



TOWN OF NEW CHICAGO

122 Huber Blvd

Hobart, IN 46342

Telephone: (219)962-1157 Fax: (219)962-5386

January 11, 2023

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 Anderson nominated Member Szwedo for President, seconded by Member Gibson. 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. Administrative Police Chief: Wayne James
- G. Operational Police Chief: Earl Mayo
- H. Fire Chief: Joe Eakins
- I. E-911 Coordinator: Joe Eakins
- J. Police Commission
 - a. Tara Pelfrey
 - b. John Krikava
 - c. Tony Martin
- K. Park Board
 - a. Joe Bachman, President
 - b. Trey Bachman
 - c. Kim Krikava
 - d. Morgan McCabe
- L. Planning Commission
 - a. Joe Bachman
 - b. John Krikava
 - c. Jory Mathews
 - d. Dave Anderson
 - e. Sharon Szwedo
- M. Solid Waste: Brenda Swallow
- N. NIRPC:
 - a. Sue Pelfrey
 - b. Sharon Szwedo
- O. Inspectors
 - a. Building: John Krikava
 - b. Electrical: Lou Miazga
 - c. Plumbing: William Shearer
- P. MS4 Coordinator: Sharon Szwedo
- Q. Flood Plain Administrator:
- R. ADA Coordinator: Joe Bachman
- S. L-TAP Coordinator:
- T. Street Superintendent:
- U. Title VI Coordinator:
- V. NISWAG:
- W. Indiana Association for Flood & Storm Water Management:
- X. Sanitation & Sewer Operator:
- Y. OSHA Safety Representative: Robert George

Attorney General: John Cannon from the Attorney General's office requested an audience with the Council to share information his office is doing to help citizens with Medicaid fraud, Recalls, Robo calls, Unclaimed Funds, Identity Theft, and How to Avoid a Scam. He left lots of brochures and business cards for disbursement to the public.

Minutes:

Member Grecco made motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2022 (Public Hearing and Scheduled Meeting), and December 28, 2022(Public Meeting and Scheduled Meeting), seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously

Payment of Bills:

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

Fund & Appropriation Reports:

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

Correspondence

- A. Nepotism Annual Certification – all member of the Town Council completed the Nepotism Annual Certification.
- B. Clerk Treasurer, in training – After lengthy discussion by all members of the Council, Town Manager and Clerk Treasurer, it was agreed that the Clerk Treasurer in training would be paid from the ARPA and Water Funds. Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve, seconded by Member Grecco; motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances:

- A. Ordinance 2023-01 (Reaffirmation of Hydrant Fees). Member Swallow made motion to approve, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- B. Ordinance 2023-02 (Reaffirmation of Water Works Fees). Member Grecco made motion to approve, seconded by Vice-President Gibson; motion carried unanimously.
- C. Ordinance 2023-03 (Reaffirmation of Police Department Fees). Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions:

- A. Resolution 2023-01 Establishment of a Special Project Fund. This Fund is intended for the repair of 37th Avenue and allow a place for money to be set aside to meet the funding requirements. Member Grecco made motion to approve, seconded by Member Swallow; motion passed unanimously.

Departments:

Police

- There were 178 tickets written.
- There were 30 tows.
- There were 35 Salvage VIN checks.
- Flock cameras have been ordered with a 30-day trial period. Each Flock camera is \$2500 annually. Police would pay for 2, Fire 1, Park 1, River Forest School 1, and Luke Station 1.
- New tasers are to be purchased, not leased. The current tasers are on a 5 year lease. By purchasing the new tasers, the dealer will reduce the lease of the current tasers by one year and we will own all of them. The new tasers will be 10 tasers at a cost of \$7500 annually. Vice-President Gibson made motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- Officers Mathews and Bunyon signed contracts to attend the Law Enforcement Academy. Need the Council's signature and then Clerk Treasurer to notarize.
- Chief would like to offer Officer Lunn and Officer Kennedy paid spots. Lunn is currently signed up to go to the Academy in May. Member Anderson made motion to approve the two paid spots, seconded by Vice-President Gibson; motion carried unanimously.

Fire

- Chief thanked President Szwedo to the appointment.

Town Manager

- Town Manager and President Szwedo attended the NIRPC meeting regarding 37th Avenue. The project for Hobart, Lake Station, and New Chicago has not changed position.
- Town Manager spoke with Lake County Council Member Charlie Brown regarding a request for additional funding and Charlie Brown said he was able to provide assistance of \$200,000.

Parks Board:

- Park Board is creating a 5-year draft Master plan to send to the DNR. Survey for the public is available on the website for input. The master plan must be completed by 4/15 in order to be eligible for grants.
- Park Board has started working on the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Rummage in the Park is scheduled for 6/3/2023.
- Shakespeare in the Park is scheduled for 7/28/2023.
- Park Board is continuing to work with the American Legion for opportunities to use their building.
- Charlotte's Web reading was well received.
- Park Board is looking to create some cornhole pits and possibly establish some tournaments.

Plan Commission – No report

Sewer – No report

Streets

- Cold patch was applied today to pot holes.

Sanitation – No report

Water – No report

Stormwater - No report

New Business - None

Old Business

There will be a Food Drive on 2/1/2023 at 11:00. Please put notes on the sign and reach alert.

Legal Report

Attorney Mullens intends to file lawsuit against Officer Jacquez for breach of contract. We should be able to recoup his salary, mileage, and other expenditures.

Lien requested by the Town Manager has not been filed yet.

Announcements - None

Other Business to Come Before the Council

Coffee with a Cop will be held on January 28, 2023 from 12:00-2:00. Please put on the sign and reach alert.

Open Forum

Comments from Board Members - None

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szwedo
Town Council President

ATTEST:

Dorothy R Zimmer
Clerk Treasurer