

NOVEMBER 4, 2020

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Those present:

Allen Miracle	Tom Dale	Matt Mize	Maddie Shultz - TU
Jim Smith	Adam Penrod	Craig Walters	Steve Shumaker
Gary Montel	Carrie Mugford	Cam Kissinger	Jennifer Hotchkiss
Laura Rager			

Those absent: None. A quorum was attained.

The November meeting of the North Manchester Town Council was held via Zoom, on November 4, 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 Council President, Allen Miracle, who presided.

Item #2 under new business was removed from the agenda.

Council President Allen Miracle thanked Steve Shumaker, Building Commissioner, for his work for the town and congratulated him on his retirement. Shumaker has worked as the building commissioner for 4 years and will be missed at town hall.

Miracle recognized the passing of former Fire Chief Bill Morris. Morris was chief for 5 years and continued to be part of the volunteer department. He will be missed.

Miracle read a prepared statement expressing the importance of supporting local businesses and organizations in the community by following state guidelines for face coverings and social distancing. Miracle asked local businesses to encourage employees and patrons to follow guidelines; as well as, citizens visiting local businesses. Miracle noted the impact a potential outbreak could have on Manchester University and the steps being taken to keep the students on campus.

MINUTES

Minutes of the 10/07/20 regular meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Montel/Rager. Motion passes unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2021 Salary Ordinance, GO#3, First Reading – Clerk-Treasurer Carrie Mugford summarized the 2021 salary ordinance. Wage and salary increases are based on 3% increase of the 2020 base salary. Copies of the ordinance were provided in the meeting packet and are available at town hall. In the interest of time, general ordinance #3 was not read verbatim. Motion to approve the 2021 salary ordinance on first reading: Rager/Dale. Motion passes unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL & COMMISSION REPORTS

Appointments – Town Manager Adam Penrod stated that Steve Olsen has resigned his position on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Dale Carpenter submitted a letter of interest for the appointment. Carpenter is a retired attorney who will bring a background of helpful experience to the board. Motion to approve Dale Carpenter appointment to the BZA: Smith/Rager. Motion passes unanimously. Penrod noted that Carpenter is fulfilling Olsen’s term until 01/01/2022.

Police Dept. – Report included in packet.

Fire Dept. – Report included in packet.

Code Enforcement – Report included in packet.

Plan Commission – Report included in packet.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Report included in packet.

Traffic Commission – Did not meet

Parks & Recreation – Report included in packet.

Town Life Center – Report included in packet.

Tree Advisory – Minutes included in packet.

Grow Wabash County – Nothing to report.

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.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

Town Manager Adam Penrod reported that Gaunt & Son should be starting sidewalks and handicap ramps on north Wayne Street in the next week.

The Imagine One 85 “Focus on the Future” events have been postponed until the first week of February. There will still be virtual meetings if anyone would like to attend.

Penrod reported that 12-14 individuals applied for the building commissioner position. Three candidates were interviewed by Penrod, Jim Smith, and Steve Shumaker. Hope to have an offer to a candidate by the end of the week.

The OCRA Business Relief Grant has about \$5,000 left to distribute. Penrod is hopeful to have the grant wrapped up in the next few weeks. Final checks will be distributed in the second half of November.

The COVID wastewater testing has completed. The results have been interesting. The presence of COVID has increased in the last three samples around the university which would also include Timbercrest and the few residences. Results are forwarded to the university health department.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Financial Reports – Approved subject to audit.
2. Claims - The Town claim docket totaling \$518,532.70 and the Public Works docket totaling \$144,822.26 were submitted for payment. Motion to pay our obligations: Smith/Dale. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of members present. Mugford explained that the docket is so high this month because of the transfer required by Indiana Finance Authority and State Board of Accounts for the federal COVID grant. The town received \$188,336 that has to be receipted and expensed from a designated COVID fund and receipted into the general fund.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Tom Dale noted his agreement with Miracle's remarks concerning COVID 19. Dale asked everyone to do their part to slow the spread of the disease.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

TOWN COUNCIL, TOWN OF N. MANCHESTER

Allen Miracle, President

Jim Smith, Vice-President

Tom Dale

Laura Rager

Gary Montel

ATTEST

Carrie Mugford, Clerk-Treasurer