

MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF SPRING GROVE

March 13, 2018

HELD AT QUAKER HILL CONFERENCE CENTER

7:00 P.M.

Board members present included Dr. Ernest Hendricks, Doug Brenneke, Murlin Clark, Ann Marie Chasteen. Also present were Counsel A.J. Sickmann, Clerk-Treasurer Tammy Glenn and citizens from Spring Grove.

The minutes of the January XX, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Murlin Clark made a motion for approval as received. Ann Marie Chasteen seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

Payment vouchers were circulated for approval and signature.

Dr. Hendricks explained that there was no meeting of the Board in February due to lack of quorum.

Discussion with A.J. Sickmann regarding the 2018 Fire Protection Contract with the City of Richmond. A.J. stated that there were discussions regarding the assessed value of Spring Grove. A.J. recommended a meeting with the City's Board of Public Works to discuss how the fire contract is costed. He will speak with City officials and return with a decision regarding that meeting in the future.

Dr. Hendricks offered explanation to the citizens that 70% of the tax base is medical facilities and, therefore, tax exempt. There are also churches that are tax exempt. He said that we are looking to sit down with the officials of the City of Richmond to discuss options for fire protection.

Mr. Brenneke asked if a previous concern regarding salt application has been addressed. Mr. Clark stated that it was better.

New Board member discussion and approval. Bob Erbse, retired school teacher with Richmond Community Schools. Lived in Spring Grove since 1990.

Dr. Hendricks stated that the Board is comprised of members from all areas in the Spring Grove district

Mr. Brenneke made a motion to approve Mr. Erbse as a new Board member. Mr. Clark 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

A.J. Sickmann delivered the oath of office.

Mr. Erbse joined the meeting.

Appointment of Vice President of Board. Mr. Brenneke has said he was willing to serve as V.P. Mr. Clark made a motion. Ms. Chasteen 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

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Bond Discussion. Dr. Hendricks said we need more members bonded to be able to sign warrants. Ms. Glenn and Mr. Brenneke will complete applications to become bonded.

Ms. Glenn stated that the annual report for 2016 and 2017 was submitted on the State of Indiana database (Gateway). She also stated that the State requires proof of bonded Board members. This is a new requirement.

Citizen complaint regarding firearm. There was a situation on Christmas day with someone firing a gun near Oak Drive. Citizen wrote a letter complaining. Dr. Hendricks wrote a letter to Sheriff Cappa. There was a question as to if Spring Grove had a firearms ordinance. Dr. Hendricks said that we do. A.J. Sickmann stated that the Sheriff called him and said the County cannot enforce Spring Grove ordinance. They can only enforce state laws as it related to Spring Grove. A.J. said that a solution was to appoint a town marshal. If the situation with this Citizen continues, the Sheriff can enforce State laws.

Boundry Survey from census bureau. It is an annual report of boundry changes. Dr. Hendricks completed the survey showing that there were no changes.

Plan Commission update. Need to appoint Board Member to Plan Commission. Mr. Clark made a motion to appoint Ms. Chasteen. Mr. Brenneke 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

Ms. Chasteen stated that the Plan Commission started meeting with Steve Higginbotham to update town ordinances and comply with State and County guidelines. They have completed new map. They are in discussion to rezone some professional areas. They are very close to presenting this for adoption. They are also looking at a fee schedule to be in line with Wayne County.

Discussion regarding Unsafe Building. Dr. Hendricks asked if Wayne County could assist the town with compliance if we had an Unsafe Building ordinance. There would have to be funds available.

Discussion on Subdivision Ordinance. If we don't have an Ordinance in place, acreage could be subdivided.

Discussion of vacant seats on Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. Three seats are vacant on Plan Commission and two open seats on BZA. A.J. recommends that BZA members attend County meetings.

Discussion of Ms. Chasteen remaining on the BZA until empty seats are filled.

Citizen Julie Stout was introduced. Dr. Hendricks recommended her for Plan Commission. She said she was interested in serving in any capacity that is needed. Mr. Brenneke made a motion to appoint Ms. Stout to the Plan Commission. Mr. Clark 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

Other Citizens to be considered for seats on Boards were Chris Chamberlain, Shelley Irwin, Linda Haynes.

Citizen Chris Chamberlain has a question about booth rent in his Mom's shop. Ms. Chasteen stated that the ordinance prohibits the sale of goods or commodities on premises. As long as he is not selling goods he should be able to charge booth rent. Dr. Hendricks asked that he keep us posted.

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Mr. Chamberlain asked about vehicles on property that aren't tagged. Ms. Chasteen stated that if it isn't interfering with roadways or property line there wasn't much that could be done. A.J. Sickmann said that the issue is with enforcement. Ms. Chasteen said that we first need to get ordinances in place then we can enforce them.

Ms. Stout asked about raccoons getting in trash containers. Her neighbor doesn't secure his trash container and the trash is all over the property when raccoons get into it. Dr. Hendricks said that the Board or the attorney could write a letter to the citizen. Mr. Brenneke suggested contacting Richmond Sanitary District to get a new container that can securely close and raccoons cannot get in.

Ms. Chasteen added that potholes are going to have to be addressed soon. We need to out our ordinances on the website to be accessible to the public. And, we might want to establish an e-mail address for the town so Citizens could communicate their comments, concerns, and complaints.

With no other business, Mr. Clark made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Brenneke 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.