

-- DRAFT --

**Town of Meridian Hills
Town Council Meeting
June 14, 2004**

Prior to the pledge of allegiance, the regular meeting of the Meridian Hills Town Council was called to order by President 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	Kay
	Ivceвич, Councilor	Mike Russo, Town Marshal	
	Mathieu Robison, Deputy Clerk- Treasurer		

Absent was: William Nunery, Clerk-Treasurer

Changes to the agenda

President O'Brien reported that item b under New Business should read Pennridge, not 73rd. The Engineer's report was moved up on the agenda as the first item of discussion.

Report of Town Engineer

Cecil Whitaker, Town Engineer, reported that he expects to have preliminary results from the drainage study to share at next month's meeting. He provided an update on three specific drainage problem areas: 7484 Park Avenue, 7420 Park Avenue, and 7520 N. Pennsylvania. President O'Brien authorized Cecil to work with the Clerk-Treasurer on resolution of 7484 Park Avenue. No action will be taken on 7520 N. Pennsylvania, and action related to 7420 Park Avenue will be postponed until 2005 as a non-urgent problem.

Police Report

Mike Russo, Town Marshal, reported that Deputy Andy Jacobs following an illness will be returning to duty at the end of June. He reported that two individuals involved in Meridian Hills residential robberies have been arrested, and both were convicted. There was an attempted burglary on Wellington, with no suspects at this time. Mike reported numerous thefts from vehicles parked at 75th and the Monon Trail, and advised residents not to leave any items on the car seat or in the trunk. He indicated he had attended a recent meeting of 2nd Presbyterian Church, which is contemplating some new construction there. He shared an article in the Indianapolis Star about motor scooters, and cautioned residents about their risks. He noted that the police picnic is still on hold, pending identification of a new location and perhaps a new theme. He concluded by stating a proposal for the taser and AED would be provided at a future meeting, pending receipt of additional price quotes and information from the town attorney.

New Business

Because residents were in attendance at this Council meeting, Councilor Hohmann requested that item b

(Stop Sign Proposal) be moved up on the agenda. Residents expressed concern regarding the rate of speed of cars traveling on Pennsylvania Street. Stop signs and speed bumps were discussed as possible countermeasures, along with sidewalks as a means of separating pedestrian traffic from vehicles. Town Marshal Russo recommended a comprehensive review of how we want traffic to flow in the Town prior to implementing a solution. President O'Brien requested that the Streets & Thoroughfares committee meet to solicit residents' opinions, input from the Town Marshal and Engineer, evaluate the situation, and provide recommendation to the Council.

Approval of Minutes

Councilor Ivcevic moved to accept the minutes as submitted, President O'Brien seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as submitted by a vote of 2-1.

Report of Town Attorney

Sue Beesley, Town Attorney, provided copies of correspondence to Park Tudor Board President and Dr. Nunery, along with their counsel's response, ending the Town's involvement in the drainage issue between Park Tudor and Dr. Nunery. She also provided a copy of the letter issued to the property owner of 7109 N. Meridian Street, citing the property as a nuisance as defined by the Meridian Hills Municipal Code. President O'Brien requested that a second letter be sent to this property owner requiring a letter of commitment to complete demolition by September 1st.

Report of Town Clerk-Treasurer

Mathieu Robison, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, reported that quotes had been solicited for the Town's insurance policies. At this time, no lower rates have been provided. A renewal application has been submitted to Redding Troy Insurance, and assuming no substantial rate increase, the policies will be renewed.

She reported that the Town has a cash balance of \$265,106.77 as of May 31, 2004.

Old Business

President O'Brien read MH Ordinance MH 04-04, which prohibits the use of the Town's public records for commercial purposes. He moved to suspend the requirement for a second reading. Councilor Ivcevic seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a vote of 3-0. President O'Brien then moved to pass the ordinance as submitted, Councilor Ivcevic seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

President O'Brien gave a second reading of MH Ordinance MH 02-04, which provides for the reimbursement of expenses related to educational conferences. Discussion resulted in an amendment to the ordinance as submitted. Councilor Hohmann moved to approve the ordinance as amended, Councilor Ivcevic seconded the motion, and it was passed by a vote of 3-0.

President O'Brien gave a second reading of MH Ordinance MH 03-04, which provides for payment of certain claims prior to Council approval as authorized by State code. President O'Brien moved to approve the ordinance as submitted, Councilor Ivcevic seconded the motion, and it carried by a vote of 3-0.

New Business (Cont'd)

An issue related to the height of the fence on the Hayes property at 157 E. 71st Street was discussed. No action was taken.

Councilor Ivceвич, chair of the Streets and Thoroughfares committee, reported that Vine & Branch had completed a survey of the Town to identify traffic signage concerns. Letters to the residents would be issued this week requesting their help in clearing the visibility concerns. The Council approved by a vote of 3-0 the use of a contractor to clear the trees and hackleberry in the common areas of Holliday and Wellington, not to exceed \$1,705.

President O'Brien, chair of the Communications Committee, reported that a second newsletter will be going out in late July or August. The cost of three newsletters will be incorporated in the 2005 budget for the Town. He indicated that sidewalks were the most common area of concern noted in the survey responses from the first newsletter.

In the Resident Forum, Naj McFadden expressed interest in a map of the Town being posted at the Council meeting, as well as information related to what the City of Indianapolis' ten year plan is for the streets.

Approval of Claims and Warrants

President O'Brien moved that the following claims be approved as submitted. Councilor Ivceвич seconded the motion, and it carried with a vote of 3-0.

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	
-		
86	Bank One	Check printing 97.05
87	William Nunery Clerk-Treasurer	Salary 650.00
88	Bingham McHale	Attorney Salary 800.00
89	Schneider Corp	Engineer Salary 650.00
90	Terrence O'Brien	Councilor Compensation 800.00
91	Abigail Hohmann	Councilor Compensation 800.00
92	Katherine Ivceвич	Councilor Compensation 800.00
93	Ipls Power & Light	Street Lights 623.80
94	SBC	Police Phone
TBD		
95	MH Police	Payroll 5/14 TBD
96	MH Police	Payroll 5/28 TBD
97	Speedway	Police auto fuel 90.32
98	Prime Pay	Payroll Service 75.25
99	Mathieu Robison	Conference/training expense 150.00
100	Mathieu Robison	Office supplies 95.43
101	Mathieu Robison	Website domain Registration 15.00
102	Frieje Lawn Care	Grass Cutting 150.00

There being no further business, President O'Brien moved that the meeting be adjourned. Councilor

Ivcevich seconded the motion, and the meeting concluded at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mathieu Robison
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
June 17, 2004