



**TOWN OF NEW CHICAGO**

**122 Huber Blvd**

**Hobart, IN 46342**

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

**June 12, 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	absent
Member Grecco	present
Member Swallow	present
President Szwed	present

**Minutes:**

Member Swallow made motion to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2024 Meeting, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

**Payment of Bills:**

Member Anderson made motion to approve the May bills, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.

**Fund & Appropriation Reports:**

Member Grecco made motion to approve May Fund & Appropriation Reports; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence/Clerk Treasurer**

- The Clerk Treasurer thanked the Town Council for approving pay for a new clerk in the water office.
- June 4, 2024 The Town of New Chicago purchased 3 lots of land on 123 Tyler Street.

- A representative from Abonmarche presented bids to the Town Council for the 2024 Community Crossings Matching Grant Call 1. Reith Riley presented the lowest bid. Member Swallow made a motion to approve acceptance of Reith Riley’s bid; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- The contract will be sent out and Abonmarche will contact the Town of New Chicago to schedule a Pre-Construction Meeting.

Ordinances:

- Ordinance 2024-08 - An Ordinance Regulating Storage Containers as Accessory Buildings – Member Swallow made motion to approve Ordinance 2024-08; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- Ordinance 2024-07 - Feeding Wild Animals is Prohibited. Violation will result in a \$100.00 fine. Member Anderson made motion to approve Ordinance 2024-07; seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions – None.

Departments:

Police

- For the month of May there were 214 citations, 126 were local ordinances and 37 were tows.
- Police Chief congratulated Police Officers for successful arrest rate, writing reports and following up for crimes committed in Town.
- The Police Chief asked the Town Council for permission to sample new routers from Verizon because the current MiFi’s are burning out and not getting a good signal. There are two options. The first option is \$500.00 per car; the second option is \$300.00 per car. Member Grecco made a motion to approve sampling for both options; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- The Police Chief requested permission from the Town Council to purchase Ballistic Shields & Rams. The money for purchase will be taken from the Public Safety Fund. Member Grecco made motion to approve the purchase of both; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Fire

- There were 154 calls for Emergency Service.
- As of today, the Fire Department has not received information about the Lake Station 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. The New Chicago Fire Department plans to participate in the parade.
- The Fire Chief stated that two firefighters had to be terminated from service.
- The Fire Chief stated the defibrillators will be ordered soon. The Hobart Township Trustees Office stated the office will make a donation to the New Chicago Fire Department this year towards the purchase of the defibrillators.
- The Fire Chief thanked the Town Council for their support.

#### Town Manager

- The Town Manager received a quote to take the tower down. The Town Attorney will review the quote. The amount quoted is \$30,000.00. Member Anderson made a motion to approve the quote once the quote is approved by the Town Attorney; seconded by Member Swallow; the motion carried unanimously.

#### Parks Board

- The Lunch and Learn Program is going great. There is an activity every day. Last week there were 136 attendees.
- The Parks Board ordered four signs. Two of the signs state No Swimming/Diving from the bridge; the other two state No Feeding Wildlife.
- Shakespeare in the Park will be July 27, 2024 at 7:00pm at Twin Oaks Park. The Parks Department is going to try to have the Historical Fencing Guild at the event again this year.
- The Parks Department is moving forward on figuring out pricing for businesses to advertise on banners on the fence around Twin Oaks Park.
- Both basketball hoops have been repaired at the park.
- The Parks Board is moving forward towards getting a new Snack Shack. The Water Department and the Parks Department will enter an Interlocal Agreement for Water to help financially. The Parks Department will pay Water back when the Parks Department receives the money back from Lake County.
- A tree fell on the fence at Tot Park; a tree also fell at Twin Oaks Park.

#### Plan Commission

- The Plan Commission met with the owner for the food truck that the individual wants to open on Michigan Street. The food truck is approved pending it passes inspection by the Lake County Health Department.

#### Sewer

- Lake Station sent the Tru-Up Fee that was received from Gary.

Streets – None.

Sanitation – None.

#### Water

- The Utility Foreman received a new grant for the lead lines in the amount of \$50,000.00.
- The CCR Reports are finished.
- The water fee increase in the computer system has been installed.

Stormwater

- The utility workers are chipping every week.

Old Business – None.

New Business – None.

Legal Report

- The Town Attorney spoke with the Utility Supervisor about adding into the Building Permits that there is a time limit to clean up trash and debris from new construction.

Announcements

- The storage box is gone from the American Legion.

Other Business to Come Before the Council – None.

Open Forum

Comments from Board Members – None.

Member Swallow made motion to Adjourn, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szwedo  
Town Council President

ATTEST:

Tammy L Bucko  
Clerk Treasurer