

January 6, 2004

The Ellettsville, Indiana, Town Council met on Tuesday, January 6th, 2004 at the Town Hall in an Organizational Meeting for 2004 with the new Council Members. David Sorokoty called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Council Present: David Sorokoty, 2003 current President; David Drake, 2003 current Vice-President; Lisa Combs-Creech, Patrick Stoffers and Phillip Rogers. Also present was Sandra Hash, Clerk-Treasurer.

Supervisors Present: Jim Ragle

Purpose: To Elect Town Council Officers and make appoints as needed to the various Boards.

Elections were held for the office of President and Vice-President.

David Sorokoty opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Patrick Stoffers nominated David Drake for Vice-President. Phil Rogers seconded the nomination. Phil Rogers made a motion to close the nominations for Vice-President. Motion carried and a vote was taken to appoint David Drake as Vice-President.

David Sorokoty opened the floor for nominations for President. Phil Rogers nominated Patrick Stoffers for President. David Drake seconded. Phil Rogers made a motion to close the nominations, David Drake seconded. Motion carried. A vote was taken to appoint Patrick Stoffers as Council President. The motion carried with a 3-2 vote in favor of appointing Pat as President. Lisa Creech voted no. David Sorokoty officially abstained saying “it’s not because of Pat; it’s because I was kind of caught in the middle on two different angles and I refuse to play politics with the Town that I love”. He turned the chair of President over to Pat.

2004 Town Council President:

Patrick Stoffers made his first request as the official Council President requesting Sandra Hash to inform them of what appointments the Town Council should make for 2004.

Plan Commission Board Appointments

Sandra Hash stated the Plan Commission consists of seven members and the terms are for four years each. Three of the members are elected officials appointed by Council vote and the remaining four are citizens appointed by the Council President. Frank Buczolic and Don Calvert are citizen appointments. Their terms expire December 31, 2006. Sandra Hash and David Drake agreed to continue on the Plan Commission. Pat asked if Lisa Creech or Phil Rogers would be interested in filling the other vacant elected official seat. Lisa Creech expressed she would like to hold that position. Patrick asked for a motion to appoint Lisa Creech, Sandra Hash and David Drake to the Planning Commission. David Drake made a motion that Lisa Creech, Sandra Hash and David Drake be appointed to the Plan Commission. David Sorokoty seconded. Motion carried.

2004 Plan Commission Board:

Elected Officials on Board

Lisa Creech – term expires 12-31-06
Sandra Hash – term expires 12-31-07
David Drake – term expires 12-31-07

Citizens Appointed to Board

Frank Buczolic – term expires 12-31-06
Don Calvert – term expires 12-31-06
2 expired seats 1 Democrat & 1 Republican

Patrick Stoffers said he was not prepared thoroughly to appoint two citizens to the vacant seats, he stated he wants to do a little “homework” before appointing anyone.

Board of Zoning Appeals Appointments

This BZA is made up of five members with staggered four year appointments. Each year one member should be appointed for a term of four years. The Board should

consist of three Republicans and two Democrats. The Council President appoints three. Patrick Stoffers stated Jack Neal (R), Terry Baker (D) and Denise Knell (D) are the current members. The Council has one appointment and Plan Commission has one appointment. Indiana Code states elected and appointed town officials cannot serve on the BZA. Patrick Stoffers asked what the expirations were for these individuals.

Sandra Hash explained they have been appointing all of them annually which is incorrect; actually only one person is supposed to be appointed each year. She explained there has been a bit of confusion on who has been appointed when so this needs to be researched further to determine the needed appointments. Patrick Stoffers agreed appointment dates needed to be researched.

2004 BZA Board– Research

By researching the minutes the following term dates were established:

Jack Neal (R) term expires 12-31-05
Terry Baker (D) term expires 12-31-03
Denise Knell (D) term expires 12-31-06
Bill Evans (R) term expires 12-31-03
David Sorokoty (R) term expires 12-31-04

This information indicates one Democrat position to be appointed and two Republican positions. The second opening is created by David Sorokoty who is ineligible since he is an elected official.

Patrick Stoffers said if the seats on each Board are not replaced or filled at tonight's meeting then those individuals who are currently on the Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals will continue to serve on each perspective Board until new appointments are made and can legally do so in accordance with Indiana Code.

