

Incorporated Town of Winamac  
Municipal Utilities Complex  
623 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Winamac, IN 46996  
January 11, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.  
Regular Session

The Council for the Incorporated Town of Winamac met in regular session on January 11, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Utilities Complex at 623 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, with the following board members in attendance: Kenneth McFarland, Tom J. Murray, Dan Vanaman, Jim Watkins and Judy Heater. Also attending were Melanie A. Berger, Clerk-Treasurer; Justin Schramm, Town Attorney; Jeremy Beckner, Water and Street Superintendent; Bradley Zellers, Town Manager and Wastewater Superintendent; Mike Buchanan, Chief of Police; Doug Shorter, Electric Superintendent; Kim and Waylon Burke; Stan and Maggie Czech; Courtney and Judy Poor; Nancy Wright; Dave Zahrt; Amber Tomlinson, Pulaski County *Journal*; John Bawcum and Jason Hague.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council President, Kenneth McFarland.

Nancy Wright spoke to the Council regarding the Iris Elm Club installing a Blue Star Memorial marker at the depot. Discussion was held. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to allow the Iris Elm Club to proceed with the installation of the Blue Star Memorial Marker on the designated area at the depot, Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Maggie Czech updated the council regarding the cleanliness of chickens and asked if the Council would consider the one-year pilot program. Discussion was held. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to allow the pilot program for one year. Councilmember Dan Vanaman said he would approve the program if the neighbors were to be consulted. Councilmember Dan Vanaman seconded the motion and motion failed to pass with two (2) yeas: Councilmembers Judy Heater and Dan Vanaman, and three (3) nays: Council President Ken McFarland, Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray and Councilmember Jim Watkins. Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray said he voted against the pilot program due to the 4-H not allowing chickens at the fair due to disease.

The minutes from the December 30, 2015 regular meeting were approved in a motion made by Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray, seconded by Councilmember Judy Heater and motion passed unanimously.

The minutes from the January 4, 2016 special meeting were approved in a motion made by Councilmember Judy Heater, seconded by Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray and motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the claims. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to approve claims #8254 – # 8375, seconded by Councilmember Jim Watkins, and motion passed unanimously.

John Bawcum invited the Council to the Panhandle Pathway's fish fry this Saturday at the VFW. The money raised will maintain and operate the pathway. He asked the for the Council's support.

Town Manager Brad Zeller's report:

1. Appointments to the Board of Zoning, Winamac Plan Commission and Winamac Economic Development were presented to the Council: Greg Henry as the Winamac Plan Commission Republican Member and Board of Zoning as the Plan Commission Representative; Sherry O'Conner as the Citizen Member Democrat to the Board of Zoning; and John Plowman as the Winamac Plan Commission, Democrat member and Community Development Commission of Pulaski County. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to accept the appointments as presented, seconded by Councilmember Jim Watkins, and motion passed unanimously.

2. The Town's health insurance is increasing. Annual quotes were received: United Healthcare (current insurance) - \$10,981.52; Time Insurance - \$7,836.64; and Starmark - \$12,364. After discussion, Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to accept Time Insurance as the healthcare provider for the Town of Winamac, seconded by Councilmember Dan Vanaman, and motion passed unanimously.

3. The Winamac Volunteer Fire Department Contract for 2016 was presented to the Council for approval and signature. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to approve the contract as written, seconded by Councilmember Dan Vanaman, and motion passed unanimously.

4. A suggestion to install two roads in the new cemetery property was discussed.

5. Discussion was held regarding implementing a Park Board.

6. The State of Indiana is selling a bicentennial torch that can be mounted on a pole. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to approve the purchase of a 5' torch, seconded by Councilmember Dan Vanaman and motion passed unanimously. The cost of the torch will be paid from the promotion of business appropriation.

Clerk-Treasurer's, Melanie A. Berger, report:

1. Investments balances as of 12/31/2015 were presented to the Council.
2. Ordinance # 1 of 2016: An Ordinance Authorizing the Assessment of an Insufficient Funds Service Fee for Payments Made to the Municipal Waterworks, Sewage Works, and Electrical Utilities of the Town of Winamac, Indiana as presented to the Council. The Town is being charged for non-sufficient fees and it is in the Town's best interest to charge the customer these fees. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to approve Ordinance # 1 of 2016 as written, seconded by Councilmember Dan Vanaman, and motion passed unanimously.
3. Two reports have been filed through Gateway: The 100R was filed on January 8<sup>th</sup> which is due by January 31<sup>st</sup>. The Debt Management Report was filed on January 11<sup>th</sup> which is due on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. Nepotism and Conflict of Interest forms were presented to the Council for signatures. Nepotism rules have changed and Town Attorney Justin Schramm explained to the Council the need for a new ordinance. This one would replace Ordinance # 5 of 2012 with the new requirements. A meeting was scheduled for Friday, January 15, 2016 at 7:00 a.m. to act on the new ordinance.
5. Newly Elected Official training in Indianapolis is January 19<sup>th</sup> to January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Town Marshal Mike Buchanan provided the monthly statistical report to the Council. He also reported that all of the officers have had the required twenty-four (24) hours of training for 2015. He also asked the Council to consider allowing his department to use the sand hill at the town woods for fire arms training. They have training two (2) times a year. Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to allow the Winamac Police Department the use of the Town woods at 200 West 50 North two (2) times a year for fire arms training, seconded by Councilmember Judy Heater, and said motion passed unanimously.

Doug Shorter, Electric Superintendent, reported that his department replaced poles in Van Meter Park; took down the Christmas decorations; and continue to do line clearance. The Water, Street, and Wastewater departments helped during the power outage due to the ice storm. The hot stick and fiberglass were inspected. The school transformer has been installed but will not be connected until this summer. Superintendent Shorter received word that the new truck is being assembled and will be able to inspect it in about two (2) to three (3) weeks.

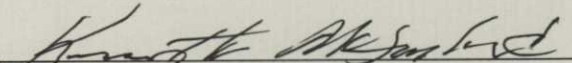
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Jeremy Beckner, Water and Street Superintendent, said his department continues to pick up brush since the ice storm; worked with the electric department during the ice storm, repaired a water leak on Riverside Drive in front of the school; installed a 6" and 2" tap at the hospital and has salted the roads. Superintendent Beckner presented the Council with a quote for new anodes in the water tank. Discussion was held. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to purchase the anode as presented, seconded by Councilmember Jim Watkins and motion passed unanimously.

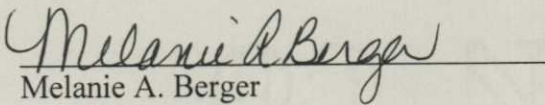
Waylon Burke, Wastewater Foreman, reported to the Council that the pumps were pulled at a lift station; cleaned the pad; jetted lines; assisted the Electric department during the ice storm; assisted the water department with the water leak; cleaned and waxed the vac truck and did inspections at Brauns and Plymouth Tube.

In old business, Town Manager Bradley Zellers reported that the gas line has been unhooked and as soon as the County has trucks available for hauling, demolition will begin at the Long Branch Hotel.

Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to adjourn at 7:22 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Jim Watkins and motion passed unanimously.

  
KENNETH McFARLAND  
Winamac Town Council President

ATTEST:

  
Melanie A. Berger  
Clerk-Treasurer