

TOWN COUNCIL OF LEO-CEDARVILLE
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 3, 2009

ATTENDANCE:

Paul Steffens – Council President

John Clendenen – Council Vice President

John Eastes

Gordon Liechty, Jr.

Mike Young

Pamela Spannuth – Clerk-Treasurer, Peggy Garton – Town Administrator

7:00 – Council President Steffens opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES – The January 20, 2009 meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

AGENDA – The agenda was approved with flexibility by unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Ms. Spannuth provided the council with the 2008 annual report and ending appropriation balances. The 2009 budget report was also given to the council members.

RESOLUTION 2009-01 – Resolution for 2008 appropriation transfer. Mr. Eastes moved to approve resolution 2009-01 for the purpose of balancing the 2008 budget. Mr. Young seconded. Mr. Clendenen inquired whether the park board is aware of the appropriation transfer as the transfer is in the park fund. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

ENCUMBERANCE – Mr. Eastes moved to encumber \$18,000.00 from G421, general fund - town building appropriation, as appropriated in the 2008 budget to pay the final payment to Recreation Unlimited for the installation of the Grand Pavilion at Riverside Gardens. Mr. Clendenen seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR – Ms. Garton thanked Mr. Liechty for his assistance during the last snow event and complimented all involved for getting through it successfully. She discussed the option of placing salt barrels at the entrances of subdivisions but addressed the negative issues that other communities have encountered while maintaining salt barrels. It was concluded that if the homeowners associations within the town wish to place barrels on their common grounds it will be up to them to place and maintain them.

She addressed the topic of the town obtaining a generator to be located at the town hall for the purpose of providing a safe place for residents during an emergency situation. Mr. Young and Mr. Clendenen suggested that additional information be obtained on this topic for further consideration.

Mr. Eastes said that he's received some good information relating to emergency preparedness following the last ice storm that he would like to pass on.

Ms. Garton stated she is working with the town attorney on code compliance violations relating to several properties within the town.

The town council was updated on the downtown planning committee meeting. The committee met with representatives from Indiana Main Street, which is a program that has free services and resources available to communities.

BOBCAT SNOWPLOW & SPREADER – Discussion ensued on the topic of clearing the bike path in the winter. Mr. Eastes expressed his concern that if salt were used on the bike path, the run-off could cause damage to adjacent landscaping. Ms. Garton stated that if the walkway is plowed, it should be salted to ensure it is in a safe condition. She urged that a subcommittee be formed to address not only sidewalk master planning but maintenance as well.

The council discussed the topic of maintenance equipment needed. She stated that the park board is not interested in funding the spreader, which would be used to apply both salt and fertilizer. Mr. Clendenen moved to purchase the plow attachment for the Bobcat and the spreader to be used with the Mule. Mr. Young seconded for the purpose of discussion and further asked how the sidewalk would be cleared over the Grabill Road Bridge. Ms. Garton stated that would be addressed during the time that the bike path was cleared but acknowledged that the bobcat would be too large to clear the walkway on the bridge. Mr. Liechty questioned what the spreader would be used for if the parks department does not wish to have fertilizer spread on the park grounds. Ms. Garton assured him that the spreader would be useful for salt as well as the other areas within the town that need fertilizer and weed control applications. Mr. Liechty stated that if the town is wishing to only run salt though this particular spreader and not fertilizer, than this piece of equipment is not the correct one for this job. Mr. Clendenen stated that the town and the park system need to share resources due to the size of the town and its individual budgets. He requested that a representative from the park board be present at the next town council meeting to discuss this further. Mr. Clendenen moved to amend his motion to purchase the snowplow blade for the Bobcat only in the sum of \$1,538.36. Mr. Young supported the amendment. Payment will be made from the capital category within the general fund. The council approved the motion unanimously.

