

JANUARY 08, 2020

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Those present:

Allen Miracle	Carrie Mugford	Aaron Popplewell	Eric Christiansen - NJ
Jim Smith	Matt Mize	Steve Shumaker	Steve Olsen
Laura Rager	Jim Kirk	Anne Myers	Ben Vanderpool
Tom Dale	Cam Kissinger	Brandon Whitcraft	John Mugford
Gary Montel	Craig Walters	Chalmer Tobias	Brendyn Mugford

Those absent: Adam Penrod. A quorum was attained.

The January meeting of the North Manchester Town Council was held at the Public Safety Building, 709 W. Main Street, North Manchester, Indiana, on January 08, 2020 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 Clerk-Treasurer Carrie Mugford.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Clerk-Treasurer Carrie Mugford stated that the nomination and election of officers would be done by ballot. Mugford explained the process. Mugford distributed ballots for nomination of council president. Nominations for president were unanimously Allen Miracle. Allen Miracle is elected council president. Mugford distributed ballots for nominations for council vice-president. Laura Rager and Jim Smith were nominated for vice-president. Mugford distributed ballots for election of council vice-president, then collected and tabulated the votes. Jim Smith was elected council vice-president. Motion to approve council officers as elected: Miracle/Dale. Motion passes unanimously. Allen Miracle chaired the remainder of the meeting.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the 12/03/19 special meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Dale/Rager. Motion passes unanimously.

### **VISITOR COMMENTS**

None.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Request to Purchase New Police Patrol Car – Police Chief Jim Kirk submitted a request to purchase a new patrol vehicle. Quotes were obtained for a Dodge Durango, Ford Interceptor, and Chevy Tahoe. The Ford Interceptor is what the department has been buying. The police department can buy a new Ford at City Ford, Columbia City, under the Fort Wayne PD purchase order. Kirk would like to keep the old one for reserve officers to use. Kirk stated that it's difficult to get a car for a reserve use since only two cars are not taken home. Also, if there is an accident it's easier to have an extra vehicle for an officer to drive. Councilmember Jim Smith asked if the car is purchased under a state bid can that be taken anywhere. Kirk replied that the bid was

honored at any dealership. Councilmember Allen Miracle asked if money was appropriated for this purchase. Clerk-Treasurer Mugford replied that money was appropriated in the LOIT – Public Safety fund for the cost of the new car and outfitting it. Councilmember Laura Rager noted that similar vehicles are available and asked why the department needed the Interceptor. Kirk replied that the officers prefer the Interceptor for the stability and flexibility. It has become the preferred vehicle for police departments all over. Motion to approve the purchase of a Ford Interceptor from City Ford and keeping the other car: Smith/Rager. Motion passes unanimously.

## **DEPARTMENTAL & COMMISSION REPORTS**

Appointments – Councilmember Rager stated that council appointments will be revisited at next month's meeting after being reviewed. Rager noted that County Commissioners approved Dennis Ayers and Byron Brunn reappointment to the plan commission.

Police Dept. – Police Chief Jim Kirk reported that the department voted Parker Stouffer as officer of the year. Kirk was pleased to report that the department has gone a year without replacing an officer. Brady Burgess of BIT Computers will be working on a new secure server and new computers.

Fire Dept. – Fire Chief Cam Kissinger reported that December had 52 runs.

Code Enforcement –

Plan Commission –

Board of Zoning Appeals –

Traffic Commission –

Parks & Recreation –

Town Life Center –

Tree Advisory –

Grow Wabash County – Councilmember Rager reported that there was a meeting today for the county wide comp plan. The Community Foundation is working on an application for a grant to pay for a consultant that will create the plan. Rager noted that each municipality and the county will have two voting representatives.

RDC – Will meet next week.

MEDCOR –

Solid Waste –

Storm Water Board –

Public Works – Street Superintendent Craig Walters remarked that 41 Christmas trees were picked up at the curb.

**TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT**

Town Manager Adam Penrod was absent from the meeting.

**CLERK-TREASURER’S REPORT**

- 1. Financial Reports – Approved subject to audit.
- 2. Claims - The Town claim docket totaling \$178,117.97 and the Public Works docket totaling \$175,094.32 were submitted for payment. Motion to pay our obligations: Smith/Dale. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of members present.

**VISITOR COMMENTS**

Former councilmember Chalmer Tobias approached the podium and wished the council the best of luck.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Allen Miracle thanked Gary Montel his willingness to serve on council. Montel gave a few details about living and working in North Manchester. Miracle thanked Tobias for his service to the community and the council.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

TOWN COUNCIL, TOWN OF N. MANCHESTER

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Allen Miracle, President

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Jim Smith, Vice-President

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Tom Dale

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Laura Rager

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Gary Montel

ATTEST

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Carrie Mugford, Clerk-Treasurer