

Waterloo Town Council Meeting
August 13, 2024

A meeting of the Waterloo Town Council was held August 13, 2024, at 6:08 p.m. at the Waterloo Historic Train Depot present were:

Josh Caudill	Ken Surber
Greg Iddings	James Garman
Russell Goodman	Pam Howard / Town Manager
Andrew Kruse / Town Attorney	Renee Duszynski / Clerk Treasurer

The following business was discussed, and action was taken: Unless specified all votes were unanimous.

Public Hearing:

1. **OCRA Grant:** Hearing opened at 6:00 p.m.

Town Council President opened the meeting and turned it over to Renee Duszynski.

Renee Duszynski introduced herself as an OCRA CDBG certified grant administrator. The notice of tonight's hearing was published in The Star newspaper on August 2, 2024. We are having this hearing to discuss the Town of Waterloo applying for a grant through OCRA. The town is seeking a grant for a comprehensive plan. The Plan Commission has been working toward this for the past year. In December, the town did an income study to determine if it qualified. The grant the town is seeking is for \$45,000 with a \$5,000 match to be paid out of cash on hand out of CEDIT (County Economic Development Income Tax). CEDIT is mainly used for the development and progress of the town.

She explained that the program is competitive, and the application is due August 16th. To apply for a planning grant the Plan commission went through procurement following federal guidelines. Procurement is the process or requesting professional services, qualifications, or bids. The Plan Commission created a scoring team comprised of 5 individuals to score the applications and interview potential candidates. The scoring committee has selected Tri Ad to do the comprehensive plan if the town receives the grant.

Duszynski explained that the plan commission had planned to submit the grant in the previous quarter but did not have enough time to get everything completed. That required a new public hearing to be held since it is a separate application.

She stated that Tri Ad was unable to attend this public hearing, but she reviewed the process and the scope of the work. The comprehensive plan will include analysis of the following: Transportation, Utility Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Housing, Recreational/Environmental, Education, Economic Development, Redevelopment, Annexation, Land Use Element, and Quality of Life. She explained Tri Ad will be heavily involved in the steering committee which

will oversee the process. There will be surveys and public meetings to gather input from the community as well.

She stated the town should be proud that the current plan is out of date. The town has accomplished a lot over the last ten years. They will look at housing, downtown, industrial, and how to prepare for growth. This is like finishing one book and opening the next. This is a guidebook for Plan Commission, Redevelopment Commission and Council that is formed by input of residents. This will continue to push and grow Waterloo into the future. There are no further comments or questions. No comment has been noted to date in person or by mail.

Motion to read and approve Resolution 24-06 Resolution Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment on title only made by Goodman (Surber) passed.

Hearing adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Caudill did roll call and the pledge was recited.

Communication from the President: None

Communication from Town Manager:

Last month, a resident, Andy Cintron, stated that Pankop Park was an embarrassment to him and that he would not take his kids there. He stated that the trees were dying, the beams holding the swings were sagging, and the wood was splintering.

The Park board met the next day. Howard took them and council liaison Goodman to Pankop Park to look at the condition. The trees were not dying; they were found to have green leaves and be in good shape. The beams that held the swings were not sagging; again, they were in good shape. The wood was inspected for splintering; and did not find anything that would harm children. The pavilion and picnic tables do need to be painted.

Garman said Nucor would be happy to supply the paint, Park Board met today and thought 4 gallons of paint would cover it. John Thomson said he would be happy to help paint. Goodman also stated he can get volunteers to help on a Friday.

Cintron also complained about the tree removed from front of the Lions club. He said it was in good shape, and Jeff Zeedyk is not an arborist. Howard asked Superintendent Dave Wolfe about the tree. He responded in an email that the tree was removed mainly because the roots had pushed up out of the ground. The tree was 80 feet tall, and it was a danger to the surrounding buildings and electrical. It was taken to council and council voted to have the tree removed. Howard verified in the minutes that in November 2020, Wolfe wanted to replace the Blue Spruce because it was not in good shape. Jessup requested more information about the condition of the tree. In December 2020, Howard informed the council that Zeedyk had looked at the tree and stated it was at the end of its life. The council voted to have the tree removed with a motion by Hobbs/Caudill.

August 15th British Bites will have a Grand Opening, 3:00 p.m. at 140 E Van Vleek St. Lots of goodies!

Howard announced that good things were happening in Waterloo and urged everyone to please support the local b. She has been working on a magnet with Councilman Garman to help promote local businesses. Main Street will partner in this project as well.

RAI Redevelopment Association of Indiana is having a meeting in Gas City on Friday. Mayor Rock will give a presentation at the Gas City Music Center.

The Waterloo Park Board will be grilling for the OLD 27 Car Tour on August 20th at 11:30 in Francis Thomson Park. Please come out and enjoy lunch. The organizers of the OLD 27 Car Tour will present the Park Board with a bench in honor of Craig Parrish, the group's original organizer.

The DeKalb Chamber Partnership would like to use the depot on August 29th for three hours in the evening to host their upcoming August networking event. This event is sponsored and hosted by M.F. Projects and will accommodate around 20–30 people. They would like to have cocktails at the event. Discussion was held about the liability of having alcohol. Howard stated she will inform them they cannot.

Brent Niebel, Horizon Bank, has a group of volunteers -10-14 that are participating in Horizon day of caring on September 12 from 1-5 to help the town with any projects. Caudill suggested they paint the shutters at Town Hall amongst other things.

A Facebook survey was posted for the planning grant and we've received 201 responses so far.

