

## **February 11, 2002**

The Ellettsville, Indiana, Town Council met in regular session at 7:30 PM, Monday, February 11, 2002 at the Town Hall. David Sorokoty called the meeting to order and Jerry Pittsford led in prayer. David Drake led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Roll Call**

David Sorokoty asked for roll call of the Council Members. Members present were David Sorokoty, David Drake, Michael Cornman, Jerry Pittsford and Geraldine McIntyre. Also present were Sandra Hash, Clerk-Treasurer and Mike Spencer, Town Attorney.

### **Approval of Minutes of the last four meetings**

David asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Geraldine McIntyre moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 28<sup>th</sup> and the special meetings of January 31<sup>st</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup> and February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2002. David Drake seconded. Motion carried.

### **Open bids for an Electrical Contractor for the underground utilities reconnect services along Highway 46.**

Rick Coppock explained that the reconnecting of services would not cost the property owners but be part of the project expense. Only one bid was received from Cassady Electric. Mike Spencer opened the bid and read it to the Council. **The bid was for \$129,995.00 payable per connection with a bid bond of 5%.** Rick said this was close to the original estimate of \$120,000.00 for the project. He also said that sixty-five residential and five commercial structures were affected by this project according to Cinergy. Mike Spencer explained the bid gave the cost of each residential reconnect as \$1,843.00 estimating sixty-five reconnects. The cost of each commercial reconnect is \$3,400.00 estimating three reconnects. Rick Coppock and Mike Spencer will review the bid more thoroughly and bring it to the next Council Meeting for approval if the bid is acceptable.

### **Open bids for the sale of the Street Department's surplus leaf loader**

Jim Ragle received only one bid for the leaf loader. Mike Spencer opened the bid and read the amount offered of \$3,500.00 from Mike Deckard. Jim would like to accept the bid. Jerry Pittsford moved to accept Mike Deckard's bid of \$3,500.00. Geraldine McIntyre seconded. Motion carried.

### **Ordinances on First Reading**

#### **Ordinance 02-03 to establish a fund for Fire Truck payments from the Richland Township Trustee**

David Drake read by title. David Drake made a motion that Ordinance 02-03 be submitted for first reading. Geraldine McIntyre seconded. Sandy Hash explained the Fire Department and Don Lewis, Richland Township Trustee have an agreement for the purchase of the 1999 Pierce Fire Truck. Don Lewis pays the township's share of the truck payments to the town, to be combined with the town payment and forwarded to Bank One. Previously the money was receipted into the volunteer line. The creation of a fire truck payment fund will clarify the procedure and isolate the payments toward the fire truck. Motion carried with Mike Cornman abstaining. David Drake moved that Ordinance 02-03 be adopted on the same day as introduced. Geraldine McIntyre seconded. Motion carried with Mike Cornman abstaining. Mike Spencer explained the requirement of a unanimous vote to pass an Ordinance on the first reading. Mike Cornman's abstention prevented executing the motion. The motion was withdrawn. The ordinance will be completed at the next meeting.

## **Resolutions**

### **Resolution 02-02 to amend the “Town of Ellettsville Flexible Benefits Plan”**

Jerry Pittsford read by title. David Sorokoty requested Sandy Hash to explain the plan. Sandy explained the plan is already in place for the Town (started in 1995) and it is called the “cafeteria plan” or “section 125” which allows health insurance and life insurance premiums to be paid pre tax. Benefits Plus, a company we contract with to review and maintain our policy, submitted the changes required for the up coming year. Jerry Pittsford moved approval of resolution 02-02, David Drake seconded. Motion carried with Mike Cornman abstaining. Mike Spencer brought the phrase “all the members” in the first paragraph to the Council’s attention since Mike Cornman abstained. Jerry Pittsford withdrew his original motion and David Drake withdrew his second.

Mike Spencer revised the first paragraph to read, “Be it resolved the Council of the Town of Ellettsville hereby adopts the following resolution and directs that this action be entered in the minutes books.” Jerry Pittsford moved to amend the first paragraph of this resolution. David Drake seconded. Motion carried with Mike Cornman abstaining. Jerry Pittsford moved for the approval of Resolution 02-02 as amended. Geraldine McIntyre seconded. Motion carried with Mike Cornman abstaining.

## **Ordinances on Second Reading**

### **Ordinance 02-02 to establish a fund for the Fall Festival Build Indiana Grant**

Mike Cornman read by title. David Drake made a motion to adopt Ordinance 02-02. Jerry Pittsford seconded. Sandy explained the need for a fund for the Fall Festival Build Indiana Grant. Motion carried.

## **Old Business** None

## **New Business**

### **Contract between the Town of Ellettsville and Michael J. Spencer, Attorney**

Mike Spencer explained the new contract increased the hourly rate from \$115.00 to \$120.00 and contract includes associates rates and the legal assistance rates. Geraldine McIntyre made a motion to accept the new contract between the Town and Mike Spencer. Mike Cornman seconded. Motion carried.