Parks and Recreation Board Appointments

There are five members on this Board and each appointee is to serve a term of four years. Four are appointed by the Town Council President and one is appointed by the School Board. Three should be three Republicans and two Democrats. Jeff Frownfelter's (D) term expired on December 31, 2003. Patrick Stoffers spoke to Jeff and he said he would like to stay on the Board. Pat asked for a motion to appoint Jeff. David Sorokoty made a motion to appoint Jeff Frownfelter to the Parks and Recreation Board. Lisa Creech seconded. Motion carried.

2004 Parks and Recreation Board:

Darlyne Sowder (R) – term expires 12-31-04
Jeff Frownfelter (D) – new term expires 12-31-07
Denise Knell (D) – term expires 12-31-06
L. D. Axsom (R) – term expires 12-31-05
Edwin Mactangay (R) (School Board Appointee)

Annual Appointments by the Town Council:

Patrick Stoffers asked what the past practice was for appointing these positions. David Sorokoty explained Jim Davis has been on the Ambulance Advisory Board for a while and was a key factor in getting an ambulance housed in Ellettsville. The Solid Waste District Board position is vacant. Jim Davis was just recently appointed to the Monroe County Emergency Management Advisory Board. David Drake added that he was previously on the Monroe County Emergency Management Advisory Board but resigned commenting that Jim would be more knowledgeable for this Board. David Sorokoty stated that Iris Kiesling requested that Patrick Stoffers serve on the Solid Waste District Board. Patrick Stoffers asked for comments from the Council. Phil Rogers stated Jim Davis was a good choice for those two boards because it goes along with his position if Jim is still willing to be our representative. David Sorokoty stated Jim is willing to continue serving on those Boards. David Drake stated the person who is appointed for this position needs to be knowledgeable on the topics and

prepared to keep Ellettsville's best interest in mind as well as have an assertive personality. He reiterated Jim is a good choice for those two Boards for several reasons including it is in Jim's field of knowledge and since it is like an extension of his normal work duties he would not have to take off work to attend the meetings. Lisa Creech commented that Kevin Pauley who works at St. John's as a representative for Red Cross would be a good choice if Jim would not be serving on the Monroe County Emergency Management Advisory Board. She has already spoken to Kevin at a previous time and he had expressed an interest in the position if it is open. Pat Stoffers stated he wanted to personally speak to Jim Davis first to gauge his level of interest for continuing to serve on the Emergency Management Board.

Public Comment:

Ed Bitner stated he was instrumental in getting the BHAS ambulance in Ellettsville and if Jim didn't want to serve on either of those two Boards any longer he would like to be considered for the positions as well. He added that Jim has done a good job over the years and he doesn't know why he wouldn't want to continue on those Boards.

Patrick Stoffers recommended to delay filling these two appointments until after he speaks to Jim Davis. He added he is willing to serve on the Solid Waste District Board. David Sorokoty made a motion that Pat Stoffers serves on the Solid Waste Board. Lisa Creech seconded. Motion carried.

2004 Ambulance Advisory Board and Monroe County Emergency Management Advisory Board – TO BE ANNOUNCED AT A FUTURE DATE.

2004 Solid Waste District Board – Patrick Stoffers (1 year term)

David Sorokoty stated Chuck Radke was appointed to serve on the Animal Control Board last year and his term doesn't expire until December 31, 2004.

2004 Animal Control Commission – Chuck Radke (1 year term)

Liaisons for each Department, Grievance Officer and Health and Safety Officer Appointments

Patrick Stoffers asked for recommendations or preferences. David Drake requested to not serve as the Police liaison due to a professional conflict of interest since he is on the Bloomington Police Department and Lisa Creech stated Jim Ragle requested her to stay on as their liaison. David Sorokoty volunteered to be the liaison for the Police Department. David Drake said Fire was fine for him.

Patrick Stoffers requested a motion to appoint the 2004 liaisons. Lisa Creech made a motion that David Drake be the liaison for Fire, David Sorokoty be the liaison for Police, that she be the liaison for Street and that Phil Rogers be the liaison for Utilities. David Drake seconded. Motion carried.

2004 Liaisons

Police Department – David Sorokoty

Fire Department – David Drake

Utilities Department – Phil Rogers

Street Department – Lisa Creech

Lisa Creech volunteered to continue to serve as the Health and Safety Officer. Phil Rogers volunteered to serve as the Grievance Officer.

Patrick Stoffers asked for a motion. David Drake made a motion that Lisa Creech be appointed as Health and Safety Officer and Phil Rogers be appointed as Grievance Officer. David Sorokoty seconded. Motion carried.

