



TOWN OF NEW CHICAGO

122 Huber Blvd

Hobart, IN 46342

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

May 8, 2024

Town Council Meeting

6:00 pm

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to Order with the Pledge of Allegiance and 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 April 10, 2024 Meeting, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills:

Member Anderson made motion to approve the April 2024 bills, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence/Clerk Treasurer

- President Szwedo recognized Tom Brown to speak to review proposed coverage and rates for town. Member Anderson made motion to approve the Account Insurance with HCC & Non-Monetary Defense, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- The Clerk Treasurer stated the contract for Community Crossings was received today.

Ordinances - None.

Resolutions – None.

Departments:

Police

- For the month of April there were 533 stops, 231 citations, 121 were local ordinances and 51 were tows.
- Five Police Officers completed Swat School. The Police Department has had four activations in Town since completing Swat School.
- Emergency calls have increased by 38% in the last year.
- The vehicles have been in for routine maintenance; everything is covered under warranty except for the routine maintenance.
- The Police Academy is changing standards to include an EVOC Course.
- The Police Officers are trying out Body Cameras. In the year 2025 every Police Agency will be required to wear Body Cameras.
- The New Chicago Police Department is hosting a Sneaker Ball on June 1, 2024. The event will be held at Rosser Hall.
- New Chicago Police received a donation from a Federal Agency of 15 firearms that were no longer in use by the Federal Agency. The Police Chief signed a statement that NCPD received the firearms.

Fire

- The Fire Chief was not present; The Town Council President spoke for the Fire Chief.
- The New Chicago Fire Chief stated that 2 firemen were relieved of duty.
- The air tanks that the firemen wear on their backs; have been inspected. The air tanks passed the annual inspection by OSHA.

Town Manager

- The Town Manager and other poll workers worked election all day yesterday.
- Officer Abrams that worked for NCPD previously passed away. The Police Chief is presenting a shadow box to the officer's spouse at the viewing.

Parks Board

- The monthly Park Board meeting was rescheduled due to the Election on May 7, 2024. The meeting has been scheduled for May 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm. June and July meetings are being rescheduled to June 5, 2024 and July 3, 2024 at 6:00 pm. The rescheduling of the meetings will be advertised in the newspaper.
- As of today, Parks has canceled Rummage in The Park, Farmer's Market and the Food Trucks because of low participation.
- The Parks Board is looking at allowing businesses to advertise on the fence around Twin Oaks Park for a fee.

Plan Commission

- The individual requesting to open a Food Trailer met again with the Plan Commission. The certified letters to surrounding property owners were sent as instructed by the Plan Commission. The Plan Commission is still waiting on the survey of the property.
- The other two business owners that were scheduled to meet with the Plan Commission did not show.

Sewer

- Lake Station had a power surge which created a problem with New Chicago's sewer system. The meter kept spinning; the Utility Foreman for New Chicago called Lake Station to fix it. The City of Lake Station will need to amend the Sewer Bill that is sent to the Town of New Chicago.

Streets

- Patching was done on the streets.
- The utility workers are done picking up leaves; they are now picking up branches.

Sanitation – None.

Water

- There was a main break at the end of Harrison and west of Indiana in the woods. The utility workers had to take the four-wheeler from garage to take equipment to it because of swamp and woods. The main break was fixed with the help of a worker from H&G Underground. A 22-foot pipe was installed. Later this summer the workers still have to go back to work on the connection

Stormwater

- The utility workers have been checking the stormwater drains and cleaning them.
- The Town Manager, MS4 Coordinator and Assistant Utility Foreman went to the IFA Annual Mandatory Meeting.
- The MS4 Coordinator will be attending the Annual MS4 Conference in Plainfield.
- Friday morning the MS4 Coordinator and Assistant Utility Foreman are attending a training for AWWA.

Old Business – None.

New Business – None.

Legal Report

- The fee for Salvage Vin Checks must be changed. The Town Attorney will work on amending the Ordinance to reflect the fee. The fee will be reduced. The decrease in fees will be advertised. Member Anderson made motion to approve decrease in Salvage Vin Check Fees; seconded by Member Swallow; motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

- None.

Other Business to Come Before the Council – None.

Open Forum

- A water customer came before the Council to speak about a water bill and previous water bills. The utility workers previously alerted this customer to the leak indicator spinning. The repairs by the customer have not been completed as to this date.

Comments from Board Members – None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szvedo
Town Council President

ATTEST:

Tammy L Bucko
Clerk Treasurer