

WANATAH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
July 7th, 2022
6:30 pm

PRESENT: President Newburn, Councilman LaFoone, Councilman Cook, Councilman Oehmen, Councilman Mayo and Clerk/Treasurer Ebert.

GUESTS: Charles Mack, Charles Jonas, Commonwealth (Andrew & Gabrielle)

Call To Order:

President Newburn called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

Roll Call:

President Newburn-Here, Councilman Oehmen-Here, Councilman Cook-Here, Councilman Mayo-Here, Councilman LaFoone-Here. A quorum is present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Councilman LaFoone; Second by Councilman Cook to approve the minutes of June 2nd, 2022 Regular Meeting. Vote was taken, All Ayes. Minutes were approved as presented.

Officer's Reports

- Plan Commission – No Report
- BZA – No Report
- Traffic Commission – No Report
- Park Board – President Newburn reports that they had a meeting last month and will only have a meeting as needed for the next quarter.
- Animal Control – No Report.
- Building Commissioner – Councilman Mayo reports 3 Fence, 1 Driveway, 1 Remodel and 1 Pool. Totaling \$367.75.

Clerk's Office Reports

- Personnel Committee – No Report
- Facilities Coordinator – No Report
- NIRPC – No Report.
- Other – We received our June Tax Settlement in the amount of \$224,113.60.
 - Jack Serynek wanted to thank the town for putting up the new speed limit signs over on Legion Rd.

Public Works

- Chuck Jonas reported that Surf Air wants to come in a week and bore down by 5th Street to 1700. Given that the town is waiting on an Ordinance to make them liable for any damages that they accrue before they started their work, he wasn't sure what to do at this point.
 - Attorney Shoffner discussed that he can make an addendum to the Destruction Underground Facilities Act, better known as "DUFA" which would be a separate page to the permit, rather than to generate a new Ordinance. This would waive their rights to pursue the town if we went after them for damages. That they would be responsible for the damages. However he still wasn't sure if it would be enforceable but worth a shot. He has a draft going now and could produce it ASAP and the soonest would be Tuesday. When talking about locates, Attorney Shoffner asked if there was any tracer wires on our water and wastewater pipes, and Check Mack replied only about 10% has tracer wire.
 - Councilman Cook requested a "Moratorium" on ALL Boring in this town until this amended permit is in place and the financial liability lies with them.
 - A Motion by Councilman Mayo, Second by Councilman Cook to put a Moratorium on the town until the permit is in place. Vote was taken, All Ayes.
 - Chuck Mack reported the following: that he received notice from INDOT, that the overhead bridge on #421 would be closed for approximately a week. The state did

- not ask us to provide an alternate route and was concerned that Wanatah Rd. would be very busy. More than likely, they would put a barricade in LaCrosse by Route #8.
- The downtown parking lot had been sealed and striped
- The mixer had been installed and the inspection was done. Doesn't have any results yet as it takes 6-8 weeks to complete.
- He met with Commonwealth to discuss the Wastewater Treatment Plant and they discussed several options moving forward. He had the report and was willing to share it with anyone who was interested.

New Business

- 01-2022 Salary Ordinance Approval-roll call was taken, all ayes.
- URT-New Water Rate-Clerk Treasurer Ebert presented the new water rate per the Quick Calculation by Bakertilly for 1.40%. A Public Hearing was made known to the Council for 8/4/2022 at 6:15 PM.

Unfinished Business

- Commonwealth gave a presentation of their studies and findings for the Wastewater plant. Next step is to have Chuck Mack, Councilmen and anyone else who is interested to take a tour of a plant that mirrors what the town is wanting to replicate.

Financial Report and Claims Approval

- Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman LaFoone to approve the claims for Cook Electrical Testing (from previous month) as presented. Vote was taken. All Ayes.
- Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Oehmen to approve the claims as presented. Vote was taken. All Ayes.

Any Other Business to come before the Council

- Councilman Mayo shared concerns about the Town Hall HVAC unit, located in the attic, needing replaced. Motion to pursue a quote by Councilman Cook, Second by Councilman Mayo. All Ayes

Public Comment

- Councilman Cook gave a follow up in regards to Annie Flores and the poor condition of her yard. He reported that the grass in the back yard had not been mowed, vehicle is still up on a hydraulic jack, and that the several neighbors that he spoke to were complaining about the appearance of Ms. Flores yard. Attorney Shoffner reported that he sent her a certified letter on 6.23.22 and was signed on 6.30.22 by someone other than Ms. Flores. She has 10 days to comply with his letter, if not, on 7.11.22 he would be sending out another letter stating that the town would be stepping in. President Newburn requested from all Councilmen to check their wards for similar cases such as this and report back to him.

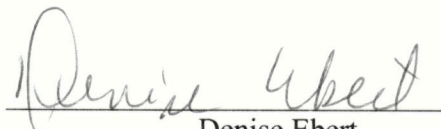
Adjournment

President Newburn asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Oehmen. A vote was taken.
All Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm

ATTEST:



Denise Ebert
Clerk-Treasurer