Communication from The Clerk Treasurer:

Duszynski Reviewed the fund report.

She would like to have another budget work session on Wednesday August 21st to go through the rest of the form 1's. Once those have been reviewed and updates have been made Baker Tilley will do a review and provide cash flows. After those are received, she recommends one more work session to ensure that everything is ready for the public hearing at the meeting in October.

To have Renata Ford's Name removed from the Walmart Credit Card bill Duszynski will need to have approval from council noted in the minutes. Motion to make Renee Duszynski the contact for the Walmart credit card and remove Renata Ford from the account made by Garman (Goodman) passed.

Duszynski will be gone for two weeks in Alaska and will not always have service. Please be patient during that time.

Communication from Boards and Committees:

Waterloo Main Street is having a spaghetti dinner fundraiser September 13th from 4:30-7:00 at the Depot. They will be serving a choice of spaghetti, vegetables, salad, breadstick and dessert.

The Fall Festival is going to be on October 19th. Main Street is embarking upon a downtown design project that will be revealed at the event. There will also be a movie, kids' games and activities, and a drawing for a bench and fire pit.

Surber is on the Heimach Center board. The director will be at the Council meeting in September to present updated changes.

Approval of Minutes and Claims and Adjustments:

Minutes from July 9th were reviewed. Corrections reviewed. Motion to approve as amended was made by Surber (Garman) passed.

Minutes from July 22nd were reviewed. Corrections reviewed. Motion to approve as amended was made by Garman (Goodman). Caudill abstained due to not being present.

Motion to reapprove re-corrected July 9th minutes made by Garman (Goodman) passed.

Claims were reviewed. Caudill wanted to ensure RDC was aware of the bond payment. Howard confirmed. Garman inquired about Prow Media, and what services they perform. Howard will give him the information to review. Caudill wanted to verify sludge. Motion to approve Goodman (Iddings) passed.

Adjustments reviewed. Motion to approve made by Garman (Surber) passed.

New Business:

1. **Crossing Guard New Hire:** Howard stated Pam Nusem has applied for the crossing guard position. Howard interviewed her. She also called references and did a background check. Howard feels she will be a good fit. No questions from the council. Motion to extend offer of employment for the crossing guard position made by Garman (Goodman) passed. She will start Wednesday August 14th, 2024.
2. **Broker of Record:** After the last health care renewal council had asked Duszynski to start the process of interviewing new brokers. She stated that over the last several months she had met quite a few different brokers. Duszynski reviewed the two companies she preferred, Brady Benefits and Gibson. She stated that she felt they would both give great customer service and take a proactive approach to savings for health care. She did feel that Brady Benefits would be easier to work with since they are a smaller firm and would get a more personable relationship. She did call references for both companies and got great reviews for both. She stated that Caudill also met with both. Motion to approve Brady Benefits as the agent of record made by Goodman (Garman) passed.

Old Business:

1. **Depot Cameras:** Howard explained the cameras were tabled last month as Garman requested additional information. Howard asked Williams Electronics if the cameras that Garman recommended would be compatible with the town's system. Williams Electronics explained were not. Garman stated that the cameras that were originally quoted would be acceptable. Howard went on to state there was an issue at the Depot, and without a recording, the Marshal's could not determine who was at fault. Caudill wanted to confirm that the camera would record without the server upgrade. Garman confirmed. Howard explained it

just won't sync to one account. Howard noted the current quote is valid for 30 days. She asked for a \$1,000 contingency. Motion to approve made by Goodman (Garman) passed.

2. Perf Resolution: Duszynski explained that the resolution needed to add full-time fire department employees and allow them to take advantage of the PERF retirement plan. The town does not participate in the separate Police and Fire Pension program. Kruse approved the resolution. Motion to approve resolution 24-06: Resolution to amend the Town of Waterloo's resolution to allow full-time Fire Department employees to join the Public Employee's Retirement Plan made by Surber (Garman) passed.

3. Disposal of Property: Duszynski stated that several times a year a request is made to dispose of property that is no longer usable. She reviewed the list of electronics and other items to be recycled. She stated that items that are not deemed junk and are less than \$1,000 of value can be sold without advertising. Those items include 3 iPads, which the IT technician deemed to be valued at \$50 each and 4 standing desks that were deemed to be valued at \$100 each. Motion to approve the disposal and sale list made by Garman (Goodman) passed.

4. NIPSCO Choice Plan: Duszynski had received a call from Intherm, a natural gas provider, they would like to provide the municipal accounts with gas through the NIPSCO Choice plan. Duszynski stated that the town had participated in the plan several years ago and it cost the town more money. She reviewed the rates, noting that they would only guarantee the first month and after that it would fluctuate month to month. Goodman believes it could be detrimental if the rates fluctuate monthly. Caudill stated the town would not participate.

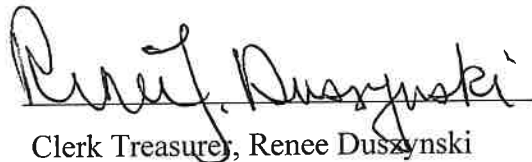
Floor: None.

I, Renee Duszynski, the duly qualified Clerk Treasurer, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and exact excerpt of minutes of the meeting of the Waterloo Town Council, Waterloo, Indiana, at which a quorum was in attendance and acting throughout, and held August 13, 2024, and, as such appears in the official minutes of said Waterloo Town Council, in my custody.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.



President, Josh Caudill



Clerk Treasurer, Renee Duszynski

