

MARCH 7, 2018

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Those present:

Chalmer Tobias	Carrie Mugford	Aaron Popplewell	Eric Christiansen
Jim Smith	Matt Mize	Steve Shumaker	Carla Gebert
Tom Dale	Jim Kirk	Anne Myers	Marilyn Custer Mitchel
Laura Rager	Cam Kissinger	Derek Sessoms	Shane Flora
Allen Miracle	Jennifer Hotchkiss	Devin Bechtold	Dan Gray
Adam Penrod	Craig Walters	Deb Chinworth	MA Hire

Those absent: None. A quorum was attained.

The March meeting of the North Manchester Town Council was held at the Public Safety Building, 709 W. Main Street, North Manchester, Indiana, on March 7, 2018 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 Chalmer Tobias, who presided.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the 02/07/18 Board of Public Safety and 02/07/18 regular meetings were presented for approval. Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Rager/Miracle. Motion passes unanimously.

### **VISITOR COMMENTS**

Council President Chalmer Tobias spoke about the officer involved shooting that occurred on the evening of March 6. Tobias recognized that everyone is anxious for information; however, the investigation is ongoing. No further comments will be made.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Animal Shelter Funding – Tobias gave an update on the situation between the town and the Wabash County Animal Shelter. At the February meeting town council agreed to offer a proposal to WCAS for \$100 per animal received with proper documentation. That proposal was capped at \$6,000 for sixth months. The proposal was rejected by the WCAS board of directors. After Town Manager Adam Penrod was notified of the proposal rejection, Penrod contacted the Kosciusko County Animal Welfare League. Kosciusko County has agreed to provide figures that will hopefully lead to an agreeable proposal.

2. Discussion of Possibility of School Resource Officer – President Tobias reiterated that last month Scott Bumgardner, Manchester Community Schools Business Manager, asked council for cooperation in getting a grant that would help pay for a school resource officer. The school asked the town to pay for benefits for the officer and the school would get a \$25,000 grant and put in their own \$25,000 for salary. Tobias stated that there will be a meeting on Friday, March 9, for further discussion between officials.

3. Amendment to Police Donation Fund, GO#1, 2018 – Clerk-Treasurer Carrie Mugford read general ordinance #1, 2018, by title only. This ordinance changes the word “traffic” to “public” to allow for a broader use of donation funds. Motion to approve GO#1 on second reading: Rager/Dale. Motion passes unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Parkview EMS Review/Update of Operations - Marilyn Custer Mitchell, President of Wabash County Hospital gave a short report on the progress of the new hospital. There will be an open house in the next few weeks with June 27 slated as the official move in day. Carla Gebert gave an update of 2017 operations and run totals for Parkview EMS stationed in North Manchester. Ambulance response times are averaging 8 minutes and even less within the town. Falls are number one complaint requiring an ambulance. Parkview is continuing to grow community paramedicine services which is a significant benefit to the community. Paramedicine Services are provided for free. They are especially helpful for vulnerable patients and can go into homes to find what services are needed. Gebert noted that local EMT's are working with surrounding Parkview departments to develop a safer ambulance. The new design allows all riders, including EMT's, to be buckled in along with many other custom safety and efficiency upgrades. Gebert announced that Manchester will receive the first new ambulance with the new design. The ambulance should be here around the middle of June.

2. Presentation of Tobacco Free Coalition – Dan Gray, Director of Wabash County Tobacco Free Coalition, thanked council for the opportunity to speak at the meeting. The coalition has been around for 17 years and is funded by the tobacco settlement of 1992. The emphasis is on prevention, education, and cessation programs. Gray stated that there are dangers to second hand cigarette smoke and the coalition wants to show the community what can be done to improve health. 1200-1300 people die in Indiana every year from diseases caused by second hand smoke. Gray is asking for council to consider a policy that will prevent smoking in every public place in town in order to protect the health of constituents. In 2012 Indiana passed a law banning smoking in public but it is not comprehensive and has a number of exclusions. Municipalities have the ability to broaden restrictions to include all public places regardless of exclusions. Gray feels that less people will start smoking in a smoke free community because it sends a message to kids that it is not normal to smoke. Gray acknowledged that the suggested policy is very inclusive and comprehensive. The Wabash county coalition is available for any assistance the council might require in developing a policy of its own. Councilmember Allen Miracle asked if the coalition would prepare a sample ordinance for the council to consider. Gray stated that there would be a specific ordinance written for North Manchester by legal experts based on the specific needs of the community. Councilmembers Tom Dale and Allen Miracle agreed to be on a committee to review the suggested ordinance.

