



TOWN OF NEW CHICAGO

122 Huber Blvd

Hobart, IN 46342

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

September 11, 2024

Town Council Meeting

6:00 pm

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to Order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

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

Minutes:

Member Swallow made motion to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2024 Meeting, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills:

Vice President Gibson made motion to approve the August 2024 bills, seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.

Fund & Appropriation Reports:

Member Anderson made motion to approve August 2024 Fund & Appropriation Reports; seconded by Vice President Gibson; motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence/Clerk Treasurer

- Public Hearing is set for October 2, 2024 at 10:00am for the Budget. The Budget Adoption Hearing is set for October 16, 2024 at 10:00am.

- The Clerk Treasurer did state that an email was sent to INDOT regarding the money for the Community Crossings Grant; because it has not been received yet. INDOT replied the funding is still going through processing and will be transferred soon.
- Lake County Commissioner Allen presented a check in the amount of \$120,000.00 to the Police Chief for the purchase of 10 new radios.
- The Police Chief presented Lake County Commissioner Allen with the Key to the Town and a Police Appreciation Award for continued dedication and service to the New Chicago Police Department.
- Lake County Commissioner Allen was presented with The Fire Emergency Services award and thanked by the Fire Chief for his continued dedication and service to the New Chicago Fire Department.

Ordinances

- Ordinance 2024-09 (Salary Ordinance) – Increase in Salary – Section 4 Park & Recreation Fund – Maintenance Supervisor. Member Anderson made motion to approve; seconded by Member Swallow; motion passed unanimously.

Resolutions – None.

Departments:

Police

- Last Pre-Basic Course graduated today.
- The Police Chief thanked the Police Sargeant for 3 years of dedicated service. September 12, 2024 is the Sargeant’s last day. The Police Chief also wanted to the thank the Police Commander for his service and will be leaving the Police Department in a week.
- For the month of August there were 150 citations, 85 Local Ordinance violations and 25 tows.
- The Police Chief requested \$500.00 per Full Time Officers and \$200.00 per Reserve Officer which will be paid of the Tow Fund for equipment and uniform expenses. Vice President Gibson made motion to approve; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- The Police Chief requested Town Council’s approval to purchase the church at Michigan Street and Mckinley Street to use for the Town, Police and Fire Training facility. The church is on tax sale; the church is not in the church’s name. The property is in an individual’s name. Vice President Gibson made motion to approve; seconded by Member Anderson. Member Swallow opposed. Motion passed.

Fire – No Report.

Town Manager

- Next Tuesday September 17, 2024 Clean Communities will be at the Public Works Building at 10:00am to present awards to the Utility Foreman.
- Food Bank is September 25, 2024 at 11:00am at the Public Works Building.
- Trees fell in town last week; one of the trees is hanging by the light. No damage was done to the Flock Camera. A tree service came into Town to do work for residents and cut it for the Town at no charge. The homeowner was informed by the Police Chief that it is their responsibility.
- The Town Manager passed out copies of the new Town Hall for Council and meeting attendees to look at.

Parks Board

- The Park Board is moving forward with replacing the Snack Shack. The quote for the new building for electric & plumbing is \$42,000.00.
- There are currently 10 spots reserved for the Rummage/Craft Market this Saturday. Bay City Tacos Food Truck will also be there.
- Dark in the Park will be held October 18th, 19th & 20th. Admission to enter the event is \$5.00; \$3.00 will be donated to the Honor Society and \$2.00 will go to park; currently 30 students have volunteered to help at the event. Bay City Tacos will also be at the park to sell food during the event.
- Students attended the last Park Board Meeting to learn how public meetings are run.

Plan Commission

- S&J Snow Removal DbA S&J Lawn Care Services LLC was approved for a Business License. The company does Residential & Commercial work. Plan Commission asked for a motion to grant the license by the Town Council. Member Swallow made motion to approve; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Sewer

- This morning Hobart Sewer Line collapsed on Ridge Road by White Castle.

Streets – None.

Sanitation – None.

Water

- Frontier hit 2 service lines in Knob Hill. A bill was sent to Frontier from the Town.
- Carlisle bored through a service line. Carlisle was sent a bill for the employees to observe work being done.

Stormwater

- A Drywell will be put in by the New Chicago Fire Station. The Utility Foreman has the material except for the paving. MS4 will pay for the paving.

Old Business – None.

New Business - None.

Legal Report – None.

Announcements

- Switching providers for the Town Website & emails. Go Daddy is the current provider but is becoming too expensive a more cost- effective website is going to be used.
- The Tower is going to be taken down tomorrow. The Police will put notices out tonight for residents that live on the street about parking vehicles across the street. The Police will put 3 Horses out with No Parking by Police Order on them. The school has been notified to re-route buses.
- Abonmarche suggested that the Town move out of the Town Hall Building and into the school by the end of October.

Other Business to Come Before the Council – None.

Open Forum

Comments from Board Members – None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:48pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szvedo
Town Council President

ATTEST:
Tammy L Bucko
Clerk Treasurer