



**May 14, 2019**  
**Town Hall – 7:00 p.m.**

## **Town Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Roll Call & Pledge of Allegiance**

- Council Members: Tom Strayer, Bryan Burney, Branden Williams, Barry Wood – Larry Longman arrived 7:05
- Employees: Tonya Galbraith, Paul Casey, Mark Witsman, Ryan Crum, Ron Crider
- Clerk-Treasurer Cathy Gardner
- Town Attorney Ariel Schoen

### **Approval of Minutes**

- Motion by Dr. Burney to approve the April 9, 2019 minutes. Wood. 4-0.

### **Clerk-Treasurer's Report**

- Posted on-line.

### **Police Report**

- Activity Report posted on-line.
- Officers will be participating in DWI training.
- The department received three “thank yous” for resolving the Traditions at Brookside case.
- All suspects in the Village Pantry robbery have been arrested.

### **Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners**

- Board President Mark Walker informed the Council that the three concerns the Council had regarding the school resource officer contract with McCordsville Elementary had been addressed in the new agreement.

### **Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation Superintendent Introduction**

- Dr. Jack Parker was introduced to the Council.
- Dr. Parker spoke about a commissioned demographic study of the area:
  - The school corporation expected to grow a couple thousand students in the next 10 years.
  - A long-term plan will be developed for the school corporation.
  - The school corporation would like a multi-month conversation with stakeholders in the community regarding opinions.
  - They are supportive of safe walkways to school for student.
  - They are supportive of working to keep cars from standing on the roads during drop off and pick up times.
  - They can provide the Town with information as to how TIFs affect their budget.



### Vernon Township Update

- Township Trustee Florence May and Fire Chief Todd Jordan spoke.
- The township provides fire and ambulance services.
- The township currently has funding challenges and is exploring options to remedy that.
- A fire territory may be created.
- A new station is being built in Fortville which is the Vernon Township Fire Station.
- There will be 15 paid part-time fire fighters.
- McCordsville Volunteer Fire Department owns its own station.
- The township owns the equipment that the McCordsville station uses.

### Zoey's Place Child Advocacy Center

- Det. Bridgette Foy, Hancock County Sheriff's Department, made the presentation.
- It is a 501c3 organization and its purpose is to find and maintain a location by which child advocacy professionals can come together at the same time to investigate child abuse, (sexual, physical, emotional, neglect) with the goal of doing it in a manner which is the least traumatizing to the child. They hope to expand this center to have a child advocate on staff who will walk the child through the entire process.
- Their current goal is \$50,000 from surrounding municipalities; they will also need funds for sustainability.
- They are looking for a location of about 1200 sq. ft. which can provide at least three separate rooms.
- This center would be utilized by other counties that do not have such a center.
- They are seeking donations and would like the Town to commit to an annual contribution.

### Drainage Board

- Motion by Mr. Williams to recess the town council meeting and convene the drainage board. Longman. 5-0.
- Viera Fence Request
  - Mr. Viera explained his property location and size. He is requesting a variance to allow him to keep his fence which currently encompasses his back yard which includes a drainage easement and storm drain. He wants to keep the fence which has been raised several inches in the area that crosses the drainage area to enable water to flow. His fence goes back 50' and the town limit for his yard, due to the easement, is 33'.
  - The town informed Mr. Viera that 33' was the limit. Mr. Viera had his fence installed to 50' and acknowledges he did it after being informed that 33' was the limit.
  - Mr. Viera requests that he be allowed to sign a waiver. He and Mrs. Viera stated that there are neighbors in the area whose have been granted such a waiver.
- Motion by Mr. Wood to vote on this application. Burney. 5-0.
- The Council vote resulted in five denials of Mr. Viera's request.
- Motion by Dr. Burney to adjourn the drainage board and convene the sewer board. Longman. 5-0.

