



TOWN OF NEW CHICAGO

122 Huber Blvd

Hobart, IN 46342

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October 9, 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	absent
Vice-President Gibson	present
Member Grecco	present
Member Swallow	present
President Szwedo	present

Minutes:

Member Swallow made motion to approve the minutes from the September 11 , 2024 Meeting, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills:

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

Fund & Appropriation Reports:

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

Correspondence/Clerk Treasurer

- Trick or Treat in the Town of New Chicago will be October 31, 2024 from 5:00pm-7:00pm.

Ordinances:

- Ordinance 2024-11 – Flood Prevention Ordinance. Member Swallow made motion to approve; seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions – None.

Departments:

Police

- For the month of September, the Police wrote 168 tickets, 116 were Local Ordinance violations, and 34 tows.
- The New Chicago Police Department was awarded a \$25,000.00 Traffic Grant.

Fire

- The New Chicago Fire Department had 250 calls for Emergency Service.
- The Fire Chief spoke with the Police Chief about bringing the fire trucks into the town garage to get ready for election day.

Town Manager

- The Town Manager, the President and Vice President of the Parks Board met with the President/CEO of the South Shore Convention Center. The South Shore will start advertising events in the Town of New Chicago on their website.
- The Town Manager attended a meeting yesterday for the lead lines. Representatives from Abonmarche will be knocking on doors in town and in the water system asking to come in to check the hook-ups inside the homes. The representatives will have identification on them to show residents.
- The Town Manager has been to River Forest High School trying to make sure there will be enough plugs in the classrooms. Help is needed for moving and packing. The Town Council President asked the Town Council to help. Town Hall will be closed on November 21st, 2024 and will re-open at River Forest High School on December 2, 2024. The Town Council President received 2 quotes from movers. Rays Movers quoted \$1,758.20 for 2 hours only. After the 2 hours the company will calculate every quarter of an hour. Indiana Movers quoted \$2,525.00 that is 4 movers for 6 hours. Indiana Movers will furnish boxes and bring dollies to help move. Council would like to get a few more quotes for movers. A/C Low Voltage will be moving electronics. The Town is waiting for a quote from A/C Low Voltage. Boxes that cannot be destroyed will be taken to the Public Works Building. The boxes of shred will be taken to the Pole Barn. The Clerk Treasurer requested that there is protection put in place for the Police Clerk once the move is made to the school.
- The Town of New Chicago will be setting up a meeting with the Hobart Mayor about renewal of the Emergency Services Contract for ambulance service.

Parks Board

- Notification was sent to residents for the lead lines.
- Playground equipment will be installed next week at Twin Oaks Park.
- The Parks Board is still waiting on a quote for the Snack Shack.
- Strack & VanTil is interested in purchasing a spot on the fence at Twin Oaks Park to advertise.
- Dark in the Park will be held October 18th – 20th from 6:30pm to 9:00pm. The student volunteers are doing a great job.
- The New Chicago Parks Board will be celebrating 55th year anniversary of Twin Oaks Park next year. The Parks Board was created in the year 1970.

Plan Commission – None.

Sewer – None

Streets

- Each Council person will go through their Ward and create a list of streets to find out which streets need to be blacktopped. January 2025 is the next Community Crossings Grant.

Sanitation – None.

Water

- As previously stated in the meeting the lead lines are being checked.
- The Firemen greased all of the hydrants.

Stormwater

- The utility workers are picking up branches and using leaf vac.

Old Business

- The Tower was taken down. The Utility Supervisor and Utility workers will clean the mess up tomorrow.

New Business

- The Clerk Treasurer stated the Police Chief's training was paid as stated in the Police Chief Contract on page 2.

Legal Report

- An officer previously employed with the Town of New Chicago is trying to sue the town.
- Meade Electric was stopped from working in town due to the fact that the company refuses to pay a bill for damage down in the Town of New Chicago for a previous job. The company's attorney failed to show up for a meeting with the Town Attorney.

- The Police Chief cannot transfer evidence to a different location until he meets with the Lake County Prosecuting Attorney.
- A letter will be sent to 3425 Michigan Street that the tree will be cut down.
- Frontier damaged New Chicago Water lines. They were sent an invoice for damage on September 3rd and September 9th. Frontier has not responded to these invoices. The Town Attorney is looking into this now.

Announcements

- A New Chicago Police Detective spoke in reference to salary and no benefits. The Town Manager will try to assist to apply for a grant to pay Police Officers more money; this is a 3-year grant. Morgan McCabe was appointed to be a Point of Contact for the Grant; Vice President Gibson made motion to approve the Point of Contact for the Grant; seconded by Member Swallow; motion carried unanimously.
- 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.

Other Business to Come Before the Council

- The Clerk Treasurer reminded the Town Council of upcoming Budget Adoption Hearing Wednesday October 16th at 10:00am; reminder texts will also be sent out.

Open Forum – None.

Comments from Board Members – None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szwedo
Town Council President

ATTEST:
Tammy L Bucko
Clerk Treasurer