



MINUTES
Winfield Town Council Meeting
Meeting date: Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019

Call to Order: A meeting of the Winfield Town Council was held at the Winfield Government Center, 10645 Randolph Street, Winfield, Indiana on January 22nd, 2019. The meeting convened at 6:49 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Rick Anderson conducted roll call:

Members in attendance: Gerald Stiener, Jim Simmons, and Tim Clayton.

Members not in attendance: Dave Anderson and Bridget Baird

Also in attendance: Attorney David Austgen from Austgen Kuiper Jasaitis P.C.; Rick Anderson, Clerk-Treasurer; Nick Bellar, Town Administrator/Planning and Zoning Administrator; Mike Duffy, Town Engineer; Dan Ball, Town Marshal; Jason Gikas, LOFS Fire Department.

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS:

1. **Appointment of President** – Tim Clayton made the motion to nominate Gerald Stiener as President. Jim Simmons seconded the motion, the motion carried with all in favor 3-0.
2. **Appointment of Vice President** – Jim Simmons made the motion to nominate Tim Clayton as Vice President. Gerald Stiener seconded the motion, the motion carried with all in favor 3-0.
3. **Appointment to the Water Works Board** – Tim Clayton made the motion to appoint Jim Simmons to the Water Works Board. Gerald Stiener seconded the motion, the motion carried with all in favor 3-0.
4. **Appointment of Newspaper for Publication of Public Matters** – Tim Clayton made the motion to continue using the NWI Times for publication of public matters for the Town. Jim Simmons seconded the motion, the motion carried with all in favor 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Gerald Stiener entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Joint Sewer Board and Town Council Executive Session of December 18th, 2018 and Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes of December 18th, 2018. Tim Clayton made the motion to approve the minutes, Jim Simmons seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented by a vote of 3-0.

SPECIAL ACTION:

Oath of Office for Deputy Ryan Kovacik

Rick Anderson conducted the Oath of Office for Deputy Ryan Kovacik. Town Marshal Dan Ball presented Deputy Kovacik with his badge.

STAFF REPORTS:

- Nick Bellar stated that the BZA has been quite so far at the start of the year. Plan Commission has had a few minor approvals, other projects are in the works and should be coming to Plan Commission in the spring months. He and Mike Duffy are continuing to work on the thoroughfare and streets plans along with the zoning map updates. These will all be presented around the same time once finalized



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- Town Marshal, Dan Ball, stated he submitted his final stats for 2018. He noted that a burglary took place at the end of December and is still under investigation. Officer Moore has completed the investigation into the fatal crash that occurred earlier in December with the help of the Lake County traffic unit. Charges were presented and accepted by the Lake County Prosecutor's Office. The responsible party was taken into custody and is currently at the Lake County Jail. Marshal Ball commended Officer Moore for all of his efforts on this investigation and stated he did a tremendous job. Marshal Ball introduced Deputy Kovacik as the fourth Deputy added to the force. He noted that Deputy Kovacik worked New Year's Days and recorded the first arrest for the year at 7:10 that morning for a DUI.
- Chief Jason Gikas submitted his stats to the Council. There was a total of 41 calls for the Town, 99 calls for all of December which put them at 1,303 calls total for 2018. Chief Gikas noted they have a joint fundraiser coming up on February 23rd with the Loin's Club, they are holding a polar plunge. They also have their Fireman's Ball on March 30th it is their 50th anniversary for this event.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items): None.

CITIZEN REQUESTING PLACEMENT ON AGENDA (Non-related to the Agenda): None.

UNFINISHED/DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Update on Doubletree East Sewer Project.

Gerald Stiener noted there is no update on this agenda item as work is stopped for the winter and will not resume until spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of Corrections to Ordinance 2-B, Town Council Staggered Terms.

Rick Anderson explained that the Director of Lake County Board of Elections has been in contact with him over this Ordinance. It was originally adopted in March of last year and introduced staggered terms so there would not be an entirely new Town Council every four years, there would at least be two members carried over from the year before. The Board of Elections needed clarification on some of the language for the term limits. It was identified by name who would be serving out which term but the problem with defining that by name would require all five of those members to run again and to all be re-elected again for it to work which may not end up being the case. They recommended that the new language states the top three vote getters in the elections will hold the 4 year terms and the bottom 2 will hold the 3 year terms. Gerald Stiener asked what would happen in the event of a tie. Attorney Austgen stated that would be determined by the Lake County Board of Elections. Jim Simmons made the motion to accept Ordinance 2-B on first reading in title only. Tim Clayton seconded the motion, the motion carried with all in favor 3-0. Jim Simmons made the motion to suspend the rules and hear Ordinance 2-B on seconded reading. Tim Clayton seconded the motion. Rick Anderson conducted a roll call vote; Jim



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Simmons, yes; Tim Clayton, yes; Gerald Stienen, yes. Jim Simmons made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2-B in title only on second reading and proceed to read the title in its entirety. Tim Clayton seconded the motion, the motion carried with all in favor 3-0.

2. Resolution 2019-1, Transfer of MVH Appropriation Balance to MVH Restricted Fund.

Rick Anderson stated this is in regards to Indiana State Board of Accounts tracking MVH funding. In 2017 there was a change to the fuel tax benefiting all towns in the State. The State Legislature wants to track the road improvements done each year. They want a sub-fund created for MVH funds to they can track them and it will be more transparent in showing what the funds are being used for. This will split up funding into two categories and allow around \$100,000 to go towards road improvements which is in addition to what the Town has gone out to bond for. Gerald Stienen asked if this can also be used for matching Community Crossing funds. Rick said it could. Tim Clayton made the motion to approve Resolution 2019-1. Jim Simmons seconded the motion, the motion carried with all in favor 3-0.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Rick reported on 97.8% property tax distribution rate received by the Town and stated the 2019 budget was approved without any cuts made by the State. He also noted the interest increased 304% on income from the Town operations and utilities from 2017 to 2018. The 457-B plan was also implemented. Gerald Stienen asked about the payment amount to Grimmer, Rick stated this was approved at the last meeting but did not make it on that set of claims; they are still holding onto the retainage amount. Rick presented the Treasurer’s Report through December 31, 2018 and routine claims-to-date in the amount of \$1,532,059.13; a CD was reinvested for \$1 million. Gerald Stienen entertained a motion to pay the claims. Jim Simmons made a motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$1,532,059.13. Tim Clayton seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all in favor 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Gerald Stienen noted the various upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT:

Gerald Stienen entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim Clayton made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Jim Simmons. All were in favor, the motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Gerald Stienen
Town Council President

Richard C. Anderson, Jr.
Clerk-Treasurer

Kim Wachowski
Recording Secretary

Date of Approval _____