

Town Council Meeting
July 10th, 2023
Westport Town Hall

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Community Building, with the following present; Harry Pray III, President, John Organist, Joyce Brindley, and Jenny Hardebeck. Harry Pray called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Signing of Monthly Minutes, Funeral Deeds, Payroll Vouchers, & Monthly Bills:

Joyce made a motion to approve the monthly minutes as written, seconded by John. Joyce approved the monthly documents, payroll vouchers, and claims, seconded by John.

Cann Properties Update:

George Cann presented the updates on the property at 508 N. Range St. stating that they are still working on it, but the house is sound and has been inspected. George stated that they were looking at October 2023 to have the structure in compliance. After much talk with Harry, John proposed that George have Kenny Buening from Decatur Co. inspect it when it is done. This will need to be presented by the November 2023 Town Council Meeting. Harry made the motion to approve the extension, seconded by Joyce. 2:0

Beth Pigmon presented the update on the property at 728 W. Washington St. stating that she is going to be getting her sewer inspection and work done on the house by Tyler Bushhorn. She stated that he is about a month out. John proposed that Beth come back to the September Town Council Meeting with an update. Joyce made the motion to approve the extension, seconded by John. 2:0.

Joyce talked to Beth about her trash that had been strewn on a county road in Westport. Beth said that she was unaware of this until that moment. Beth apologized & Joyce stated that if it happened again, she wouldn't be as understanding.

CCMG:

Bid signing was at 10 am, July 10th, 2023. The award went to Dave O'Mara.

New Lift Station:

Harry stated that DNR approved of the new lift station but we need county zoning approval. Harry discussed the overflows with Damon. Joyce made the motion to permit the new lift station, seconded by John. 2:0.

Stopping for Crosswalks & Speeding:

Harry discussed the crosswalks & that people need to be careful on Main Street. People, especially the elderly, are complaining that people don't want to stop when they are in the crosswalk area. Joyce stated that people from the church walk diagonally across the 4 way stop & it is dangerous. Stated that there needs to be crosswalks there. John stated that there would have to be a traffic study done for that. Harry brought up that people are complaining about the speeding from Pavey's station to the first speed sign. A 20-mph speed limit was discussed in town. John stated that he would be talking to Lozier looking into new ticketing strategies.

Community Building Bids

Damon discussed the community building bids for metal siding and exterior work, stating that the community board members took the cheapest bid. Joyce made the motion to accept the bid, seconded by John. 2.0.

Water Treatment Plant Lake Clean-up: Damon discussed that we received bids for the Lagoon cleanup. One company, Bainbridge Consulting, was certified to do the work. They were awarded the bid. Joyce made the motion to accept, John seconded. 2.0.

301 E Sycamore:

Damon stated that the property did not pass inspection. He said that we need to move forward to the next step. Joyce made the motion to move forward, John seconded. John also stated that we need to send another compliance letter to Mr. Glenn McCullough. 2.0

5 Member Town Council:

Harry spoke on a 5-member town council being a good idea due to other council members being out with illnesses or other things beyond their control. Harry said with the county & federal government being stricter & stricter every year, it would be good to have more members on the town council.

Westport Community Building Officers:

Melissa Deppe spoke on the new officers of the Westport Community Building. They are as follows. Connie Davis-President, Barb Winchester-Vice President, Melissa Deppe-Secretary, & Jennifer Hryb as Treasurer. Melissa said that they settled on the new colors of the building being slate blue siding & white trim.

From the Floor:

Karen Webster stated that there have been vehicle break ins in her neighborhood. She also stated that people need to keep an eye out.

Mary Ortman asked the council what can be done about yapping dogs in her neighborhood. John stated that officers can issue ordinance fines on this. John stated that they would need to come to the Town Hall & issue a complaint. John also stated that there is no leash law in the state of Indiana.


Bryan Gatewood wanted to know who won the bid on the windows for the Community building & was told Window World. He also wanted to know if the trees that were damaged at the cemetery were going to be replaced by insurance. Damon stated that they are still assessing the damage.

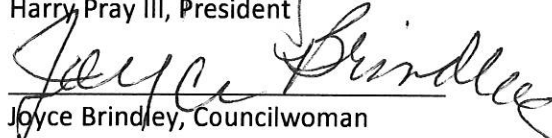
Dolores Honeycutt asked about the rules on burning in town. John told her that only natural things can be burnt.

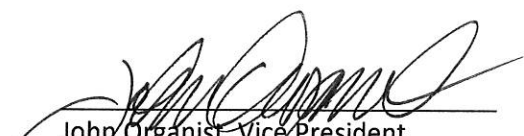
Ray Robbins stated that the town did a great job of getting the cemetery cleaned up. Damon stated that it was a group effort.

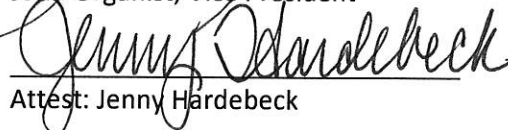
Alex Whitted wanted Harry to speak about the Thursday meeting they had over the trees that will have to be planted with the new sewer project. Harry stated that with every tree that is removed, 5 trees must be planted. 70% of these trees must survive for 5 years. Harry had an arial photo for people to see.

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


Harry Pray III, President


Joyce Brindley, Councilwoman


John Organist, Vice President


Attest: Jenny Hardebeck