2004 Health and Safety Officer – Lisa Creech

2004 Grievance Officer – Phil Rogers

Lisa Creech commented that once the Zoning Administrator is in place the responsibilities of the Health and Safety Officer should be meshed into that position.

Sandra Hash agreed. Many of the complaint calls were health and safety issues connected to planning and zoning problems. Lisa added if she, as the Health and Safety Officer, finds or is informed about a complaint and the citizen disagrees with the reprimand and wants a hearing then she gets to sit on the Board and review the same complaint, then it is not fair to the citizen to have the same person review the complaint twice.

Patrick Stoffers asked where the Council was at in the job development stage for the Zoning Administrator position. Lisa Creech stated that Ray Freetage was working on the description last year. She added they have a basic job description now and \$16,000 from Bill Land's contract, \$11,000 from the former Administrative Assistant position and \$11,000 for a Zoning Administrator budgeted for a total of \$38,000 to hire a Zoning Administrator.

Lisa reminded the Council of her previous recommendation to allow the Police Reserve Officers handle the parking complaints and write the violation tickets.

Sandra Hash urged the Council to start a ticketing process for weed and grass complaints as well.

Sandra Hash also mentioned a complaint that was called into the office by an elderly gentleman. She stated when Sale Street added the turn lane on to Hwy. 46 the Town lost two ten minute parking spaces. There is no parking available for the Post Office unless a person uses one of the Library spaces, Bigfoot or one of the two hour spots is open across from the Post Office. Jack Neal, a Smithville Telephone Co. employee who deposits all of their mail also has mentioned this is a problem and has requested the entire block from Temperance Street to Vine Street be made ten minute only parking spaces. Jack told Sandra the residents of the apartments across from the Post Office had adequate parking in the rear of the building but often parked out front all day. David Sorokoty mentioned the Post Office should and in fact may be considering relocating because their contract for that location will be up next year. They discussed this further saying the road wasn't wide enough to add parking on the Post Office side of the street. Phil Rogers suggested Jack speak with the Post Master Clint Sherrill about unloading the large amounts of mail he brings at the back door of the Post Office. David Drake said he wasn't opposed to making the entire block ten or twenty minute parking spaces if the apartment residents in fact had adequate parking spaces in the back.

Lisa Creech brought up the fact that there aren't any handicapped spaces available for these areas.

Patrick Stoffers requested the complaint and concerns just mentioned be written down for further consideration.

David Drake congratulated and welcomed Pat Stoffers and Phil Rogers to the Board.

David Sorokoty thanked the Street and Utilities Departments for their work during the heavy rains and flooding on Sunday and during the holidays. He added the Town survived the flooding well this time. He suggested the Council should request another study by the DNR to remove some of the residents from the flood plain diagrams to help lower the homeowners' insurance rates.

Jim Ragle questioned the ownership of the CSX railroad lot where the old depot was located near the Main Street Bridge. Currently we maintain it but we need to find out about obtaining official ownership of the property.

Lisa Creech stated there will be a meeting at the Library on January 29th, 2004 at 6:00 p. m. about the closing of Campbell's Park Drive (Hartstraight Road). Bill Williams, Vi Simpson and INDOT officials are planning on attending the meeting. Traffic has increased in residential areas due to the closing and she mentioned they need to consider making the intersection of First and Ritter Streets a 4-way stop to help prevent accidents. Jim Ragle suggested a car count study and an accident count prior to converting the intersection.

David Sorokoty stated that Diane Critchlow had written him requesting someone be appointed to the Ellettsville Area Economic Development Board from the Council. He commented he would like to be on this Board. Pat Stoffers asked for a motion. David Drake made a motion to appoint David Sorokoty to the Ellettsville Area Economic Development Corporation. Lisa Creech seconded. Motion carried.

Sandra Hash commented Jeana Kapczynski inquired about the house on Main Street that the Town owns. Stating it would be a good location for the Chamber of Commerce. She also mentioned that the Robinson’s, the owners of the Eagles Nest offered their library meeting room (in Old Elementary School) at no charge for a Council Meeting if the Council opts to have a traveling agenda again this year. She informed the Council she and Phil Rogers would be attending an IACT Conference for newly elected officials training on January 15th and 16th, 2004 in Indianapolis.

Adjournment

Patrick Stoffers asked for a motion to adjourn. David Sorokoty made a motion to adjourn. Phil Rogers seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Patrick Stoffers, President

David Drake, Vice President

Lisa Combs-Creech

Phillip D. Rogers

David Sorokoty

Sandra C. Hash, Clerk-Treasurer