

DECEMBER 1, 2021

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Those present:

Allen Miracle
Jim Smith
Gary Montel

Tom Dale
Adam Penrod
Matt Mize

Carrie Mugford
Craig Walters
Jim Kirk

Cam Kissinger
Maddie Schultz
Kody Cook

Those absent: Laura Rager. A quorum was attained.

The December meeting of the North Manchester Town Council was held at the Public Safety Building, 709 W Main Street, on December 1, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., pursuant to notice duly given in accordance with the rules of the Council. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Allen Miracle, who presided.

MINUTES

Minutes of the 11/03/21 regular meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Smith/Montel. Motion passes unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Capital Asset Capitalization Policy, GO#5, 2021 - Third Reading – Clerk-Treasurer Carrie Mugford read general ordinance #5 by title only. Motion to approve GO#5 on third reading: Smith/Montel. Motion passes unanimously.
2. Alley Vacation, GO#6, 2021 – Clerk-Treasurer Mugford read general ordinance #6 by title only. Motion to approve GO#6 on second reading: Smith/Dale. Motion passes unanimously.
3. 2022 Salary Ordinance, GO #7 – Clerk-Treasurer Mugford read the general ordinance #7, the 2022 ordinance of salaries and wages, by title only. Town Manager Adam Penrod explained that during the November 22 work session the council expressed an interest in giving more than the usual 3% increase. The current inflation rate is more than 3%. Penrod remarked that the town wants to keep employees and let them know they are appreciated. President Allen Miracle reiterated that the ordinance is the same as last month but 5% increases instead of 3%. Mugford explained that the ordinance and exhibit were amended to a 5% increase for all employee salary and wages. Benefits and schedules have not changed significantly over the prior year. Motion to approve GO#7 on second reading as amended: Dale/Montel. Motion passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2022 Council Meeting Calendar – Clerk-Treasurer Mugford provided a 2022 calendar with the first Wednesday of the month highlighted. The only apparent conflict in 2022 is the April meeting occurring during spring break. The April meeting will be moved from the 6th to the 13th. Motion to approve the 2022 calendar: Dale/Smith. Motion passes unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL & COMMISSION REPORTS

Appointments – See Schedule

Police Dept. – Report included in packet.

Fire Dept. – Report included in packet.

Code Enforcement – Report included in packet.

Plan Commission –

Board of Zoning Appeals –

Traffic Commission – Did not meet

Parks & Recreation – Report included in packet.

Town Life Center –

Tree Advisory –

Grow Wabash County –

Redevelopment Commission – Did not meet.

MEDCOR – Did not meet.

Solid Waste – Nothing to report.

Storm Water Board – Nothing to report.

Public Works – Reports included in packet. Street Superintendent Craig Walters commented that the street department is almost done picking up leaves. So far 138 loads have been hauled out. Residents can bring leaves down to the street barn once curbside pickup is over.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Adam Penrod reported that Gaunt & Son Asphalt has been working on sidewalks on Grant, Colfax, and High Streets. This work is part of this year's community crossing grant and will continue until Christmas. The asphalt work should start in May.

Imagine One 85 is planning a meeting to discuss the financial portion of the plan later this month. A fiscal analysis of the involved municipalities was conducted to determine the viability of the plan. The meeting will be held December 21 at 9:00 am to review North Manchester's capacity to complete the plan. The location of the meeting is still to be determined.

Penrod reported that Manchester Alive is looking into getting national accreditation for the Manchester Main Street program. MMS is state accredited and is now seeking national recognition. Brooke Vanderpool is working with OCRA to complete the application. Penrod stated that the town submitted a letter of support for the process, but no further action is necessary at this time.

Penrod attended the Wabash County drainage board public hearing for Grossnickle Ditch phase 2. Approximately a dozen residents were there from town. It was explained that any North Manchester resident paying a monthly stormwater fee will not pay the county assessment. The next step is for the county to put out request for proposals and get prices.

Penrod announced that a photo shoot for the new dog park advertisements will be December 2. Snep Signs and Johnson Engraving are working on plaques that will be displayed for anyone who

donates to the new park. Multiple sizes will be available for varying donations. More information will be available soon.

Penrod attended a meeting for State Road 114 bridge reconstruction project. INDOT is expecting the work to begin in 2025. There is a lot of work to be done before the project can begin including purchasing right-of-way area and removing trees. The water utility will have to relocate the water main hanging under the bridge. Penrod stated that if the cost of the water main relocation is more than 10% of the annual budget, the town can apply for a 90/10 grant. It's good to know that INDOT will help so that it is not a financial burden on the utility.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Financial Reports – Approved subject to audit.
2. Claims - The Town claim docket totaling \$441,038.84 and the Public Works docket totaling \$206,846.91 were submitted for payment. Motion to pay our obligations: Smith/Dale. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of members present.

VISITOR COMMENTS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Allen Miracle encouraged everyone to attend the Imagine One 85 meeting and hear the financial portion of the county-wide comprehensive plan.

The next meeting is December 15 at 5:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

TOWN COUNCIL, TOWN OF N. MANCHESTER

Allen Miracle, President

Jim Smith, Vice-President

Tom Dale

Laura Rager

ATTEST

Gary Montel

Carrie Mugford, Clerk-Treasurer