

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
THE CLARKSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019

A meeting of the Clarksville Town Council was called to order on October 15, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the meeting room of the Clarksville Municipal Center Administration Building by Council President Paul Fetter, who chaired the meeting.

Council members present: Paul Fetter, John Gilkey, David Worrall, Tim Hauber, Jaimean Hunt, Jennifer Voignier and Aaron Stonecipher.

Invocation:

-Pastor Bill Hudson, Return Church, 435 Eastern Blvd. Clarksville, IN.

Recognitions:

Police Department:

Chief Palmer honored Officer John Miller, Officer Erik Laasanen and Officer Jason Reed (absent) with the "Saving A Life" Award for going above and beyond their duties while searching for and finding a missing person.

Community Crossing Grant:

Manager Baity announced the Town was awarded \$300,395.25 for the Community Crossing Grant.

Public Comments:

-Andre Jones, 2317 Birch Drive, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Jones came before the Council and expressed his views regarding the Town Manager and stated it was a good decision to hire a Town Manager. Mr. Jones stated the position is valued as is Manager Baity.

-James R. McClure, 1006 Hazelwood Court, Clarksville, IN. Mr. McClure asked the Council what their stance was on amending the current Employee Handbook allowing employees to be able to carry a weapon while at work and what their stance was on the Red Flag Law.

-Scott Curts, 405 W. Bowne Blvd, Clarksville, IN. Mr. Curts came before the Council asking several questions and listing several concerns: why the FOP is supporting a whole new slate of candidates, the uses of the insurance fund, the insurance premiums for employees, and the complaint and grievance process of the Police Department. Mr. Curts submitted a full copy of his statement (Attachment A) to the Office of the Clerk Treasurer. It will be attached to the approved minutes of 10/15/19 and available for review in the Clerk Treasurer's Office. Police Chief Palmer submitted a response (Attachment B) to Mr. Curts' statement and will be attached to the approved minutes of 10/15/19 and available for review at the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

Appointment to Economic Development Authority

Council Member John Gilkey made a motion to appoint Jaime Hunt to the Economic Development Authority. Council Member Voignier seconded the motion and was carried by a 6-0-1 vote, with Council Member Hunt abstaining.

Appointment to Ohio River Greenway Commission

Council President Paul Fetter appointed Jaime Hunt to the Ohio River Greenway Commission.

Public Hearing on Additional Appropriations for FY 2019

Manager Baity came before the Council and stated a public hearing was duly advertised for Additional Appropriations in the LOIT, Bldg. Demo, and TIF funds. No one from the public came forward to speak for or against the additional appropriation.

Consent Agenda:

-Approval of the Claims of Town Current & Pre-written and WW/SW Current & Pre-written, WW Bonds, SW Bonds, Sewer Works Ban, and payroll.

-Approval of the Minutes of Town Council Special Meeting, Regular Meeting, Work Session and Executive Session held on October 1, 2019.

Council Member Gilkey made a motion to approve the modified Consent Agenda. Council Member Hauber seconded the motion and was carried by unanimous vote.

New Business:

Ordinance 2019-BUD-11 Additional Appropriations for FY 2019

Council Member Gilkey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-BUD-11. Council Member Worrall seconded the motion and was carried by unanimous vote for the first reading. Council Member Gilkey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-BUD-11. Council Member Worrall seconded the motion and was carried by unanimous vote for the second reading.

Ordinance 2019-B-02 Refunding (refinancing) the 2013 and 2014 Sewage Works Bonds

Council Member Stonecipher made a motion to approve 2019-B-02. Council Member Gilkey seconded the motion and was carried by a unanimous vote for the first reading. Council Member Stonecipher made a motion to approve 2019-B-02. Council Member Gilkey seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote for the second reading.

Ordinance 2019-Z-09 an Ordinance Amending the Zoning Map of the Town of Clarksville, Rezoning 2505,2507, and 2515 Lincoln Drive from R-1 (Residential) to B-2 (Business)

Council Member Hauber made a motion to approve. Council Member Voignier seconded the motion and was carried by a unanimous vote.

Ordinance 2019-Z-10 Zoning Code Amendments Relating to Clear Site Triangles and Commercial Refuse

Council Member Hauber made a motion to approve. Council Member Worrall seconded the motion and was carried by a 5-2 vote, with Council Members Voignier and Gilkey voting Nay.

