

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

March 9, 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 Anderson made motion to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2022 meeting, seconded by Vice-President Gibson; motion carried unanimously.

Member Swallow made motion to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2022 meeting, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills:

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

Fund & Appropriation Reports:

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

Correspondence:

- A. DWSRF Request for Payment #7 to Abonmarche for \$34,000: Member Anderson made motion to approve, seconded by Vice-President Gibson; motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances

- A. Ordinance 2022-06 – Town Manager as Legal Signatory. Roll call vote as follows:
- | | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Member Anderson | aye |
| Vice-President Gibson | aye |
| Member Grecco | aye |
| Member Swallow | aye |
| President Szwedo | aye |
- B. Ordinance 2022-05 – Re-establishment of CCD (first reading).
- C. Ordinance 2008-07 Amendment – Decrease in park rental rates. Member Swallow made motion to approve, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Departments:

Police

- Chief Senzina stated the police had 74 citations, of which 71 were local ordinances, 3 were state violations and 18 were warning tickets.
- Four (4) new reserve officers were sworn in at the meeting.

Fire – No report

Town Manager

- Town of Merrillville loaned a rescue truck to Town of New Chicago while our rescue truck is being repaired.
- We received \$10,000 from county commissioners toward the purchase of a new chipper.
- Town Manager and Water Manager will be attending a one-day training event at IUN regarding properties on tax sale, applying for credits and developing a 10 (ten) year plan.

Parks Board:

- Twin Oaks Park clean-up is scheduled for April 9, 2022 at 11:00 am.
- On Tuesday, April 12, 2022, park members will meet in the Town Hall to fill eggs at 6:00 pm, all extra hands are welcome. Tara Pelfrey has already volunteered to help.
- Park Board members have contacted River Forest as well as other schools to see if anyone needs community service hours and can help at the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Park Board is planning to have a Rummage in the Park, approximately June 4, 2022 or June 5, 2022. They are also reaching out to Food Trucks to see if they would like to participate.
- Park is ready to have the new garbage cans ordered and delivered as well as those from Total Disposal for Tot and Teeter Wallace parks.
- Northwest Indiana Times will allow the park to add events at no charge.

- Flags at the park need to be replaced. Park Board President will check to see what is already on hand and then let the Clerk Treasurer know so new ones can be ordered.
- Basketball nets will be replaced next week.
- Dumpster at Twin Oaks Park has been moved and A/C Low Voltage has been contacted to move the camera so that anyone dumping at the park can be better identified.

Plan Commission – No report

Sewer – No report

Streets:

- Hobart, Lake Station, County, and New Chicago utility workers all worked together to patch 37th Avenue from I-65 to North Lake Park Avenue. Approximately 98% of the road was fixed.
- Street Superintendent has made a list of holes within the Town that are in need to repair.

Sanitation

- Town is back to alley pick-up for garbage.
- There was a major malfunction with a sanitation truck on North Lake Park and luckily our Street Superintendent had sand readily available to take to them for the hydraulic fluid spill.

Water:

- There have been many main breaks in the past month. One of the breaks required the Water Manager to drive to Peru, Indiana to obtain parts to fix the main break because no parts were available locally.
- Resident in Nob Hill takes pride in keeping her property pristine. This same resident refuses to allow anyone on the property. Water manager is concerned that when the water lines are replaced, if we aren't allowed on the property, she will not have any water and Water manager does not believe that the resident understands this.

Stormwater:

- Milestone was awarded the contract that will repair portions of roads as well as replace the storm drain at Ohio.

New Business

Current sanitation rates are not enough to cover the cost. The grant from Lake County Solid Waste has been used to supplement, but there will not be enough money in that grant to pay the sanitation rates through the end of the year. Member Anderson made motion to increase

the sanitation rates from \$16.00 per unit per month to \$18.00 per unit per month, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously. Clerk to write Ordinance for next meeting.

Old Business

REACH Alert – Park would like to contribute towards the cost of using the REACH Alert system. Park Board member is going to check with the Legacy Foundation because they give grants for project like this.

Legal Report – No report

Announcements - None

Any Other Business to Come Before the Council – None

Open Forum

The new Recycling truck will not fit in our alleys when there is snow and ice. It may not be an issue now with the warmer weather. Town Manager will ask Ben at Total Disposal when he comes into the office next.

Comments from Board Members

By next month's meeting, Council President asked that Council members police their ward and write down any address with garbage.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szvedo
Town Council President

ATTEST:

Dorothy R Zimmer
Clerk Treasurer