Report of Town Attorney**

Sue Beesley, Town Attorney, had no additional information to report.

### **Report of Clerk Treasurer**

John Taylor, Clerk-Treasurer, reported that the Town's insurance would cover a stolen police radio, valued at \$4000. The deductibility would be \$500.

Clerk –Treasurer provided Budget Calendar for the budget process and hoped to have the Town's Budget completed during August to meet the September deadlines.

### **New Business**

None Reported.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Police and Law Enforcement-**

Nothing further added to the Marshal's report.

### **Street and Thoroughfare Committee-**

Committee meeting announced for June 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 am at Council Ivceovich residence.

### **Finance Committee –**

Nothing Further to report.

### **Development Standard and Residential Construction Committee –**

Council Hohmann reported that the foundation in violation of Town front setback codes at 7475 N. Pennsylvania Street was being removed and that the homeowner was not pursuing further construction.

### **Communications Committee Report -**

President O'Brien submitted the committee report.

President O'Brien reported that the Town newsletter would be coming out later this summer as the recent Town Planning survey had replaced the spring newsletter.

### **Planning Committee Report –**

President O'Brien submitted the committee report.

Terry O'Brien reported that the committee met on May 1 to discuss the Special Town Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> to present research from the committee to residents.

## **Resident Forum**

Residents commented on stolen mail at 75<sup>th</sup> and Illinois and wanted residents to be aware.

### **Approval of Claims and Warrants**

Clerk Treasurer, John Taylor, submitted accounts payable vouchers of

\$19,033.98 for approval.

## **Town of Meridian Hills, Indiana**

### **Accounts Payable Vouchers Submitted May 8, 2006**

EFT	Town Payroll 4/27/06- 5/10/06 (estimated)	\$4,600.00
EFT	Town Payroll 5/11/06- 5/24/06 (estimated)	4,600.00
EFT	Town Payroll 5/25/06- 6/7/06 (estimated)	4,600.00
1029	Beering Enterprises (police car road paint removal)	300.00
1030	Butler Ford (#52183, #52500, #52033)	636.76
1031	AT&T	90.91
1032	IPL	625.01
1033	Speedway SuperAmerica	334.60
1034	Bingham McHale	1,000.00
1035	Schneider Corp	1,000.00
1036	Freije Lawn Care	180.00
1037	John Taylor (PO Box rental reimbursement)	144.00
1038	Terry O'Brien- postage for Resident Survey	553.80
1039	Express Service Print- Resident Survey Printing	368.90
		<u>\$19,033.98</u>

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, President O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Residents in Attendance:

Fran Gherrett  
Kathy Finley  
Erin Baker  
Marita Tuohy  
Brian Tuohy  
Walter Freihofer  
John Lerchen  
Sue Lerchen  
Shirley Fry  
Michael Fry  
Bryan Chandler  
Howard Pratt  
Linda Pratt  
Ken Remenschneider  
Jim Frye  
Alex Saunders

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