

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON
MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
APPROVED OCTOBER 10, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING: Clerk-Treasurer Mindy Hoover called the 2024 Budget Hearing to order at 6:00pm. The budget was presented and a discrepancy with the Fire Territory levy was discovered.. This will be fixed before the final Hearing in October.

BOARD MEETING: The Worthington Town Council met for the monthly meeting on 09/12/2023 at Town Hall at 6:10 PM. Members in attendance were Gerren Cullison, Brian Stoner, Tom Franklin, and Barry Hoover and Kim Archer.

Meeting was called to order by Gerren Cullison.. Kim Archer offered a prayer.

Motion to approve the minutes from the August 2023 meeting was made by Tom Franklin. Kim Archer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve and pay claims was made by Kim Archer and seconded by Barry Hoover.. Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report

- An August fund report and Trust Indiana statement were presented.
- The TRECS Agreement was presented and signed.
- Duke Energy streetlight project update was given.
- Clerk Treasurer presented Ordinance 2023-10 specifying the dollar amounts for work done by town employees for cleanup of private property. A motion to approve Ordinance 2023-10 was made by Tom Franklin and seconded by Kim Archer. Motion carried 5-0.
- The Budget Resolution was presented and signed in error. It will be represented at the next meeting.
- Mindy gave a summary of the Town Hall renovation project which came in under budget.
- The termite problem at the Street Department building was discussed. Dustin Banning will treat it for \$1450.

Sewer Utility Report:

- Clerk Renie Powell reported that she sent out 50 late letters with new language regarding the option for TRECS garnishing state tax returns. We have a total of \$16,054.10 in outstanding sewer bills.
- New rates will be discussed at a future Sewer Board meeting.
- Renie has been researching accounts to determine that closed accounts are actually supposed to be closed. She's discovered some discrepancies with how we are charging churches and other properties.

Street Department:

- Superintendent Tim Edelman reported that he and Roy have been doing routine maintenance at the plant that has been neglected for years. Just cleaning on the pump and aerator reduced the electric bill by over \$1500.00.
- He has been getting bills on repairs needed for the barn at the treatment plant. He will move forward to get the repairs done.
- The Terre Haute Road lift station pump will be delivered soon. Other pump problems were discussed and are being repaired.

Police Department:


- The police department had 125 calls, issued 16 tickets, 57 warnings.
- Chief Gambill has applied for a grant to buy speed signs for the 3 main entries to town.
- He wants to convert the rifles to beanbag, non-lethal weapons. It is a good alternative to the taser which has to be much closer to the subject.
- Jacob and Tim brought up an Ordinance that says the town is not responsible for trees coming down between the street and sidewalks. We have not been following the ordinance. For now we will take care of the two trees we've already committed to taking down.

Old Business:

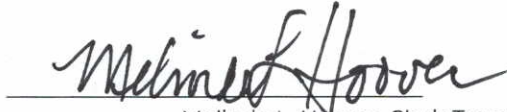
- Wessler and SIDC were in attendance to report on the grant denial and other possible funding options including the second round SRF money. OCRA will come next week and explain what we need to improve on our application to be reconsidered.

New Business:

- Kim Archer brought up moving the Blessing Box closer to Town Hall so it can be covered by cameras. Tim and Roy will work on it when they have time.
- Attorney Marilyn Hartman discussed the DNR Flood Plain Ordinance. Revisions will be mad and the final ordinance will be presented at the next meeting. She also brought up options for raising the sewer bill payments. This will be further discussed after the rate study is completed.
- Greg from SIDC explained the Regional Land Bank. They find properties that are abandoned or don't sell at tax sale, and they will acquire the property and work towards returning them back to livable housing.
- Dennis Cullison spoke to a problem with a house on Union Street. He also reminded the board that the inmates from Owen County will be in town and they can help with town cleanup.
- Meeting adjourned by a motion from Barry Hoover and seconded by Kim Archer.



Gerren Cullison, President



Melinda L. Hoover, Clerk-Treasurer