Approval of LPA Agreement, as clarified, with INDOT

Manager Baity came before the Council and presented the LPA agreement with INDOT for Blackiston Mill Road-Section 2. Discussion was held and an error in the contract was noted. Further discussion was held and Manager Baity stated the contract should be for \$349,922.00, not \$160,000.00, as listed. Council Member Gilkey made a motion to approve the LPA agreement with the clarification of the contract amount to read \$349,922.00. Council Member Voignier seconded the motion and was carried by unanimous vote.

Adjournment... There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, a motion was made to adjourn by Council Member Gilkey, seconded by Council Member Voignier, and carried by a 7-0 vote. The October 15, 2019 meeting of the Clarksville Town Council adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

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

Robert P Leuthart, Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Clarksville

Minutes approved by the Clarksville Town Council on the 4th day of November, 2019

Paul Fetter, President, Clarksville Town Council

Scott Curts

405 W. Bowne Blvd Clarksville, IN 47129

Tuesday, October 15th 2019

Statement Made At Town Concil Meeting

Submitted For The Record

Before I begin. I would like to say, That in no way, does the statement I am about to read. Reflect my personal opinions about this Council or its individual members! To the contrary, I believe that this Council has served the interests of the town and its citizens better than any other Council preceding it. I would also like to say, That in no way, does this statement reflect my personal opinions about Chief Palmer or the Clarksville Police Department as a whole. I believe Chief Palmer has transformed this department from the mentality of The Good Old Boy way of doing things. To the correct and right way of doing things with character and integrity.

I'm here tonight to share some concerns and ask some questions. Recently I have been wondering why the FOP is supporting a completely different slate of candidates, Rather than the current Council. Per, A recent conversation between myself and a retired FOP member. Several accusations were made regarding this Council and there activities. Im here to bring these accusations to light and question them. The following accusations are listed in this statement as (#1-#7). The accusations are as follows:

- i. The current Council is taking insurance funds and buying various properties within the town of Clarksville for redevelopment, leasing, or renting purposes.
- ii. The current Council is deliberately keeping the insurance fund balance at a low amount.
- iii. The current Council is deliberately trying to do away with the insurance fund, so town employees other then the Council members. Will half to pay for there own insurance. (Higher premiums, more then a dollar a year).
- iv. That the accusations listed in (#1 & #2) in this statement. Are an attempt by this council to show proof to town employees and citizens. That the insurance fund cannot sustain itself and ultimately needs to be quashed.
- v. (Per an active duty officer) That the current Chief of Police has become bias towards his own officers, specifically, in matters pertaining to, officer complaints. And has lost the support of the FOP and should be replaced.

- vi. (Per an active duty officer) That body cameras used by the police department are not practical due to high storage costs.

- vii. That a member of this Council used there influence with the Chief to act bias towards specific officers in regards to there employment.

Now that these accusations have been revealed. I am hoping, the most important questions can be answered. Is there any truth to them? And if so, why? Or are they simple falsehoods and twisted facts that have been disseminated threw our community?

(I'd like thank the Council for giving me the time to speak tonight. Thank You.)

(Also, I will submit my comments for the record.)

(Per an active duty officer) That the current Chief of Police has become bias towards his own officers, specifically, in matters pertaining to, officer complaints. And has lost the support of the FOP and should be replaced.

The majority of complaints that are made against officers can simply be addressed by viewing the body camera feed of the event. In most cases the officers are not even aware of the complaint is made due to it being addressed by viewing the situation that shows the officer didn't act as described by the complaint. Now if an officer is unprofessional or acting outside of the department's guidelines, then yes, it is addressed.

(Per an active duty officer) That body cameras used by the police department are not practical due to high storage costs.

The cost of the body camera storage is costly. This department and this council have made changes to make things more transparent to the community. If we are going to maintain that transparency there are cost involved.

That a member of this Council used their influence with the Chief to act bias towards specific officers in regards to their employment.


At no time has any officer been given special consideration towards their employment. The hiring process is specifically guided per policy and the final decision of hiring is determined by the Board of Safety Commissioners.

Official complaints filed are investigated per departmental policy and FOP contract agreement with the Town of Clarksville.

Let me add to my statement:

This is a young department and by that, I mean, we have hired over 30 officers in the last eight years, some of those have been replacement for retired officers and some are additional officers added to increase manpower. The average age of over 65% of our department is under 35 years old. This is the youngest department that our community has ever seen.

We have some great officers; they want to come out here and be pro-active by protecting and serving our community. I not only want that but I encourage it. But with that action comes responsibility, accountability and liability, you have entrusted me with the position to oversee those actions and I will do so to the best of my abilities.



10.15.2019