

**Council Meeting  
Town of Meridian Hills  
July 13, 2015**

**In attendance:** Walter Freihofer, Councilor  
Sherman McMurray, Councilor  
Terry O'Brien, Councilor  
Mike Russo, Town Marshal  
Sue Beesley, Town Attorney  
Jim Rush, Clerk Treasurer  
Jennifer Hudson, Manager, London Witte Group, CPA  
Elisha Wenzel, Assistant, London Witte Group, CPA  
Mark A. Beck, Crossroad Engineers  
Jud Scott, Arborist, Vine and Branch,

**Residents & Visitors that signed in:**

Randy Marra  
David Lucas  
Bob Barrows  
Tom Aschauer  
Steve Jay  
Timothy Smith, Dobbie Smith

**Call to Order;**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Oath of Office: Sherman D. McMurray**

The Oath of Office was administered by Jim Rush, Town's Clerk Treasurer, to Sherman D. McMurray, the new Town Councilor who replaced Kristina Frey.

**Residential Forum:** No resident requested time to speak

**Approval of the Minutes:**

Council Meeting: May 11, 2015  
Special Council Meeting: June 1, 2015

Motion for approval of both minutes: Terry O'Brien,

Seconded by: Sherman McMurray

Vote: Terry O'Brien, Aye  
Sherman McMurray, Aye  
Walter Freihofer, Aye

**Police Report:** Town Marshal, Mike Russo, reported that there were no major issues that were extraordinary from the Town's Police report.

**Town Engineer:** Engineer Mark Beck, Crossroads Engineer, fielded questions about the report that had been filed by Jay Vorisek, Town Engineer. (*See attached*). A report was discussed regarding the project @ Central Ave. and southwest 75<sup>th</sup>. The plan is waiting on DPW to confirm the ROW before a final plan is determined.

The only action item was the 'Traffic Calming Measures for 72<sup>nd</sup> Street' that was official addressed in the 'Old Business'. Councilor O'Brien delivered a check for \$7,377.64 from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mong that represented a value of 80% of the costs for the street calming expense at 72<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Councilor O'Brien requested that the inventory and technical specifications and standards of the entry signs, historical markers, street name signs, streetlights, and traffic signs be completed by the last meeting of the year.

**Town Attorney:** Sue Beesley, Bingham Greenebaum Doll, as the Town's attorney, reported that Marshal Russo and Ms. Beesley had met to discuss the proposal of the Town's adaptation of the Beech Grove, IN protocol. The general issues included the Town's receiving more of the revenue from Uniform Ticket issuance and the increased costs that would be incurred to assure legal compliance of that responsibility. After a thorough discussion, a move by Councilor McMurray and a second by Councilor O'Brien that the Town would remain with the current relationship and not implement the Beech Grove protocol. The vote was unanimous by all Councilors. Ms. Beesley had updated versions of the Municipal Code that would be distributed if the Ordinance under New Business was approved.

**Clerk Treasurer Report:** Clerk Treasurer Rush

Jud Scott, Arborist and Principal of Vine and Branch reported on the tour of the Town with Jim Rush, Clerk Treasurer. As a result of the tour, Mr. Scott presented a list of work that he recommended to be addressed in the Town. The list included two priorities of projects as well as a list of issues that were sighted in the Town residents' property that may cause harm at some point. So, in addition to the projects that needed attention, it was recommended that letters be sent to approximately 50 addresses informing them that there were possible issues on their property that may cause a risk if not addressed. The list of projects were divided into two parts; one consisting of a list of 15 projects that would cost an estimated \$9,585. The second list consisted of six items with an estimated cost of \$4,880. The motion was made by Councilor O'Brien to approve the expenditure of \$9858 for the first list. The motion was seconded by Councilor McMurray and the vote was unanimous for approval. It was determined that the second list would be revisited in the fall after the budget process.

CT Rush reported that the Town's insurance had been placed with Governmental Interinsurance Exchange, an "A" rated carrier. The new carrier had been chosen because Scottsdale, the old carrier chose not to offer protection for the Town's police. It was noted that the binder did not cover the Workman's Comp that will be addressed at the expiration of the current coverage expiring at the end of the year.

Ms. Jennifer Hudson reported that we would begin the budgeting process with a meeting with the State on August 4<sup>th</sup>. It is the LWG plan to have some initial proposals for the budget at the September Council meeting.

**Old Business:**

- A. The 'Traffic Calming Measures for 72<sup>nd</sup> Street: Councilor O'Brien delivered a check for \$7,377.64 from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mong that represented a value of 80% of the costs for the street

calming expense at 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. The engineers were instructed to proceed with the project, less the speed limit and children playing signs.

