

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

**April 13 2022**

**Town Council Meeting**

6:00 pm

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to Order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our troops.

Roll Call:

Member Anderson	present
Vice-President Gibson	present
Member Grecco	present
Member Swallow	present
President Szwedo	present

Minutes:

Member Swallow made motion to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2022 meeting, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Member Anderson made motion to approve the minutes from the April 4 25, 2022 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 for March, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- A. DWSRF Request for Payment #7 to Abonmarche for \$34,000 and #8 to Abonmarche for \$6000 (Request #7 was previously approved, however, there was a problem with the bank for Abonmarche and the payment was rejected): Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

- B. AIM – Clerk Treasurer received information regarding the upcoming Virtual Clerk-Treasurers School (held on 5/20/2022) & 2022 Budget e-Workshops (held on 5/16/2022) with the cost being \$100.00. Member Swallow made motion to approve Clerk Treasurer attending the virtual workshops, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- C. Fire Apparatus Service Inc – received a quote for a new lightbar for the Fire Rescue vehicle. Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- D. Rieth-Riley Construction submitted their 2022 Price List

Ordinances:

- A. Ordinance 2022-05 – Re-establishment of CCD (2<sup>nd</sup> reading) roll call vote:
 

Member Anderson	aye	
Vice-President Gibson	aye	
Member Grecco	aye	
Member Swallow		nay
President Szwedo	aye	

Vice-President Gibson made motion to suspend the rules, seconded by President Szwedo; roll call vote:

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Member Anderson       | yea |
| Vice-President Gibson | yea |
| Member Grecco         | yea |
| Member Swallow        | yea |
| President Szwedo      | yea |

Ordinance 2022-05 – Re-establishment of CCD (final reading), roll call vote:

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Member Anderson       | yea |
| Vice-President Gibson | yea |
| Member Grecco         | yea |
| Member Swallow        | nay |
| President Szwedo      | yea |

- B. Ordinance 2022-07 – Increase the monthly garbage & recycling rates to \$18.00 (first reading). Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- C. Ordinance 2022-08 – ARPA Funds designated to be used as Revenue Replacement coinciding with the Final Rule for ARPA. Member Swallow made motion to approve, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Departments:

Police

- Chief Senzina stated the police had 142 citations, of which 126 were local ordinances, and 16 were state violations.

- Town Manager presented Chief Sensina with a plaque in recognition of his time to the New Chicago Police Department these past six (6) months.
- Mark Needham was introduced. Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve Mark Needham as the new Police Chief, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.
- Mark Needham will be shadowing Chief Sensina for the next two (2) weeks.

#### Fire

- Fire Department currently has 15 active fire fighters.
- Fire Department has had 112 calls for service this year.

#### Town Manager

- Town Manager and Water Manager attended a session at Indiana University Northwest to learn about opportunities to help us with 71 parcels that are currently on tax sale and have been for years. We will be responsible for developing a master plan as a first step.

#### Parks Board:

- Park Board would like to thank the Street Department for picking up all the leaves after the Park clean-up.
- Park Board would like to thank all those that participated in the Park clean-up and those that helped with the stuffing of eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 10:00 am. The Fire truck will bring the Easter Bunny to the park at 9:30 am.
- Park Board has scheduled a Rummage in the Park event to be held on Saturday, June 4, 2022, with a rain date of June 5, 2022. Cost for a 10' x 10' space is \$15 per resident, \$20 per non-resident. If requesting a double space (20' x 10'), cost is \$25 per resident and \$30 per non-resident.
- Trash can replacement has been completed.
- Park Board received three (3) quotes for landscaping for parks and they have selected Peter Moss.
- Park Board is waiting on quotes for a new sign for the Snack Shack.
- Hobart Township worker will bring bucket truck to restring flag poles at the Park and at Town Hall in early May.
- Park Board received a new quote from A/C Low Voltage for 2 license plate readers at Twin Oaks Park of approximately \$992.20. Member Anderson made motion to approve, seconded by Vice-President Gibson; motion passed unanimously.
- Park Board requesting permission to purchase a power washer for the park. Member Swallow made motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- Proposed projects for the Park this year:
  - Public Space Mural – Park Member McCabe will be submitting to the Legacy Foundation to see if grant funds are available for the project.

Member Anderson made motion to approve use of Innkeeper’s Tax funds, if necessary, along with whatever grant funds are awarded, seconded by Member Swallow; motion passed unanimously.

- Shakespeare in the Park – Park Member McCabe has arranged for it to occur at Twin Oaks Park on August 7, 2022. Member Swallow made motion to approve this project, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

#### Plan Commission

- Mr. Fazekas received approval for a swimming pool

#### Sewer – No report

#### Streets:

- Pre-construction meeting for CCMG project was held. The stormwater work at Ohio St will be completed first and then the paving of roads.
- Asphalt plants are open. As weather and time permits, utility workers will obtain hotpatch and repair roads.
- Street Signs have been stolen and one stop sign was run down.

#### Sanitation – No report

#### Water – No report

#### Stormwater – No report

#### New Business - None

#### Old Business

REACH Alert – Legacy Foundation approve a grant for Town of New Chicago to obtain and pay for the REACH Alert System for 2 years. Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve the REACH Alert System, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

#### Legal Report

Attorney Mullen thanked Chief Senzina for his service to the Town, will miss him, and looking forward to working with Chief Needham.

#### Announcements - None

#### Any Other Business to Come Before the Council – None

#### Open Forum

Ken Cawthon (K C Bar & Grill) was recognized. He is in the process of purchasing the property on Michigan St, formerly known as the Dari-Maid. His plans are to put in a sandwich and pizza shop with specials to target the youth in the area.

Park Board President Bachman was recognized. He has set up email for the Town on hosting site that has our website. The email is free. He will be contacting each individual and giving them instructions on how to access their mail.

Water Manager mentioned that the Public Works Building has begun to settle and there are obvious cracks revealing. Would like permission to obtain some sheet rock, tape, and paint to make those repairs. Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Board Members – None

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szvedo  
Town Council President

ATTEST:

Dorothy R Zimmer  
Clerk Treasurer