3. Street Closure Request – Penrod stated that the Funfest Committee has submitted their annual request for street closures during the August festival. The request is to close the same streets as last year, including blocking State Road 114. Council was provided a list of streets and hours in the council packet. Motion to approve the 2018 Funfest street closures: Rager/Smith. Motion passes unanimously. Dale asked if the Ninth Street sewer project will effect Funfest activities. Penrod replied that the project should be done in May and have no effect on Funfest.

4. Consideration of Trash Contract Renewal or Bid – Penrod reported that the trash contract ends in June. Penrod has reached out to the current provider because there is an extension provision in the contract. The provider is offering to continue the contract with a 1% per year increase over current rates. Penrod discussed concerns with customer service, but acknowledged that there have been improvements over the last two years. Penrod recommended moving forward with a two year contract extension with Republic Services instead of bidding for the service. Motion to approve a two year contract extension with Republic Services: Miracle/Rager. Motion passes unanimously. Councilmember Jim Smith asked if the renewal will require a trash fee increase. Penrod stated that the current charge is enough to cover the fees. There will not be a rate increase at this time.

## **DEPARTMENTAL & COMMISSION REPORTS**

Appointments – None at this time.

Police Dept. – Report included in packet. Police Chief Jim Kirk reported that Officer Tyler Duncan reported to Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in February and will be there 15 weeks. The officer involved shooting requires that officer to be on administrative leave until the investigation is complete. That will leave the department down two officers for a while. Kirk expressed his thanks to all departments and off duty officers who responded to the scene of the shooting.

Fire Dept. – Report included in packet.

Code Enforcement – Report included in packet.

Plan Commission – Building Commissioner Steve Shumaker stated that Plan Commission will meet on 26<sup>th</sup> of March.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Nothing more to add.

Traffic Commission – Did not meet.

Parks & Recreation – Park Director Jennifer Hotchkiss reported that both sessions of the Daddy/Daughter dance went well. There were 115 and 111 in attendance at the Scout Hall for the popular event. Maintenance personnel are continuing to repair the boilers and getting them operating properly. The building has three boilers and can work with two but it is not optimal. The diving board is the original board from the old facility. It still works but will soon be resurfaced and refurbished. Hotchkiss is looking at grant opportunities for upcoming projects.

Town Life Center – TLC Administrator Anne Myers reported that currently the gym is scheduled every night for ongoing classes, including ballroom dancing. Myers thanked council for fixing the TLC roof last year. With all the recent rains there has been no rain in the gym.

Tree Advisory – Report included in packet

Grow Wabash County – Penrod reported that next Wednesday is the state of community breakfast at the Honeywell Center. This will be a time for community leaders throughout the county to give an update.

RDC – Adam Penrod reported that the proposed housing developer will be presenting a preliminary plan to the plan commission later this month. The project is moving forward.

Medcor – Did not meet.

Solid Waste – Nothing to report

Storm Water Board – Adam Penrod reported that the storm water board met and approved the docket.

Public Works – Reports submitted in packet.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Town Manager Adam Penrod reported that the long term control plan project has started on Mill Street. There will hopefully be minimal disruption for the residents, but it will require Ninth Street to be closed for a while.

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT**

1. Financial Reports – Approved subject to audit.
2. Claims - The Town claim docket totaling \$327,597.32 and the Public Works docket totaling \$200,580.60 were submitted for payment. Motion to pay our bills: Rager/Dale. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of members present.

**VISITOR COMMENTS**

Deb Chinworth asked council to please take Dan Gray's presentation to heart and consider passing an ordinance restricting smoking in all public places.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

TOWN COUNCIL, TOWN OF N. MANCHESTER

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Chalmer Tobias, President

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Laura Rager, Vice-President

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Tom Dale

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Allen Miracle

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Jim Smith

ATTEST:

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Carrie Mugford, Clerk-Treasurer