

**TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 14, 2022**

1.) Call to Order

- 2.) Present:** Walter Freihofer
Greg Jacoby
Colleen Field
Cole Marr: Absent
Zack Gordon
Rick Batza, Chief Deputy
Willie Hall, Crossroad Engineers: Town Engineer
Maddlyn Clary, Dentons: Ass't. Town Attorney
Jacob Bonifield, Dentons: Attorney
Jim Rush, Clerk Treasurer

3.) RESIDENT FORUM –ATTENDEES WERE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TOWN RESIDENTS

1. Bill & Janet Taylor
2. Sandra Wilson
3. Matt Hills
4. Bob Bowman
5. Tom Leipzig

4.) Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of October 10, 2022 Special Meeting minutes: Motion: Zack Gordon, seconded by Greg Jacoby, Motion passed 4-0

5.) Approval of Claims and Warrants: Vouchers- \$40,914.71. Motion by Colleen Field, seconded by Zach Gordon. Approved 4-0

6.) POLICE REPORT: CHIEF DEPUTY BATZA PROVIDED AN UPDATE ON THE TOWN'S POLICE AND REQUESTED THAT WHEN A RESIDENTIAL OWNER/TENANT REQUESTS THEIR HOME TO BE PLACED UNDER SURVEILLANCE WHEN THE RESIDENCE IS NOT OCCUPIED, THEY EITHER DIRECTLY SPEAK TO SOMEONE IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OR LEAVE A MESSAGE TO BE CALLED. THIS EFFORT WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED AND/OR INFORMATION TO BE EXCHANGED IN BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS.

7.) REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY:

- A. MADDLYN CLARY, ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY REPORTED THAT THE TOWN HAD RECEIVED NOTICE FROM THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS THAT THEY WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE THROUGHFARES WITHIN AND SURROUNDING THE TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023. SHE PREPARED AN ORDINANCE MH-2022-5 FOR THE COUNCILS CONSIDERATION.
- B. MS. CLARY PREPARED THE RESOLUTION FOR THE BUDGET REDUCTIONS AND THE ORDINANCE FOR THE 2023 BUDGET.

8.) REPORT OF TOWN ENGINEER (SEE PROJECT INVENTORY)

- A. Updated the Council on the Town's work inventory
- B. Hall:
 - a. Acknowledged filing of LTap completed and confirmed as a final document for the sidewalk project.
 - b. President Freihofer explained in detail the calculations of the 'Street Mileage Status', as included in the proposal submitted for the Town's approval in the agreement with the City of Indianapolis.

9.) Clerk Treasurer Report:

- A. CT expressed his appreciation for the support

10.) PERSONNEL MANUAL: (COLE MARR)

- A. NO REPORT: COUNCILOR MARR WAS OUT OF TOWN HOWEVER HAD UPDATED THE COUNCIL OF THE PROGRESS ON THE PROJECT. THE PROJECT DOCUMENT HAD BEEN REVIEWED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND WAS CURRENTLY IN THE HANDS OF THE INSURANCE COMPANY. WHEN IT RETURNS, IT WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE TOWN'S ATTORNEY BEFORE IT IS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL BY THE COUNCIL.

11.) NEW BUSINESS

- A. APPROVAL OF THE LWG, CPA'S ENGAGEMENT LETTER FOR 2023.** MOTION FOR APPROVAL: GREG JACOBY; SECOND FROM ZACH GORDON. MOTION PASSED 4-0
- B. 2023 SALARY ORDINANCE MH 2022-4 :** SALARY ORDINANCE AS PROPOSED BY ATTORNEY CLARY THAT WAS FIRST READ AT THE OCTOBER 10, 2022 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL. MOTION FOR APPROVAL FROM COLLEEN FIELD, SECONDED BY GREG JACOBY. APPROVED 4-0
- C. PAYMENT TO COUNCILORS:** PER THE SALARY ORDINANCE PROPOSED BY ATTORNEY CLARY, THE STATE ORDINANCE CALLS FOR PAYMENT EITHER BIWEEKLY, MONTHLY, OR ANNUALLY. THE SALARY ORDINANCE JUST APPROVED CALLED FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE COUNCILORS ON AN ANNUAL BASIS. IT IS THE INTENTION TO SET THE PAYMENT FOR AN ANNUAL COMPENSATION TO BE DISTRIBUTED QUARTERLY.
- D. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS ORDINANCE:** THE ORDINANCE, AS PROPOSED IS TO SET FORTH THE PARAMETERS OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS AND THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS TO REESTABLISH THE STREET RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NEIGHBORING MUNICIPALITIES. MOTION FOR ACCEPTANCE, COLLEEN FIELD; SECONDED BY GREG JACOBY. MOTION PASSED 4-0
- E. YEAR END APPROPRIATIONS ADJUSTMENTS:** THE COUNCIL WAS INFORMED, AS IS THE USUAL PRACTICE, THAT THERE WOULD BE YEAR-END ADJUSTMENTS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS APPROVED IN THE 2022 BUDGET TO ADDRESS UNUSED FUNDS TO REALLOCATE FOR THE 2023 BUDGET YEAR.

12.) NEW BUSINESS:

- A. 71ST STREET REPORT:** PRESIDENT FREIHOFER REPORTED THAT HE HAD AUTHORIZED THE REPAIR OF SOME POTHOLES ON 71ST STREET. THE AUTHORIZATION WAS INITIATED AT THE REQUEST OF RESIDENTS PRIOR TO THE ANTICIPATED JANUARY 1, 2023 TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY BETWEEN THE TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS AND THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
- B. PENNSYLVANIA BRIDGE:** PRESIDENT FREIHOFER REPORTED THAT THE TOWN HAD BEEN INFORMED BY THE STATE OF INDIANA THAT THE BRIDGE ON PENNSYLVANIA STREET JUST SOUTH OF 79TH STREET HAS HAD A CHANGE IN PARAMETERS. THE CHANGE THAT WAS COMMUNICATED INDICATES THAT THE WATER LEVEL OF WILLIAMS CREEK THAT RUNS UNDER THE BRIDGE HAS EXPERIENCED AN INCREASED LEVEL, THUS REQUIRING THE RECONSIDERATION OF THE BRIDGE. AS A RESULT OF THE RECONSIDERATION, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE BRIDGE TO BE REBUILT IN 2024 WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE HIGHER THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED. THUS, THE REEVALUATION OF RIGHT OF WAYS IS ALSO BEING REEVALUATED.

13.) COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Development Standards Committee: Nothing to Report**
- B. Snow Removal Report:** Zach Gordon reported that he had a constructive conversation with Alan Whitacre, Owner of ARW Trucking, the Town's service provider for snow removal. It was reported that Mr. Whitacre is open to more guidance from the Town. Councilor Gordon also reached out to some other communities for respective feedback for additional information on other communities' approaches. Mr. Gordon suggested that he would welcome other Council members' thoughts on this subject to be used to formulate some new guidance to ARW Trucking.

At the conclusion of the report, Chief Deputy Bazta requested that any new direction from the Council would be welcomed by Town's Police and would appreciate having a written guideline to provide guidance to the Town's Police.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: JANUARY 9, 2023

ADJOURNMENT