

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE CLARKSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON  
OCTOBER 21, 2013

A regular meeting of the Clarksville Town Council was called to order on October 21, 2013, at 7:02 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Clarksville Municipal Center Administration Building by Council President Bob Polston who chaired the meeting.

Council members present: Bob Polston, Paul Kraft, Donald Tetley, Bob Popp, Paul Fetter, Tim Hauber, and John Gilkey. Council Members Absent: None. Also present at the meeting: Clerk Treasurer Robert Leuthart, Fire Chief Tom Upton, Chief of Police Mark Palmer, Street Commissioner Brad Cummings, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Mike Otto, Director of Stormwater Tom Clevidence, Town Attorney Chris Sturgeon, Parks Superintendent Brian Kaluzny, Administrative Assistant Patricia Fraser, Planning Consultant Sharon Wilson, Building Commissioner Ilpo Majuri, Redevelopment Director Nick Lawrence, Project Coordinator Brittany Montgomery and Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sherry Lockard.

**Public Comments**

- Jim Kenney, Centralia Court, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Kenney stated that he was asked by this Council to serve on a committee to evaluate whether Clarksville should be a city or remain a town. Along with fellow committee members, Mr. Kenney put in many hours of service. Once information was gathered, a recommendation was then brought before this council and was received enthusiastically. Council approved all 6 recommendations unanimously, one of which was to hire a full time town manager. Mr. Kenney stated two weeks prior, with no notice to anyone on the committee, four (4) members of this council disbanded the committee, thus the search for a town manager. Mr. Kenney stated the council did not give enough thought to this matter and Mr. Kenney stated that a good town manager would bring more value to the town than the cost of their salary. Mr. Kenney voiced his disappointment in that council who led to the disbanding of the committee, advising it was premature, inappropriate and disrespectful. Mr. Kenney then thanked all others who served on the committee for their time and service. Mr. Kenney made a final request to the council to re-instate the search committee.

-Edwin Goldberg-129 N. Randolph, Clarksville, IN (business owner). Mr. Goldberg appeared before the council and stated he was here on behalf of the Serenity House. Mr. Goldberg advised he received a wastewater bill with a 63% increase. Mr. Goldberg requested the town to consider a deal for non-profit organizations and that any attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

-Jim Williams-2424 Addmore Lane, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Williams addressed the council and advised although he is a fairly new resident of Clarksville, he feels the town is very community oriented and thinks it is a good place to live. Mr. Williams feels that hiring a town manager would be a good move for Clarksville and encourages the council to do so.

-Rick Barr of 2304 Plum Woods Drive, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Barr advised he is a resident and business owner in Clarksville. Mr. Barr advised he served on the committee regarding the town manager and the search for one. Mr. Barr stated he was shell-shocked when the committee was disbanded. Mr. Barr believes that in 10 years, our population will double and believes that having a town manager in place will only benefit the town. Mr. Barr requested the council to reestablish the search committee.

-Don Slone of 2306 Plum Woods Drive, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Slone addressed the council and advised he thought the disbanding of the search committee for town manager was abrupt. Mr. Slone stated he is in complete agreement with Mr. Kenney's assessment of this situation. Mr. Slone advised this committee was not out to replace anyone, but only to add someone to improve Clarksville as strong leadership is needed.

-Brandon Schiller of 416 Evergreen Drive, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Schiller expressed concern of the end of the search committee for town manager. Mr. Schiller requested that the council reestablish the search committee.

-Kevin Harper of 639 Eastern Blvd., Clarksville, IN. Mr. Harper advised he was a working member of the search committee and expressed his concern and confusion over the decision to disband the committee. Mr. Harper was hopeful that a professional town manager would be put in place to professionally manage the town. Mr. Harper requested the reestablishment of the search committee.

-Tony Singleton of 501 Windemere Road, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Singleton advised he concurs totally with all others comments regarding the disbanding of the search committee. Mr. Singleton stated that ultimately good government is not partisan, it should be non-partisan. Mr. Singleton stated that the committee gave a unanimous recommendation and it received unanimous approval from the council. Mr. Singleton urges the council to reconsider their motion and reestablish the search committee.

-David Thompson of 13 Sunset Avenue, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Thompson stated that with all the taxes he already pays, he doesn't see how hiring a town manager would be beneficial and feels that the taxpayer would have to fund this position.