- B. Councilor O'Brien updated the Council on the status of the need for complete the Town's street name signs. For a cost of \$5,505, the remaining overhead signs can be acquired and installed by the City of Indianapolis at no cost to the Town. The signs would meet all current INDOT requirements. The cost is a reduction of the last quote of \$12,655. Councilor O'Brien moved for the approval of the acquisition of the signs. Councilor McMurray seconded the motion after the clarification that the Town's budget had a line item for 'Beautification' with a remaining budget of \$9,200. The vote was Aye by Councilor Freihofer, Aye by Councilor O'Brien and Aye by Councilor McMurray.
- C. PayPal Account: a motion to open a PayPal account on behalf of the Town to add to the convenience of the residents to make contributions to the Town was made by Councilor O'Brien. The motion was seconded by Councilor McMurray on the condition that the bank account to be used as a depository be a separate account. The Councilors' votes were unanimous to open the account.
- D. The motion to approve the new insurance program as discussed in the presentation of the CT was made by Councilor McMurray and seconded by Councilor O'Brien. The vote was unanimous for its approval.

#### **New Business**

- A. A First and second reading of the Ordinance MH-2015-1 was recommended by Attorney Beesley to replace the Ordinance that was supposedly approved in a prior year but could not be located. The ordinance authorizes certain "re-approved prepayment of claims" that is needed to facilitate the payment of ongoing Town's expenditures. The motion was made by Councilor O'Brien and seconded by Councilor McMurray. The motion passed unanimously on both the first and second reading.
- B. A presentation was made by Jeff Berebitski, Sherwood Village that conveyed the request by 35 residents to establish a Sherwood Village Little Library. After a discussion regarding the Town's liability and costs, the motion was made by Councilor Freihofer and seconded by Councilor O'Brien with a following unanimous approval for the project with the understanding that the Little Library be placed within the common area triangle of Sherwood Village.
- C. Municipal Election: It was announced by President Freihofer that the Indianapolis Clerk's Office had reported that there had been four filings for the public offices for the Town. Three of the filings were for Councilors; Walter Freihofer, Sherman McMurray and Greg Jacoby. The filing for the Clerk Treasurer's position was by Jim Rush. Since there were no additional filings, these individuals will be the successful candidates for the fall election.
- D. Appropriations: During the Clerk Treasurers delivery, it was reported that there were certain categories in the budget that are approaching expenditures that will cause the appropriations to be exceeded. For that reason it was noted and determined that a Special

meeting will be held August 6<sup>th</sup>. Jennifer Hudson will be distributing information in advance to assist in the consideration of appropriations that need addressed.

**Committee Reports**

Developmental Standards: no meeting was held since the last Council meeting.

**Approval of Claims and Warrants:**

The motion for the Claims and Warrants totaling \$57,325.88. Councilor O'Brien moved for approval, and Councilor McMurray seconded the motion. The Councilors' votes were three ayes and no nays.

**Vouchers Approved**

<b>Accounts Payable Vouchers</b>				
<b>May 12, 2015 through and Including July 13</b>				
<b>Payment Type</b>	<b>Vendor</b>		<b>Amount</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>
EFT	Town Payroll 5/28/15-6/10/15		\$4,336.06	6/11/2015
EFT	Town Payroll 6/11/15- 6/24/15		5,416.74	6/25/2015
EFT	Town Payroll 6/25/15-7/8/15		7,125.01	7/10/2015
2785	US Postal Service		73.00	6/16/2015
ACH	AT&T		273.93	6/3/2015
ACH	National Bank of Indianapolis		738.02	5/15/2015
2789	Penske Chevrolet		47.84	7/13/2015
2790	London Witte Group, LLC		390.00	7/13/2015
2788	Crossroad Engineers		2,341.40	7/13/2015
ACH	SuperFleet		314.08	6/19/2015
2784	Indianapolis Power & Light		1,241.00	5/27/2015
ACH	PrimePay, LLC		180.91	6/5/2015
ACH	National Bank of Indianapolis		736.37	6/16/2015
ACH	AT&T		130.98	7/7/2015
2792	Stavros Lawn		3,533.00	6/25/2015
2795	Verizon Wireless		60.40	7/13/2015
2793	Vine & Branch		1,181.25	7/13/2015
ACH	Indianapolis Power & Light		545.09	6/3/2015
ACH	PrimePay, LLC		141.16	7/5/2015
ACH	National Bank of Indianapolis		733.50	7/16/2015
2794	Walker & Associates		6,867.00	7/13/2015
ACH	Indianapolis Power & Light		545.09	7/13/2015
2796	Stavros Lawn		2,255.65	7/13/2015
2797	Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP (settlement, June, July retainer)		13,227.44	7/13/2015

<b>2798</b>	<b>Crossroad Engineers</b>		<b>4,890.96</b>	<b>7/13/2015</b>
			<b>\$57,325.88</b>	

**Meeting was adjourned and a birthday cake for Attorney Beesley was shared by all.**