



Town of Merrillville

Town Council Meeting Minutes (Amended)

July 26, 2022

6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: President Bella called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE: A brief invocation was given along with a moment of silence from Richard Augie of Impact Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by any veteran in attendance.

ROLL CALL – Roll Call was taken by Madam Clerk Treasurer White Gibson.

Present were: Vice-President Hardaway- (Ward 2)

Councilman Minchuk- (Ward 3)

Councilwoman Uzelac- (Ward 4)

Councilman White – (Ward 7)

Councilman Spann- (Ward 1)

Councilman Pettit- (Ward 6)

President Bella- (Ward 5)

Seven Present (7)

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

The Proclamation recognizing AHEPA Centennial Anniversary

- Engagement Letter from Robert W. Baird & Co. (Baird) to provide sole Book running managing underwriting or placement agent services to the Town Regarding the offering and issuance \$2,000,000.00 Tax Increment Revenue Bond Anticipation Note, Series 2022.

Councilman Pettit made a motion to approve the engagement letter, seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac.

- Letter from Town Engineering Administrator endorsing Core Construction’s recommendation to approve payment for Application #3 to various vendors for work completed at Merrillville Town Hall Conference Room.

Councilman Pettit made a motion to approve the letter from Town Engineering, seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac.

- Letter from Town Engineering Administrator endorsing Core Construction’s recommendation to approve payment for Application #28 to various vendors for work completed at the Merrillville Community Center.
 - Building Corporation/Redevelopment Commission MCC Requisition # 50; review and approval for payment.
 - Redevelopment Authority/Redevelopment Commission MCC Requisition #51 review and approval for payment.

Councilman Pettit made a motion to approve the letter from Town Engineering Administrator, seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac.

CONSENT AGENDA

Accts. Payable Register Voucher Approval for July 26, 2022

Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2022

Councilwoman Uzelac made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Vice-President Hardaway

Motion carried by voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET & FINANCE- HARDAWAY – Vice President Hardaway informed the council that starting the week of August 1, 2022 department heads will meet with Trista. There will be a schedule out by the end of the week.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS- PETTIT – No Report

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES- MINCHUK – Councilman Minchuk informed the council that he will be meeting with Director King and some of the Public Works staff prior to the next council meeting.

ELECTIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS, & TOWN BEAUTIFICATION-PETTIT- Councilman Pettit informed the council that there is a request from the Merrillville Corporation to wave permit fees.

Councilman Pettit made a motion to approve the 50% building permit fees, seconded by Vice-President Hardaway.

Motion carried by roll call vote 6-1 abstention.

Councilman Pettit informed the council that he received an invoice from Hubinger Landscape Corporation.

Councilman Pettit made a motion to approve Hubinger Landscape to take care of the planters on 93rd Ave, Seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac.

Motion Carried by roll call vote 7-0.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS- WHITE – Councilman White informed the council that there have been 68 new admitted cases in the local hospitals. There are also 140 new cases per day which is an increase by 38% from two weeks ago. Councilman White also stated that there is a 17% positive rate which is a 2 and half increase.

Councilwoman Uzelac also informed the council that the Covid-19 numbers are rising, that even President Joe Biden has Covid-19. Councilwoman Uzelac also stated that there is only 55% of America that is vaccinated.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS – HARDAWAY – Vice-President Hardaway informed the council that later on the agenda there is an Ordinance for the new Personnel Policy Manual. Vice-President Hardaway informed the council that HR Director Pettit is in the audience if anyone has questions on the manual.

PUBLIC SAFETY- MINCHUK- Councilman Minchuk informed the council that he wanted to thank the Merrillville Fire Department and the Merrillville Police Department. Councilman Minchuk stated both departments have shown up to lots of community events and have been working really hard throughout the community.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-PETTIT – Councilman Pettit informed the council that he would like to make a motion to purchase the real state via 7150 Broadway, seconded by Councilman Minchuk.

Councilman Pettit elaborated more towards the land purchase.

Motion carried by roll call vote 7-0.

PARKS & RECREATION- UZELAC- Councilwoman Uzelac informed the council that all parks are up to par. Councilwoman Uzelac also stated that Director Price and she have been in contact about an upcoming party at Rosenbaum Park.

ABANDONED -BLIGHTED PROPERTIES-HARDAWAY – No Report

DEAN & BARBARA WHITE COMMUNITY CENTER-MINCHUK & PETTIT – Councilman Pettit informed the council that there is a meeting scheduled Thursday July 28, 2022 at 4:00P.M. The meeting will be over to discuss the Boys & Girls Club after school program.