### Sewer Board

- Mr. Ratcliff, 8797 N. 700W, is requesting confirmation that he will not be required to hook up to the sewer line when the Pulte development begins. Mr. Ratcliff's property is 800' off of CR 700W.
- Mr. Strayer responded that the town can only give confirmation related to what the town would and wouldn't do. The county health department has authority too.
- Pulte representatives said Pulte will put a lateral to any property that runs within the 300' sewer line. They added that if Mr. Ratcliff's septic fails, and he has room to do an alternative system, Hancock County



typically wants to know if the house is with 300' before asking if there is room for an alternative septic area.

- Motion by Mr. Longman that in the future, for this property owner, that he would not be required to connect to the sewer for the town for the residence at 8797 N. 700W. Williams. 5-0.
- Motion by Dr. Burney to adjourn the sewer board. Wood. 5-0.
- Town Council reconvened.

#### **Proposed Clover Development at Gateway Crossing**

- Mr. Rob Jack addressed the Council.
- Clover is proposing a 119-unit, market-rate, senior housing apartment.
- The average age of occupants in their existing senior developments is 74.
- Clover has reworked their design after its presentation to the town plan commission.
- The first floor will have brick with some height variation for interest.
- There will be 40 full, enclosed garages with architecture consistent with the main building.
- The dumpster area will be shielded with brick and have three sides.
- Motion by Mr. Wood to remand the development back to the planning commission. Williams. 5-0.

#### **Relinquishment Study Quotes**

- CR 600W Realignment Discussion: Amending the town's comprehensive plan is a 60-day process. In order to be ready to amend, Mr. Crum asked the Council to approve starting the process. He added that the process can be stopped if it is determined that it is not the best direction.
- SR 67 Relinquishment Study: Information is needed to determine the outcome of the town's request for INDOT to relinquish that portion of SR 67 that runs through town to the town government. To gather that information, a contract of not-to-exceed \$9,500 will need to be signed with CrossRoads Engineering.
- Motion by Dr. Burney to approve both the Thoroughfare process and contracts. Longman. 5-0.
- Motion by Dr. Burney to authorize President Strayer to sign the CrossRoads proposal. Longman. 5-0.

#### **Old Business**

- Violations Bureau Ordinance and Resolution amendments to remove moving violations.
  - Motion by Mr. Longman to read Ordinance 051419 by title only. Wood. 5-0.
  - Ordinance 051419 was read by title by Ms. Schoen.
  - Motion by Mr. Longman to approve Ordinance 051416 on first reading. Wood. 5-0.
  - Motion by Mr. Longman to suspend the rules. Burney. 5-0.
  - Motion by Mr. Longman to pass Ordinance 051419. Burney. 5-0.
  - Motion by Dr. Burney to read Resolution 051419 by title only. Longman. 5-0.
  - Resolution 051419 was read by title by Ms. Schoen.
  - Motion by Dr. Burney to approve Resolution 051419. Longman. 5-0.

#### **New Business**

- None

#### **Other Committee Reports**

- RDC: Did not meet.



- Plan Commission: Did not meet.
- Architectural Review Committee: Did not meet.
- Parks Board: Did not meet.
- Public Works Committee:
  - CR 500N storm water drainage project: The future Hancock County project includes a round-about at that same intersection which will correct this drainage issue. It is projected for 2022 construction. The issue was tabled.
  - CR 800N Ditch Relocation: Part of the project requires a FEMA report which staff requests the Council approve a \$35,000 contract with Banning Engineering for its completion. This issue is on hold.
  - Speed Study in Deer Crossing: The study was completed and the results showed there is not a speeding problem in the subdivision.
  - The Committee approved the purchase of a new backhoe.

#### **Town Manager's Report**

- The ULI report on the CR 600W Corridor was released today.

#### **Public Works Commissioner's Report**

- None

#### **Planning & Building Director's Report**

- Discussion of a new cell tower project will be at the June council meeting.

#### **Public Comments**

- None

#### **Voucher Approval**

- Motion by Dr. Burney to approve the invoices. Longman. 5-0.

#### **Adjournment**

- Motion by Mr. Wood to adjourn. Longman. Adjournment at 10:43 p.m.



**Minutes Approval**

These minutes approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas R. Strayer, Council President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine C. Gardner, Clerk-Treasurer

Original