

**TOWN OF NEW CHICAGO**  
122 Huber Blvd  
Hobart, IN 46342  
Phone 219-962-1157 Fax 219-962-5386

**January 12, 2022**

**Town Council Meeting**

6:00 pm

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to Order by the Clerk Treasurer with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Member Anderson	present
Member Gibson	present
Member Grecco	present
Member Swallow	present
Member Szwedo	present

Reorganization:

A. Town Council President

Member Swallow nominated Member Szwedo for President, seconded by Member Anderson. There were no other nominations.

Role Call vote:

Member Anderson	yea
Member Gibson	yea
Member Grecco	yea
Member Swallow	yea
Member Szwedo	yea

Appointments:

- A. Council Vice-President: Jim Gibson
- B. Town Attorney: Lloyd Mullen
- C. Water & Sewer Attorney: Robert Peters
- D. Town Manager Sue Pelfrey
- E. Liasons
  - a. Police Jim Gibson
  - b. Fire Brenda Swallow
  - c. Park Dave Anderson
  - d. Streets Sharon Szwedo
  - e. Sewer Roxanne Grecco

- F. Police Chief: Bob Senzina
- G. Fire Chief: Joe Eakins
- H. E-911 Coordinator: Joe Eakins
- I. Police Commission
  - a. Joan Horn
  - b. John Krikava
  - c. Tony Martin
- J. Park Board
  - a. Joe Bachman, President
  - b. Trey Bachman
  - c. Kim Krikava
  - d. Morgan McCabe
- K. Planning Commission
  - a. Joe Bachman
  - b. John Krikava
  - c. Jory Mathews
  - d. Dave Anderson
  - e. Sharon Szwedo
  - f. Alicia Barber, Advisor
- L. Solid Waste: Brenda Swallow
- M. NIRPC:
  - a. Sue Pelfrey
  - b. Sharon Szwedo
- N. Inspectors
  - a. Building: Brad Rivera
  - b. Electrical: Lou Miazga
  - c. Plumbing: William Shearer
- O. Water Manager: Alicia Barber
- P. MS4 Coordinator: Alicia Barber
- Q. Flood Plain Administrator: Alicia Barber
- R. ADA Coordinator: Alicia Barber
- S. L-TAP Coordinator: Alicia Barber
- T. Street Superintendent: Alicia Barber
- U. Title VI Coordinator: Alicia Barber
- V. NISWAG: Alicia Barber
- W. Indiana Association for Flood & Storm Water Management: Alicia Barber
- X. Sanitation & Sewer Operator: Alicia Barber
- Y. OSHA Safety Representative: Alicia Barber

Minutes:

Member Swallow made motion to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2021 meeting, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Member Anderson made motion to approve the minutes from the December 29, 2021 meeting, seconded by Vice-President Gibson; motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills:

Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve the bills, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.

Fund & Appropriation Reports:

Member Anderson made motion to accept the Fund & Appropriation reports, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- A. DWSRF Request for Payment #5 to Abonmarche for \$2,000: Member Swallow made motion to approve, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- B. All members of the Council signed the Nepotism Certification.

Ordinances:

- A. Ordinance 2022-01, an ordinance reaffirming the hydrant fees charged (\$300 annually for each municipal and each private hydrant). Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- B. Ordinance 2022-02, an ordinance reaffirming the Water Works fees charged for service call (\$30), shut off non-payment (\$30), NSF check (\$35) and meter pull (\$60). Member Swallow made motion to approve, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- C. Ordinance 2022-03, an ordinance reaffirming the fees collected by the police department: VIN check (\$5), salvage VIN check (\$40), tows (\$80), incident report (\$10) and accident report (\$15). Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.

Departments:

Police

- Chief Senzina stated the police had 266 calls for service, 55 citations, of which 51 were local ordinances and 4 state tickets.
- Officers Drain and Olson resigned effective 1/09/2022 leaving the department with 1 paid officer and the rest reserve officers.

Fire:

- Chief Eakins stated the Fire Department has had 420 calls for service for 2021.
- Chief Eakins stated that they have 13 firefighters, 1 recently graduated from the State Fire Academy and 1 more is applying soon.
- Brad Rivera is now the Deputy Chief, Robert Coleman is the 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief, and Kevin Sowash has returned all of his firefighter equipment.

#### Town Manager

- On Christmas Day, Town Manager was contacted by State Senator Melton that they had 4 bicycles to give away. Town Manager went with them and were able to deliver 3 bicycles. One bicycle remains to be distributed.
- Senator Melton also contacted NIPSCO to see if they could help us in replacing our stolen wood chipper.
- Need to contact OSHA and complete paperwork for the year.

#### Parks Board:

- No meeting was held this month due to schedule conflicts.
- February's meeting will be held on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### Plan Commission – No report

#### Sewer – No report

#### Streets:

- Every street is 80% clear of slush and ice. Town does not typically plow on weekends or at night except for the main streets, hills, and intersections.
- White plow truck went down and is at Ebbert's waiting on parts for repair. Hoping to have it back on Friday, Ebbert's is donating a plow to us. Asked Ebbert's to look for a replacement for us for the white truck.
- Requesting permission to look for replacement for the White Town Truck. Member Swallow made motion to approve replacing the White Town Truck, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve all required 2022 schooling for Alicia, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

#### Sanitation:

- Some residents were missed last Friday and Total Disposal was out today picking up all missed residents.

#### Water:

- Requesting permission to purchase a 1-ton pickup for the water department as replacement for the broken down 1-ton at a price of \$29,000. Member Anderson made motion to approve, seconded by Vice-President Gibson; motion carried unanimously.
- Preconstruction meeting for the North Lake Park and Nob Hill water project has not been scheduled yet.
- The water tower is due for inspection this year. We currently have a contract with Pittsburg Tank & Tower to do the inspection.

Stormwater:

- Meeting in two weeks with a stormwater expert to finalize the plan for Dekalb/Liverpool/Fairview project.

New Business – None

Old Business - None

Legal Report

Lien was provided to Attorney Mullen for filing.

Announcements - None

Any Other Business to Come Before the Council – None

Open Forum

Batalis has filed bankruptcy. His bankruptcy will not be approved until he files taxes for 2016 through 2020.

Comments from Board Members - None

Vice-President Gibson made motion to Adjourn, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm

Signed,

Sharon Szwedo  
Town Council President

ATTEST:

Dorothy R Zimmer  
Clerk Treasurer