

The Regular Town Council Meeting of the Town of Schererville, IN was called to order by President Rob Guetzloff at 7:17 p.m. in the Schererville Town Hall, 10 E. Joliet Street Schererville, IN.

Attendance was taken with the following Council Members present: Caleb S. Johnson, Kevin Connelly, Robin Arvanitis, Thomas Schmitt and Rob Guetzloff. Staff members present: Attorney David Austgen, Fire Chief Robert Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer, Police Chief Pete Sormaz, Park Superintendent John Novacich, Town Engineer Neil Simstad, Director of Public Works Jeff Huet, Director of Operations James Gorman, Town Manager Robert Volkmann, Clerk-Treasurer Michael Troxell and Recording Secretary Robin Thiel.

THEREUPON, Approval of the minutes. Mr. Schmitt made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2021 Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (5-0).

THEREUPON, Claims

- A. APV #96540 - APV #97007 on the General Docket, Totaling \$1,685,234.45
- B. APV #96541 - APV #96999 on the MVH Docket, Totaling \$115,521.43
- C. Various Funds, First National Bank of Omaha, May Credit Card Charges, \$10,970.18
- D. General Fund - Animal Control, Crossroads Animal Hospital, May Invoices, \$1,110.94
- E. Donation Fund, Hobart Animal Clinic, May Invoice, \$783.00
- F. Various Funds, Austgen Kuiper Jasaitis, May Legal, \$14,655.51
- G. Various Funds, Enterprise Fleet, Monthly Lease, \$3,346.64
- H. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Mike Green, Party In The Park Entertainment, \$250.00
- I. Various Funds, Napa Autoparts, Monthly Autoparts, \$601.55
- J. Promotion Fund, Minuteman Press, Various Invoices, \$1,560.80
- K. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Amy Smolen, Market Entertainment, \$400.00
- L. Promotion Fund, Brian Smolar - Nicole Jamrose Band, Celebrate Schererville Fest Entertainment, \$900.00
- M. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Flanagan LLC, Celebrate Schererville Fest Entertainment, \$350.00
- N. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Colin Stage, Party In The Park Entertainment, \$500.00
- O. Various Funds, Boyce Systems, Software Module/Equipment, \$2,064.00
- P. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Steven Roth, Market Entertainment, \$300.00
- Q. Park Dist. Bonds, Ser. 2018 Debt Service Fund, Huntington Bank, Principal & Interest Due, \$401,933.25
- R. Cum Cap Development Fund, Peoples Bank, 2020 Fire Truck Principal & Interest, \$65,472.98
- S. Park Dist. Bond Debt 2004 Fund, Wells Fargo, Interest Due, \$16,137.50
- T. 2016 Taxable G.O. Bond Debt Svc. Fund, Huntington Bank, Principal & Interest Due, \$112,232.50
- U. Building Corp. Lease Fund, First Financial Bank, Principal and Interest Due, \$485,000.00
- V. Cum Cap Development Fund, Stryker, Cots Lease, \$58,418.66
- W. Cum Cap Development Fund, US Bank Corp, Principal & Interest Due, 2019 Help Lease, \$229,286.54
- X. Promotion Fund, Sunbelt Rentals, Celebrate Schererville Fest & Firework Generator Rental, \$7,746.92
- Y. Park Non-Reverting Fund, David Blixt, Market Entertainment, \$175.00
- Z. Park Non-Reverting Fund, John Arredondo, Market Entertainment, \$175.00
- AA. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Adam Theros, Karate Program Reimbursement, \$150.00
- BB. Cum Cap Development Fund, Kustom Signal, New Vehicle Equipment, \$51,730.00
- CC. General Fund - Police, Frontline, Quality Tracker, \$1,200.00

Mr. Troxell stated he has an additional claim.

- DD. Various Funds, R & R Yard Design, \$12,292.00

Mr. Schmitt made a motion to accept the claims as presented, seconded by Mrs. Arvanitis. All in favor (5-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence NONE

THEREUPON, Reports

Chief Patterson reported that the Schererville Fire Department had 306 calls for the month of May. He stated that 264 were EMS related and 42 were Fire related.

Chief Sormaz stated that on June 18th they are going to have their Coffee with a Cop, it will be hosted at Sophia's this year. Chief Sormaz stated that their Summer Camp with Kids is coming up, the applications are going out June 11th and they will start advertising June 11th. The camp is for Schererville residents only, between the ages of 10 - 13. The camp will be held July 27th through July 30th.

Mr. Novacich reported that tonight kicks off the 29th Annual Celebrate Schererville Fest. He stated they have a beer garden, bands, 25 Food Vendors, Bingo and more. Mr. Novacich thanked all of the Departments for helping out with the set-up, Public Works, Fire and Police Departments.

THEREUPON, Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items NONE

THEREUPON, Old Business NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Consider Appointment to the South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority (3-year term, expiring June 31, 2023)

Mr. Connelly made a motion to appoint Mr. Larry Tucker to the South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority (3 year term), seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM B. Consider Donation to Lake Central Education Foundation, Inc. (\$1,000.00)

Mr. Johnson stated that he sits on the Board for the Lake Central Education Foundation, so he would like to recuse himself from this vote.

Mr. Johnson stated that this organization is an organization of citizens and teachers who fund raise in order to generate money in order to contribute to Grants requested by teachers to do special events or special curriculums for their students.

Mr. Johnson introduced a member of the board, Louise Tallent. He stated that Louise was a teacher at Lake Central, she recently retired. Louise passed out a packet of information to the Council Members. She thanked the Town Council for considering to donate to the Education Foundation. Louise briefly explained the information in the packet to the Council.

