

Incorporated Town of Winamac
Winamac Town Hall
Clerk-Treasurer's Office
120 W. Main St.
Winamac, IN 46996
April 28, 2016 – 5:00 P.M.
Special Session

The Council for the Incorporated Town of Winamac met in special session on April 28, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. in the Winamac Town Hall, Town Clerk-Treasurer's Office with the following board members in attendance: Kenneth McFarland, Tom J. Murray, Dan Vanaman, Judy Heater and Jim Watkins. 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; Waylon Burke, Wastewater Foreman; Michael Gallenberger, WKVI; .Kate Koval and Eric Walsh, Umbaugh; and Amber Tomlinson, *Pulaski County Journal*.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Council President, Kenneth McFarland.

Mr. Eric Walsh reviewed the 2015 annual reports with the Council:

Water – current rates will support the Town for the next 3-4 years.

Electric – current rates will support the Town for the next several years.

Sewer – significant project with ammonia limits in the near future; the Council will need to make a decision for an increase in rates within two (2) years. Also discussed was the possibility of refinancing the sewer bonds. Eric will look into refinancing and will have information for the May 9th meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Melanie A. Berger informed the Council that the Town will be receiving \$194,978 in Local Option Income Tax (LOIT) from Pulaski County by the end of May. The Council will need to establish a LOIT Fund, (LOIT Special Distribution) by ordinance and allocate the monies as directed by Senate Enrolled Act 67. Along with this special distribution, Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is calling for grant applications to be used for roads and streets, etc. This is a 50-50 match and monies from the LOIT distribution can be used as the Towns 50% match for the grant. In order to apply for the grant, a Transportation Asset Management Plan will need to be prepared. Paul Vincent with Fleis & Vandenbrink spoke to both Melanie and Brad regarding services they can provide regarding the asset plan. Because the first call for the grant is between May 31 and July 3, the need to prepare the plan quickly was discussed. Town Attorney Justin Schramm said he would like to see a few changes with the contract. Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to hire Fleis & Vandenbrink's quote of \$13,000.00 to prepare the Transportation Asset Management Plan with the changes to the contract as directed by Town Attorney Schramm was seconded by Councilmember Judy Heater, and motion passed unanimously.

Resolution # 3 of 2016 was presented to the Council for vacating a public alley. The Council will consider the resolution after receiving the petition from the Eagles.

Dave Bennett is requesting tax abatements on the three (3) properties as presented. Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to approve the tax abatements, seconded by Councilmember Judy Heater and carried unanimously. Tax abatement from Potthoff Properties, LLC was denied unanimously by motion made from Councilmember Judy Heater and seconded by Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray.

Town Manager Brad Zellers made the following requests:

1. Cathy DeFries is asking for permission to utilize the town's parking lot for her shaved ice business. She has purchased a trailer and is in need of electric service. After discussion, Town Manager Zellers was instructed to get more information regarding the request to discuss at the May 9th meeting.

2. Alex Haschel has asked the Council for permission to block off Pearl Street between highway 35 and Market Street for family event activities on May 28th until 9:00 p.m. Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to allow the family event activities on May 28th until 9:00 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Judy Heater, and motion passed unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Berger received an e-mail from the VFW Post 1728 Commander asking for permission to sell Buddy Poppy Sales at the intersection of Riverside Drive and Washington Street this Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to allow the poppy sales on May 1st, seconded by Councilmember Judy Heater, and motion passed unanimously.

Bids for the removal of trees at the park were received for Section A and Section B:

1. TD's Tree Service - \$20,000.00 for Section A and Section B
2. Williams Tree Service - Section A: \$30,600; Section B: \$25,950
3. Leroy's Tree Service - \$31,225 for Section A and Section B
4. Big Blue - \$11,330 for Section A. No bid for Section B
5. Practical Tree Service - \$22,000.00 for Section A and Section B with the Town removing the trees; \$24,500.00 for Section A and Section B with Practical Tree Service removing all trees and debris.

Discussion was held and Councilmember Tom J. Murray made a motion to accept TD's Tree Service bid of \$20,000.00 for the removal of trees in both Section A and B, to have the correct

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liability insurance, and the monies to be used from the CCD Fund. Councilmember Judy Heater seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager Zellers reported to the Council that the Tree Committee is planting five (5) trees: Decker Drive, South Market Street, Washington Street and the Courthouse.

There were two (2) applicants for the park assistant position. Town Manager Zellers recommended hiring Devin Bonnell upon the completion of his prescreening. Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to hire Devin Bonnell, seconded by Councilmember Judy Heater, and motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the park board and the pros and cons having a board can bring the Town. The Council also discussed the swimming pool and agreed that the Town would own, operate and maintain the pool when built. Councilmember Judy Heater made a motion to form a park and recreation board with four (4) members as presented in Ordinance # 5 of 2016: An Ordinance Establishing a Department of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Winamac, Indiana, was seconded by Councilmember Jim Watkins, and the motion passed with four (4) yeas and one (1) opposed: Dan Vanaman. Discussion was also held regarding the \$150,000.00 donation for the swimming pool to the Community Foundation. Clerk-Treasurer Berger stated that the Town is receiving interest on the EDIT investment and asked the Council to consider leaving this money in the EDIT fund until necessary for the building of the pool so the interest can be earned. This money would also be available for grant matching funds if necessary. The Town will speak with Community Foundation Executive Wendy Rose regarding the donation.

Council Vice-President asked about the status of the pickle ball court. Town Manager Zellers said the court should be ready within a few months.

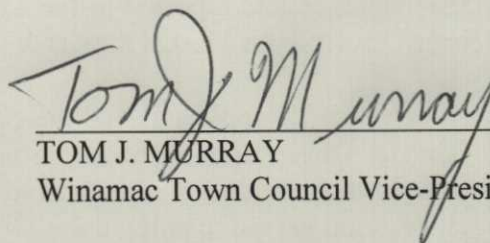
The cemetery property was discussed. Currently the Town has been getting prices on seeding the ground and getting the road put in. Specs for plotting out will be ready for bids soon. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting is scheduled for May 5th for a special exemption.

Council President Ken McFarland received a letter from Indiana Office of Community Rural Affairs (OCRA) regarding the Community Development Block Grant with the Winamac Volunteer Fire Department. The letter stated that no findings of program deficiency were found as a result of the monitoring review and that semiannual sub recipient reports are to be submitted until five (5) years from the date of the issuance of a Certificate of Completion (CDC).

Town Manager Brad Zellers reported that black dirt was hauled into the property by the shelter and will plant seed. Also, INDOT has closed the Safe Routes to School grant.

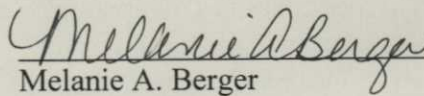
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Council Vice-President Tom J. Murray made a motion to adjourn at 7:31 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Jim Watkins and motion passed unanimously.



TOM J. MURRAY
Winamac Town Council Vice-President

ATTEST:



Melanie A. Berger
Clerk-Treasurer

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