-Beth Dorsey of 120 E. Maple Court, Clarksville, IN. Ms. Dorsey commented on the flooding situation and stated that money needs to be spent to fix it. Ms. Dorsey also stated she was led to believe that a town manager would be costly, when it would only be 6% of the budget. This issue needs to be reopened and requests the council to reinstate the search committee for a town manager.

At this time, Council Member John Gilkey made a motion to rescind previous action and reinstate the search committee. Council Member Paul Fetter seconded the motion. Discussion was held, along with comments.

-Council President Bob Polston stated his fear of hiring a town manager would be that it would demoralize our department heads. President Polston stated our departments are well trained and do a great job. If the committee was to be reinstated, that does not automatically mean that a town manager would be hired. The decision to hire would have to be based on what information the committee brought forth to the council. President Polston stated he had no problem with the committee being reinstated.

-Council Member Bob Popp stated that it was nice to have these types of discussions because it always brings people out to the meetings. Council Member Popp stated we all have opinions about this matter and cited the Opinion article in the paper as an example, regarding the council's decision to disband the committee. Council Member Popp stated the Opinion article in the newspaper was insulting and derogatory. Of the four (4) council members the article referred to, there are 60 years of experience and it was insulting to be likened to a gang by the author of this article, when all they have done is dedicate their service to improve Clarksville. Council Member Popp stated he lost confidence in the process of the search for a town manager as there were no females on that committee. Council Member Popp also stated that the all-male committee then informed it was not a search committee, but a selection committee. Council Member Popp then stated this situation was all about control and something is very wrong when the needs of the residents who can't pay their sewer bills gets pushed aside while we worry whether or not the town hires a town manager.

-Council Member John Gilkey stated that he had not seen Council Member Popp at any of the meetings, yet Mr. Popp seemed more informed than he.

At this time, Council Member Paul Kraft called for roll call vote, regarding the pending motion to reinstate the search committee.

- (1) Council Member Kraft: NO
- (2) Council Member Gilkey: YES
- (3) Council Member Fetter: YES
- (4) Council Member Hauber: YES
- (5) Council Member Popp: NO
- (6) Council Member Tetley: NO
- (7) Council President Polston: YES

Motion passes with a 4-3 vote to allow search committee to be reinstated.

**Approval of JAG AWARD GRANT...** Town Attorney Chris Sturgeon presented a JAG AWARD GRANT for approval by council and to ratify Mr. Kraft's signature. The City of Jeffersonville will be the administrator of this grant. Council Member Don Tetley made a motion to approve and ratify. Council Member Paul Kraft seconded the motion and was carried by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Change Order # 1, Gohmann Asphalt, Paving....** Town Attorney Chris Sturgeon presented Change Order #1 from Gohmann Asphalt, resulting in a deduct from the original contract amount in the sum of \$8696.32. Council Member Tim Hauber made a motion to approve change order. Council Member Gilkey seconded the motion and was carried by unanimous vote.

**Approval of salary increase for one operator at the WWTP for earning a class 3 certification...** WWTP Superintendent Mike Otto requested a salary increase for one operator who earned the Class 3 Certification. Council Member Gilkey made a motion to approve salary increase. Council Member ????? seconded the motion and was carried by unanimous vote.

#### **Council Comments**

-Council Member Don Tetley recognized Doris Vaught. Council Member Tetley stated that Ms. Vaught will be 100 years old this upcoming Saturday.

**Approval of Claims...** Accounts payable registers presented for approval consisted of Town current claims in the amount of \$525,601.67, Town pre-written claims from 10/08/2013-10/21//2013 in the amount of \$499,506.70, and Wastewater/Stormwater utility pre-approved claims issued in the amount of \$119,308.44, Wastewater/Stormwater utility current claims in the amount of \$15,473.27, and Wastewater/Stormwater BAN issued in the amount of \$338,844.65. Town, Wastewater/Stormwater utility gross payroll ending 09/15/2013 in the amount of \$323,900.38, gross payroll ending 09/29/2013 in the amount of \$396,997.09, and gross payroll ending 10/13/2013 in the amount of \$324,903.30. A motion was made by Council Member Kraft to approve the accounts payable registers presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fetter and was carried by unanimous vote.

**Adjournment...** There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08P.M.

Minutes prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer of  
The Town of Clarksville, Indiana

Minutes approved by the Clarksville Town Council  
on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2013

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Robert P. Leuthart, Clerk-Treasurer  
Town of Clarksville, IN

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Bob Polston, President,  
Clarksville Town Council