SECTION 125 CAFETERIA PLAN – Mr. Eastes briefly discussed his correspondence with the town's insurance provider. He stated that at least two full-time employees need to enroll in order for the town to have a Section 125 cafeteria plan. Mr. Eastes will see if the town administrator is interested in participating in such plan.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2009-01 – Mr. Clendenen moved to table the proposed amended noise ordinance until the next meeting to allow the council members as well as the public time to review. Mr. Eastes seconded. The ordinance will be posted on the town website as well as published prior to introduction at the next meeting. Mr. Liechty stated that the current format of the ordinance is not one he would support approving. Mr. Clendenen asked for clarification on concerns that other councilman have. Mr. Liechty stated that he is against how strict some of the provisions are and that the town could be enabling residents to feud with neighbors, etc. Mr. Eastes agreed that the ordinance might not be in its final format. The proposed ordinance should be placed on

the website and labeled as draft, further discussion and the introduction will be on the next agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

WATER UTILITY REPORT – Mr. Liechty Sr., owner of Pioneer Water, was present to address the water utility report. He stated that he was disappointed with the results of the report and feels that the report greatly undervalues the utility. The basis used for the study produces a value that is significantly less than what the owner has invested in the utility. Mr. Clendenen requested that a committee be put together to properly study and respond to the document presented as well as exploring the option of purchasing the utility. Mr. Clendenen and Mr. Young both offered to meet with the town attorney, engineer, and business owner to further discuss this topic. Mr. Eastes requested that Mr. Liechty come back to the council with a figure that he feels is a true representation of the value of the utility. He also urged the council to explore the possibility of seeking federal funds to help with the purchase and expansion of the utility. Discussion ensued pertaining to the request by the utility to reduce the tap fee in order to attract more potential users.

ALLEN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MEETING – Mr. Steffens and Ms. Spannuth will attend the February 10th meeting held by the Allen County Solid Waste District. The District is holding a meeting to consider the possibility of providing relief funds to communities in Allen County. The funds would possibly be available to assist with costs associated with the recent ice storm event.

2009 ROAD WORK – Mr. Steffens suggested that the town engineer be contacted to begin working on any crack sealing/road work projects for 2009. Mr. Clendenen stated that the road committee has already met and have begun studying potential projects such as Manning Street, Amstutz Road, and other capital improvement projects. Due to the scope and cost of the project, Manning Street in Cedarville may be the main road project for 2009.

SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION - Mr. Steffens listed the various boards, and committees that the town council should either sit on or have a presence with. The following council members agreed to sit on the listed committees:

John Clendenen - Downtown Committee, Leo-Cedarville Chamber of Commerce, Water Utility Study, Street Study, Bridge Task Force.

John Eastes – Fire Department

Mike Young – Stormwater Utility, Street Committee, Water Utility Study, Sidewalk and Trail Committee

Gordon Liechty, Jr. – Town Growth and Annexation Research

Paul Steffens – Park Board, Maumee River Basin, Emergency Management

Mr. Liechty also recommended that other boards be invited to come to the council meetings from time to time to provide updates.

SIDEWALK/TRAILS – Mr. Young asked Mr. Gordon Liechty, Sr. if Pioneer Village has an easement outside the Pioneer Village property line between the subdivision and the farm property. There is no easement beyond the outside property line of Pioneer Village.

The owner of the farm property would have to be contacted about the possibility of acquiring an easement or right-of-way to run a trail.

FIRE HYDRANTS - Mr. Young stated that he feels that the town should place at least two fire hydrants somewhere in the town this year. Mr. Clendenen reminded him that a motion in 2008 stated that this council is not interested in spending public funds to place fire hydrants for a private utility. The discussion was tabled until the original motion is addressed.

Mr. Eastes stated that he encouraged the fire department to contact the town about the possibly locating a station within the town limits.

Mr. Liechty asked for an update on the previous inquiry from the Allen County Sheriff's Department regarding using office space in the town hall. He also asked about the status of any proposed upgrades within the town hall. Updates will be obtained on these topics.

VOUCHERS – The February 3, 2009 line item voucher form was approved by signatures.

ADJOURNED – The meeting was adjourned until February 17, 2009.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Paul Steffens
Council President

Pamela Spannuth
Clerk-Treasurer