Mr. Connelly made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to the Lake Central Education and Foundation, seconded by Mrs. Arvanitis. Motion carries (4-0-1) Mr. Johnson recused himself.

ITEM C. Approve the Purchase of Property Located at 9400 Clark Place (Eagle's Property) in the Amount of \$150,000.00 For the Pennsy Trail and Authorize the Town Manager, Clerk-Treasurer and Town Attorney to Complete the Transaction

Mr. Gorman stated that this is the last part of the Pennsy Trail, located on the southeast portion of Town. He stated that they are looking for authorization from the Town Council to purchase this property in the amount of \$150,000.00.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the purchase of the property located at 9400 Clark Place, in the amount of \$150,000.00 and to authorize the Town Manager, Clerk-Treasurer and Town Attorney to complete the transaction, seconded by Mr. Schmitt. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM D. Consider Request from the Park Board to Serve Beer and Wine at the following event:

Schererville Police Department vs Schererville Fire Department "Fall Brawl" - Rohrman Park - Saturday, October 23, 2021.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the request from the Park Board to serve beer and wine at the event listed above, seconded by Mrs. Arvanitis. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM E. Consider Acceptance of Donations - \$1,350.00

Mr. Troxell read the donations for the month of May. Mr. Connelly made a motion to accept the donations as read, seconded by Mr. Schmitt. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM F. Mr. Johnson stated he would like to add an Item to the Agenda, to consider a request for a donation from the Schererville Baseball League

Christian Flores, President of Schererville Baseball passed out to the Council and Clerk-Treasurer packets with information about their organization, their financial reports and the list of items the Schererville Baseball League is in need of. He stated with him tonight is the Treasurer Bob Roerdink, and Vice-President Dan DeLonjay, who put our Capital Project together.

Mr. Roerdink stated they were before the Council last year and the Council requested some additional information from them. He stated that he met with Mr. Troxell to discuss what they need and then Mr. Troxell reached back out and stated that they needed to do a little bit more. Mr. Roerdink stated that they put this entire package for the Town Council. He stated that they are requesting funds up to \$95,000.00, which they will use to handle a lot of different projects at Schererville Baseball. He stated that they put together a donation list, Capital Improvements, a letter accountability, IRS 501C3 report and a Cash Management Program.

A lengthy discussion took place between the Schererville Baseball representatives and the Town Council.

Mr. Johnson stated that he is inclined to help them, but has some concerns, the operating loss of income. Mr. Johnson asked them if they are able to sustain. Mr. Roerdink explained the operating loss and stated a lot of it is because it's recycled funds and explained it in more detail.

Mr. Guetzloff stated that the Council has always helped Schererville baseball. He stated that they do good work and he commends them for all they do for the youths in Schererville.

Mr. Schmitt stated he was out at the Memorial Day Tournament that Schererville Baseball sponsored. He stated it was well organized and said he would like to commend them for all they do. Mr. Schmitt stated that he too would like to help them out.

Mr. Connelly made a motion that the Town Council make a contribution toward the front façade fencing project, in the amount of \$13,300.00, with the restriction that the next time they can come to the Town Council for a donation will be three years from now, seconded by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Schmitt asked the Schererville Baseball representatives if they have been in contact with the fencing company, and asked if they will you be able to turn that over in a couple of weeks. Mr. Flores stated that they would have to reach back out to them to see what their timeframe is now.

Mr. Troxell stated that there are a couple of different ways the Town Council can approach this. They can make a direct donation to Schererville Baseball in the amount of \$13,300.00, or

whoever the contractor is, you can make the agreement in your motion that the \$13,300.00 goes directly to the vendor.

Mr. Johnson stated he likes the idea of the Town paying the vendor and asked the Baseball representatives if they are ok with that. They stated they have no problem with that.

Mr. Connelly amended his motion that the Town pay the vendor direct, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM G. Mr. Johnson stated he would like to add another item to the agenda today. The Lake Central Girls Softball are going to State for the Championship and he asked if we could send them off with a little well-wishing and asked Mr. Hansen, who is taping the meeting to record something.

Mr. Johnson stated "Lake Central Girls Softball, we wish you well going to State, we know that you are going to compete. The Town of Schererville, the Town Council and the Town as a whole, wish you well and good luck. No matter what the result is, enjoy this time." All Council members wished them good luck.

*Mr. Guetzloff stated that there is a gentleman here tonight that this will be his last meeting. He has been attending these meetings for 42 years. Mr. Huet started his employment with the Town of Schererville on May 1, 1979. He worked at the Wastewater Treatment Plant holding several positions. In June of 1994 Mr. Huet transferred to the Public Works Department. He held several positions in the Public Works Department and once again moved up the rank and was named Director of Public Works in January 2005 and still holds that position today. Mr. Guetzloff stated that the Town Council would like to congratulate him and thank him for his dedication and hard work that he has given to the Town, which we all call home. Mr. Guetzloff stated that there will be cake and coffee after the meeting, celebrating Mr. Huet.

Mr. Huet stated this wasn't necessary, but is appreciated. He stated there has been many ups and downs in the 42 years he has been with the Town. Mr. Huet thanked this Council, and many of the past Town Councils that he worked with. He thanked Mr. Volkmann, he stated that Bob has been a friend and mentor to him over the past 23 years. Mr. Huet stated it has been a great experience working here. He stated he is not leaving Town, there are many things going on that he has a lot of knowledge on, and he will be here for any help they need on those.

THEREUPON, Business from the floor NONE

Meeting adjourned.

ROB GUETZLOFF
TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT

MICHAEL A TROXELL, CMO
TOWN CLERK-TREASURER

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