

The Regular Town Council Meeting of the Town of Schererville, IN was called to order by Vice President Thomas Schmitt at 7:06 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 and Thomas Schmitt. Councilman absent: Rob Guetzloff. Staff members present: Attorney David Austgen, Fire Chief Robert Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer, Police Chief Pete Sormaz, Director of Public Works Andy Hansen, Director of Operations James Gorman, Town Manager Robert Volkmann, Clerk-Treasurer Michael Troxell and Recording Secretary Robin Thiel.

THEREUPON, Approval of the minutes. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2021 Public meeting, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Claims

- A. APV #98144 - APV #98681 on the General Docket, Totaling \$1,393,261.67
- B. APV #98151 - APV #98674 on the MVH Docket, Totaling \$240,764.80
- C. APV #98168 - APV #98544 on the Payroll Docket, Totaling \$1,050,163.56
- D. Various Funds, First National Bank of Omaha, August Credit Card Charges, \$14,488.02
- E. Promotion Fund, Lake County Advancement Committee, Lunch Meeting, \$25.00
- F. Solid Waste Management Fund, Stump Busters, Stump Removal - Various Locations, \$2,800.00
- G. Ambulance Fund, J&B Medical, Invoice #7456750, \$57.80
- H. General Fund - Animal Control, Crossroads Animal Hospital, August Invoices, \$937.31
- I. General Fund - Animal Control, Lowell Animal Hospital, Invoice #77217, \$178.45
- J. Various Funds, Austgen Kuiper Jasaitis, August Legal, \$11,284.00
- K. Various Funds, Enterprise Fleet, Monthly Lease, \$3,346.64
- L. Various Funds, Robinson Engineering, Various Invoices, \$1,433.00
- M. General Fund - Police, Braman Insurance, Invoice #121265, \$4,342.00
- N. Various Funds, Napa, August Parts, \$177.87
- O. Various Fund, Menards, Invoice #32980253, \$3,123.80
- P. Various Funds, Auto Wares, Invoice #33740480, \$12,347.04Q. Deposits N/R Escrow Fund, Alia Issa, Security Deposit Refund, \$150.00
- R. Deposits N/R Escrow Fund, Lifeline Screening Of America, Security Deposit Refund, \$450.00
- S. Various Funds, R&R Yard Design, August-Town Mowing, \$16,389.00
- T. Park Bond 2018 Fund, DLZ LLC, Invoice #408552, \$500.00
- U. Various Fund, White Eagle Cleaning, Invoice #141, \$910.00
- V. General Fund - Police, Dedicated Ladies Concrete, Invoice #8252021, \$1,200.00
- W. General Fund - Park, Alert Alarm, Various Invoices, \$240.00
- X. General Fund - Police, Bolt Document Management, Invoice #2653, \$2,502.00
- Y. Various Fund, Graybar, Invoice #9323079686, \$2,811.84
- Z. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Premier Porta Potty, Various Invoices, \$2,220.00
- AA. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Windsor Laundry, Cleaning Service - Table Cloths, \$27.00
- BB. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Animal Quest Entertainment Inc., Market Entertainment, \$1,358.00
- CC. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Sarah's Pony Rides, County-A-Fair Animals, \$875.00
- DD. General Fund - Planning & Building, Omni Office Equipment, Invoice #41011, \$94.40

Mr. Troxell stated he has two items to add to the agenda.

- EE. Briar Ridge Property Owner's Association \$10,377.36
- FF. Springvale Homeowner's Association \$4,008.96

Mr. Troxell explained that these items are being handled for recycling distribution for both of these PUD's. He stated that they handle their own recycling in their own PUD's, and the money comes from our Solid Waste money that we receive.

Mr. Connelly made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Mrs. Arvanitis. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

NONE

THEREUPON, Reports

Mr. Volkmann stated that the COVID benefits that were offered to employees who would have tested positive or were quarantined, we had extended those once and that benefit is to expire at the end of September. Mr. Volkmann stated he would like to add this item to the October Agenda for the Council's consideration, to extend those benefits since the upsurge in COVID to our employees until the end of the year.

Mr. Connelly made a motion to add for the consideration the extension of the COVID benefit, to the October Agenda, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor (4-0).

Fire Chief Patterson reported that for the month of August the Department handled 299 EMS calls, 66 Fire Calls for a total of 365 calls.

Police Chief Sormaz reported that on September 11th, we will have our 911 Ceremony across the street at the Police Department. That will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, September 11th. Chief Sormaz also reported that September 23rd is Police Appreciation Day. He stated that will be hosted this year at the Halls of St. George.

Mr. Johnson stated that on behalf of himself and his wife, as parents of Lake Central Students, he would like to thank the Lake Central Administration, the teachers, all of the responding personnel (Fire & Police), who responded to the incident today at Lake Central with such quickness and certainty and handling the situation. He stated that from his perspective, his kids came home actually kind of comfortable, felt like everything was handled so well. He stated he wants to give praise to everybody who handled the situation today.

