

January 7, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The following were in attendance: Robert Manahan, Dan Dunham, Michelle Wheeler, Mike Epler, Bill Thompson, Linda Abrams, Dave & Anne Berkley, Brian Short, Larry Westbrook, Dan Hollingshead, Peter Bryan, Drew Conklin, Bill Westbrook, and Elaine Shirk.

Dan Dunham, Mayor, opened the meeting and swore in our new Council Persons, Anne Berkley, David Berkley and Bill Thompson.

He then opened the floor for nomination for President. Larry Westbrook nominated Anne Berkley and Bill Thompson seconded the nomination. There were no more nominations and the nominations were closed. A vote was taken and the nomination was approved.

Next was the nomination for Vice President, David Berkley nominated Bill Thompson, Larry Westbrook seconded the nomination. There were no more nominations and the nominations were closed. A vote was taken and the nomination was approved.

At this time the new President, Anne Berkley took over the meeting.

Stacy McBride agreed to become the Tax Collector for the Borough since Karen Gowin resigned. A resolution to appoint Stacy was presented to the Council. Dave Berkley made a motion to approve the resolution; Larry Westbrook seconded the motion and the motion Carried. Dan Dunham, Mayor swore Stacy in as Tax Collector for the Borough of New Albany.

OUTSIDE BUSINESS:

Michelle Wheeler proposed a new Ordinance to keep sexual offenders away from areas where our local children gather, to register the Social Hall a safe place when there are children's activities being held and that the Park be registered as a safe place again Sexual Predators. Michelle presented a sample ordinance. Bob Manahan made a motion to have an Ordinance created for the Borough, Larry Westbrook seconded the motion and the motion carried.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the December 3, 2007 had been received by Council Members so were not read at the meeting. Secretary read the minutes from the Close Out Meeting held on December 27, 2007. Linda Abrams made a motion to approve the minutes, Bill Thompson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checkbook Balances:

Borough:	\$19,505.69
Highway	2523.97
Sewer:	14,377.50
Water	3,023.82

Sewer Reserve: \$25,415.49

Treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Bill Thompson and seconded by Linda Abrams; the vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Highway:

Bob Manahan stated that the curb box at Main and Division needs attention. Mike, Bill and Drew Conklin will try to flush with fire hose on Wednesday if all are available.

Park:

Linda stated that Dale wanted permission to burn the brush pile this weekend. After much discussion it was decided that Bill, Dave and Mike would look at what is there and make a decision.

Sewer:

Mike read a proposal that Dave Hindman had submitted regarding the position of Water/Sewer Manager. After discussing at length, Larry Westbrook made a motion to table this until the 15th when there will be a meeting at 6:00 pm to discuss further. Dave Berkley seconded the motion and the motion carried. Anne wants to discuss some things with Dave Hindman before the meeting.

Water:

Linda brought up a leak at the school in the kitchen. It is the schools problem rather than the Boroughs, as the water is going through there meter and they are paying for the water lost. As taxpayers, it is our problem as they are wasting water and also fuel to heat the water as it is hot water that is being wasted. Linda asked if the Council could send a letter to the school, school board, etc, regarding this problem. Secretary will draft a letter to be sent...

Code Enforcement:

There is nothing new this month. Bill asked if the Council was going to work on the Ordinances that need updating, especially the Property Maintenance and Junk Vehicles. Bill said he will stop by the Secretary's to look over the Ordinances.

Economic Development:

Bill Thompson stated that Brian Canfield has said he will continue working on the Economic Development.

Bills:

General:

NAVFD	30.00	hall rental Dec.
PSAB	48.00	Borough News for CP

Sewer:

Frontier	\$31.13
Benchmark Analytics	\$74.00

Water:

Frontier	\$34.54
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Old Business:

Water Rates: Dave Hindman had sent a note to Council stating at Towanda had not raised their rates as much as predicted and suggested that the Council might want to lower the per thousand rate down to \$3.65 from the \$4.00 a thousand approved at last month's meeting. After much discussion to the situation the water company is in and how badly they need to create a reserve, it was decided to leave the water rates at the amounts approved in the budget, \$13.00 flat rate and \$4.00 per thousands gallons used.

The Ordinance that had been written and advertised regarding usage of "jake brakes" was submitted for approval. Bill Thompson made a motion to not approve the motion; Larry Westbrook seconded the motion and motion carried.

The Street Renaming Ordinance has been advertised and was ready for final adoption. Bill Thompson made a motion to adopt ordinance, Mike Epler seconded the motion and the motion carried. This is in accordance with the 911 Update.

New Business:

Each year we have to vote on our Engineering Agreement with Stiffler and McGraw. Mike Epler made a motion that he and Dave Berkley review the Engineering Contract before approving it. Larry Westbrook seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Dave Hindman had sent a note to Council regarding mileage reimbursement for Borough Business. The Federal approved rate is 48.5 cents. Bill Thompson made a motion that the Mileage reimbursement rate for New Albany Borough for 2008 is 48.5 cents a mile for travel. This is for approved travel for elected and appointed Borough Officials and Borough Employees on Borough Business. Larry Westbrook seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Each year we vote on a resolution to pay certain bills that arrive after the regular monthly meeting to defray the possibility of being charge interest etc. Bob Manahan made a motion to approve the resolution; Mike Epler seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Each year we vote to accept the Insurance Renewal Application. Bob Manahan made a motion to accept the application, Linda Abrams seconded the motion and the motion carried. New Council members want to check around for rates which they will do.

The Attorney General's Office and PENDOT strongly advised that the Council review new options for the banking of Liquid Fuels monies. They advised that most municipalities use PLIGIT. After researching the interest rates, etc, Dave Hindman got the application forms from PLIGIT and they were presented to the Council. Bob Manahan made a motion to approve the Ordinance stating we would use PLIGIT for our Liquid Fuels Banking. Bill Thompson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

There will be a work session on January 29th at 6:00 to work on Ordinance.

Bob Manahan made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 pm.

Elaine Shirk
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