

Town Council Meeting
February 10th, 2020
Westport Town Hall

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Town Hall, with the following present; Harry Pray III, President, Joyce Brindley, John Organist and Gloria Alumbaugh. Harry Pray called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge to the flag. Clerk Treasurer, Gloria Alumbaugh read minutes from the January 13th, 2019 meeting and February 7th meeting. The minutes were approved as read and John made a motion to approve, seconded by Joyce.

Signing of Payroll Vouchers, Adjustments & Monthly Bills

Community Crossing Matching Grant Bid Selection:

Streets to be paved during this project include Bennet, Gatewood, Gilbert, Carroll, Davis, Allan, Sandi Ln, Westwood, Lincoln and Elizabeth. Harry opened the sealed bids from Globe Asphalt Paving Co., Inc. which was \$132,791.15 and Dave O'Mara Contractor, Inc. which was \$146,392.50. The state awarded Westport \$107,175.75 for paving and Westport will be responsible for 25% which is a total of \$132,791.15. Joyce made a motion that the town select Globe Asphalt Paving Co., Inc., seconded by John. Vote 3:0

Water Emergency Contingency Plan:

The council reviewed the yearly document required by Indiana Department of Environmental Management and Harry signed the document.

Spring Clean-Up Day:

Joyce announced that Westport will host a recycling day in the Spring and Fall this year with a dumpster available to Westport residents on April 2nd. Joyce also mentioned the Decatur county recycling flier that is posted at Town Hall and lists various times during the year that residents can dispose of toxic wastes.

Ordinance 2020-3 to Rescind Ordinance 2004-1:

Harry read the 2020-3 Ordinance and explained that the roles of the board members has changed since 2004 so the new Ordinance is needed to reflect the changes. Joyce made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-3, seconded by John. Vote 3:0

Ordinance 2020-4:

Harry read Ordinance 2020-4 which reflected the updated roles of council members. Joyce made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-4, seconded by John. Vote 3:0

State Holidays Versus Town Holiday Ordinance:

There were some questions regarding state versus town holidays so the council discussed the differences and whether or not to add any additional holidays. Joyce made a motion to add Martin Luther King Day, seconded by Harry. Vote 2:1

News Release HB 1165 & HEA 1347 – Charging Landlords for Utility Bills:

Gloria explained that House Bill 1165 and the House Enrollment Act 1347 changes how Westport can handle the delinquent wastewater bills in the future. Westport Water & Sewer previously charged landlords for any remaining wastewater utility bills left by their tenants and now the Attorney General has released a statement clarifying that Utility companies can no longer practice this policy. Brian

Gatewood added that this could adversely affect the town since there is a high number of tenants in town. John suggested that the Town Clerk closely monitor delinquent utility bills and the council may have to update policies in the future.

Amish Hitching Post Installation:

Harry explained that installing a hitching post in town would make downtown businesses more accessible to the Amish community and ideally would be placed on the available town property next to Roscoe's Tax Service. Joyce made a motion to install the hitching post, seconded by John.

Town Website Update:

Gloria reviewed the list of information needed to submit to Steve Hodgson from Street Smart, Inc with the council.

Deputy Marshall Resignation:

John stated that a hiring board has been developed and they will be taking time to review applications before hiring a replacement for Deputy Marshall. John added that Tony will be staying on as a reserve officer and will continue to assist the department with training of the reserve officers. Joe stated that the department is changing their uniform to a more affordable and functional option for the entire police department.

Striping Machine for Street Department:

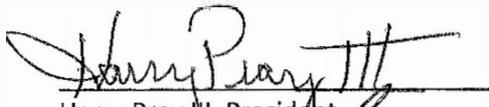
Harry stated that since the town is moving towards doing more things within the department, the purchase of a paint striping machine would assist with that goal. Damon discussed the cost of a new striping machine and also discussed selling town equipment that is no longer used by the department. Damon requested permission to sell equipment not used and then purchasing a landscape trailer that the town can use. John made a motion that Damon sell unused equipment and purchase a trailer that can be used by the department, seconded by Joyce. Vote 3:0

From the Floor:

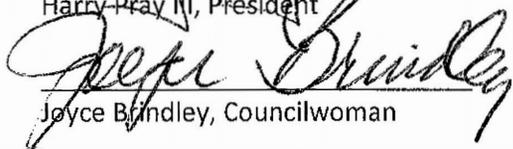
Amanda Organist gave an update on a neighbor's property stating that the refrigerator has been removed since the last meeting but the abandoned car is still there. Damon added that an updated ordinance is needed to tackle the abandoned vehicles around town. Council stated that the update is in the works.

Mark Koors thanked the council for acceptance of the CCMG Bid and encouraged the council to continue applying for the CCMG to make improvements to the sidewalks and streets in Westport.

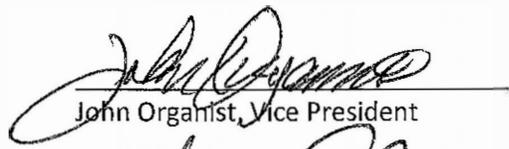
Joyce made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by John.



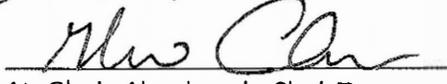
Harry Pray III, President



Joyce Brindley, Councilwoman



John Organist, Vice President



At: Gloria Alumbaugh, Clerk Treasurer