Mr. Johnson stated that he thinks we need a study session on the Illiana Speedway. Mr. Johnson made a motion that we have a scheduled study session on October 20, 2021 for the purpose of discussing the Illiana Speedway property, in order to answer some questions, address some issues that people are bringing up. He stated that citizens are asking for meetings with Council members to discuss, seconded by Mr. Connelly.

Mr. Connelly stated he believes we targeted the month of September for the RFP to be sent out, he asked Mr. Volkmann the timeline on that. Mr. Volkmann stated that he met with Karen and Don last week and they said he should be getting the RFP draft next week and they will have it ready to go out.

All in favor (4-0).

Mr. Schmitt read into the record a letter he received from Mr. Earl Bell, 1404 Kennedy Avenue, stating that he fell off of his mower while cutting his grass and he would like to thank the two Town employees who stopped and help him back to his feet. The employees were Dave Mitchell and Tom Fox. Mr. Bell stated that due to their actions he feels should be recognized by the Town Board for services toward the public.

THEREUPON, Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items NONE

THEREUPON, Old Business NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Public Hearing on Proposed 2022 Town Budget Ordinance No. 1973 - review and discuss (**First Reading**)

Mr. Troxell stated that the Indiana Code Statute states in how we should proceed with governments on their budgets. Mr. Troxell stated that he has reviewed the Proofs of Publication and find them to be in order. Mr. Troxell stated that this is the

first of three meetings. He stated that after this meeting this evening, there is a period of remonstrations, if anyone wants to remonstrate against the budget, it can be done and we will address those issues. Mr. Troxell stated that the next meeting for adoption will be on Wednesday, October 13th, and then there would be a third meeting once the certification of the budget is presented and accepted by the DLGF.

Mr. Troxell stated that the budget for the taxes levied on each line item were increased by 5%. He stated that we were given guidance by the DLGF that we will most likely get a 4.3% increase in our levy. Mr. Troxell stated the reason we went will 5% is because we can always go lower not higher. Mr. Troxell stated that the total budget is \$44,186,983.00.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Troxell why there is that line item that deletes "rental payment". Mr. Troxell stated that that is the lease rental payment for this building for twenty years. He stated that being our last payment is in January 2022, there is no other payments being made, which is why there is a decrease in the levy because we don't need to tax our residents for that because there are no more payments to be made.

Mr. Schmitt read by title only, Ordinance #1973.

Open to the floor for Public Comment
No Comments from the floor
Closed to the floor for Public Comment

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Troxell if that is for this building or this building and the Police Department. Mr. Volkmann stated it is for both.

Mr. Connelly made a motion to consider on 1st reading the 2022 Proposed Budget, Ordinance #1973, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM B. Res. #2021-13, A Resolution to Transfer Funds within a Category of Appropriations

Mr. Troxell explained the Transfer of Funds. Mr. Connelly made a motion to adopt Resolution #2021-13, seconded by Mrs. Arvanitis. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM C. Res. #2021-14, A Resolution Supporting Our Police Department and "Police Appreciation Day", and all Matters Related Thereto

Mr. Schmitt read in its entirety, Resolution #2021-14, "Police Appreciation Day".

Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt Resolution #2021-14, seconded by Mrs. Arvanitis. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM D. Consider Variance of Use to Allow Semi-Permanent Make-Up/ Micro Blading Services (August 23, 2021 BZA Meeting)

Board of Zoning Case #21-8-12
Petitioner: Moda Beauty Bar - Sasha Wall
Location: 2147 US 41
Favorable Recommendation by Board of Zoning Appeals 5-0

Mr. Gorman stated that this is a Beauty Bar located on the Southwest side of Town. He stated that they appeared in front of the BZA for a variance because currently the use is not allowed in our Zoning Ordinance. He stated that it comes before you with a favorable recommendation from the BZA of 5-0

Mr. Johnson stated that he sat in on the BZA Hearing on this and the woman that presented the case, she represented that she is doing this now, permanent make-up in her other salon in Winfield. Mr. Johnson stated that it is not tattooing per say, it seems to be

a primarily remedial for people who are losing their eyebrows or maybe have gone through cancer treatment. Mr. Johnson feels this is a good use.

Mr. Connelly made a motion to approve Board of Zoning Case #21-8-12, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM E. Proclaim the Week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week
In the Town of Schererville

Mr. Troxell read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to proclaim the Week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week in the Town of Schererville, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0)

ITEM F. Proclaim the Week of September 20-26 as Indiana Rail
Safety Week in the Town of Schererville

Mr. Troxell read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to proclaim the Week of September 20-26 as Indiana Rail Safety Week in the Town of Schererville, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0)

ITEM G. Consider Acceptance of Donations - \$2,886.00

Mr. Troxell read the list of donations into the record. Mr. Connelly made a motion to accept the Donations as read, seconded by Mrs. Arvanitis. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Business from the floor NONE

Meeting adjourned.

ROB GUETZLOFF
TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT

MICHAEL A TROXELL, CMO
TOWN CLERK-TREASURER

A TRUE COPY