### **Purchase of permanent and temporary easement and right of way on lot #79 of Sharps II Addition**

Rick Coppock explained that this was to purchase right of way at the southwest corner of Main and Matthews. The State has no plans to purchase the right of way. Matthews will need to be widened for a 9’ easement and also the drainage pipe system will need to be replaced. The \$5,000.00 for the purchase would be taken from the existing budget. Geraldine McIntyre moved to purchase the permanent and temporary easement and right of way on lot #79. Mike Cornman seconded. Motion carried.

### **Transfer authority to Park and Recreation Board of the proposed park on the Well Property**

David Sorokoty explained that currently the Town of Ellettsville owns the Well Site property and that the first half of the property has already been annexed into the Town. David said that Rick Coppock would be able to start working on annexing the second half of the property. Mike Cornman moved to transfer the jurisdiction of

the Well Property from the Town of Ellettsville to the Park Board. Jerry Pittsford seconded. Motion carried.

**Proposed purchase of 615 and 621 West Main Street, land for a proposed Government Center**

Jerry Pittsford contacted both owners and said the homes had both been appraised for an average price of \$47,000.00 each. The money for the purchase will be taken out of the Build Indiana Fund Grant money. Jerry Pittsford stated that if the Council approves to purchase these properties then whenever it is offered to the owners they can either choose to accept the offer or not but the owners are not required to sell. David Sorokoty asked Jerry Pittsford to be the Town's acting agent in this situation and he accepted. There was discussion on using the land as a possible location for a new Government Center. Geraldine McIntyre moved to offer to purchase these properties. David Drake seconded. Motion carried.

**Hiring of New Administrative Assistant**

David Drake explained the interviewing process was complete for the position of Administrative Assistant and made the motion to hire Deborah Hudson. Geraldine McIntyre seconded. David Drake, Jerry Pittsford and David Sorokoty spoke on Deborah's qualifications and experience. David Sorokoty thanked the Council for all of their extra effort in attending meetings and work sessions to fill this position. Deborah will be in her office at the Town Hall on Mondays and Thursdays with a third floating day. Motion carried.

**Action to pay Accounts Payable Vouchers**

Mike Cornman made a motion to approve the accounts payable vouchers with the exception of #63, which was, withdrawn. David Drake seconded. Motion carried.

**Supervisor's comments**

**Jim Davis** – Requested that Full-time Fire Fighter Jeremy Luther receive his first raise. Geraldine McIntyre made a motion to approve Jeremy's raise. David Drake seconded. Motion carried with Mike Cornman abstaining.

**Sandy Hash** – Explained Cheryl Terry with the May Agency is concerned about COBRA. Cheryl forwarded a quote for \$800.00 from a COBRA compliance company to assist the Town in the required COBRA enforcement. Sandy said she will discuss this issue with Deborah, the new Administrative Assistant.

Two proposals have been received on re-codification of the Town Code. Mike Cornman requested one or more Council members meet with Sandy to review both proposals. Mike Cornman agreed to review them with her.

**Geraldine McIntyre** – Thanked each Council member for their hard work on choosing a new Administrative Assistant.

**Jerry Pittsford** – Also expressed his appreciation to the Council for choosing Deborah.

He explained that Mike Cornman and himself met with Vi Simpson and IDEM regarding the capacity letters that required the Town Council members' signatures that they refused to sign last summer. A level of agreement has been reached and we now have clarification on the request. He thanked Vi Simpson for arranging this meeting.

**Mike Cornman** – Thanked the Council for all of the effort in hiring the new Administrative Assistant because he thinks it is a step in the right direction.

**David Drake** – Commented he is glad to see the community taking interest in using existing buildings in the Town such as the old Peoples State Bank and Thrasher’s Market. He also said he would like to see the old Third Base Lounge, the Harley-Davidson and Robinson Block buildings put to use as well.

**David Sorokoty** – Said the Council had received forty-five applications for the Administrative position and thanked those people for applying. He also said that he was pleased with the Council’s choice of Deborah. He thanked the Council for all their effort throughout the hiring of this position.

He also thanked the Police Department for the traffic stop on Highway 46 that was in the Journal.

He explained that the Parks Board and himself had walked through the Well Site Property and discussed ideas for the Park’s future.

David informed the Council that there would be a Fall Festival Committee meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 p. m. at the Richland-Bean Blossom Health Care Center located at 5911 W. State Rd. 46. He said there would not be a Fall Festival this year because of the lack of volunteers and it was not do to the Highway 46 construction.

David will be attending the IACT legislative conference in Indy tomorrow and Wednesday.

**Privilege of the Floor**

Ed Bitner – Asked about the new Administrative Assistant job and the Clerk’s office duties and how the responsibilities are distributed and the Council members explained the reason for the new position.

**Adjournment**

Jerry Pittsford moved to adjourn and Mike Cornman seconded. Motion carried. Adjourned at 8:38 p. m.

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David Sorokoty, President

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David Drake, Vice President

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Mike Cornman

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Jerry Pittsford

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Geraldine McIntyre

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Sandra C. Hash  
Clerk-Treasurer