

Town of Hamilton

7750 S Wayne St – PO Box 249

Hamilton, In 46742

DRAFT – NOT YET ADOPTED

November 4th, 2009 Town Council Meeting

4:00pm

1. Council President Brent Shull called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

Roll call: Councilors Jeff Bireley, John Damron, Will Nuttle, and Brent Shull were present. The Clerk Treasurer, Hester Stouder was present to record the meeting. Also present was Town Manager Milton Otero, absent members included Dick Bacon and Town Attorney Dan Brinkerhoff. Attached is a list of audience members.

2. Additional Appropriations – Clerk Treasurer Hester Stouder presented the resolution 2009-2 to allow additional appropriations for various funds. John Damron made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Jeff Bireley seconded the motion, motion carried.

3. Credit Card Policy – Clerk Treasurer Hester Stouder requested approval on a credit card policy as suggested by the State Board of Accounts. She said Town Attorney Dan Brinkerhoff gave his approval after minor changes were made to the wording. Several council members posed questions, specifically about who will have credit cards. The clerk responded saying she had applications for each employee if that is what the council would like her to do. She could research more options, and line one of the policy allowed her to find the best option and get approval from the council without postponing the adoption of the policy. With no other questions, John Damron made a motion to approve the credit card policy as presented, Will Nuttle seconded the motion, motion carried.

4. New/Old Business -

- A. Town Manager Milton Otero presented the resignation letter of Marshal Joe Patterson, effective December 1st, 2009. The council each thanked Joe for his service and wished him the best. He too, thanked the council and said he would be happy to help where he could with the transition even after the first.
- B. Councilman Will Nuttle asked about the Snow Removal Policy for sidewalks. Council President Brent Shull said he believed the sidewalks were the Town's responsibility to ensure snow is removed. Town Manager Milton Otero is still talking with Dan to outline exactly how this will be handled, when they have a resolution, it will be presented to the council.
- C. Councilman Will Nuttle asked about the Contract for Christmas Decorations with Business owner Paul Headley. Once his question was better explained and he was referring to a contract with Mr. Headley for the amount appropriated each year, Mr. Shull asked if the clerk would get with the Town Attorney to draw up a contract as discussed and referenced in the last audit dated 2007.
- D. Mr. Nuttle suggested he would like to see a 5 year business plan for the Police and Street Department. Council President Brent Shull said he thought there was

one in place for larger items such as the leaf vac, etc. Town Manager Milton Otero said he had one from both departments and would make sure Mr. Nuttle and the clerk had copies.

- E. Councilman Bireley asked if the road salt had been purchased, Town Manager Milton Otero assured him it had. He also asked how the new part time employee was working out. Mr. Otero said he was working out well and had to cut it a little short today because the leaf vac broke down and needed some repairs. He also stated the part had been ordered and they should be back in business by Thursday or Friday at the latest.
- F. Mr. Bireley asked what the status was on the downtown dumpster project? Mr. Otero said he recently had 3 additional businesses back out, changing the cost for those still wanting to be involved. Mr. Otero said he would be waiting on phone calls and commitment from others and if he didn't get a concrete group by December 2009 and without the council making it mandatory he would not continue with the project. Councilman Damron said it would be nice to have a program that was cost effective to the businesses where they would want to participate instead of being forced too. More will be discussed at the December Town Council Meeting.
- G. Councilman Bireley asked if a water tap was abandoned and the home sold, could the new owner pay the past due balance instead of the tap fee? Council president Brent Shull explained our ordinance referring to abandoning the tap would not support this option. Clerk Treasurer Hester Stouder explained state statute wouldn't allow the new owner to be responsible for the previous users water bill. And liens aren't allowed to be placed on titles for non-payment of water utilities. Therefore the only resource the Town has to collect monies owed after at least 6 months of non-payment is to follow the process of abandoning the water tap. Mr. Bireley said he appreciated the explanation and suggested to look at and possibly update the ordinance at some point.
- H. Clerk Treasurer Hester Stouder asked the council for approval to purchase a camera for the backroom with a monitor in the front office priced at \$210.00. This request comes after having unexpected customers come through the back door. Town Manager Milton Otero commented that he would rather see a new locking door due to the number of keys he has found un-accounted for while working on the master key log. After discussion by all members present, the council asked the Town Manager to look into prices for new locks or a door and to not order any type of camera at this time.
- I. Council President Brent Shull informed the board of Don Norris, President of the Plan Commission resignation, effective December 31st, 2009. It will be the duty of the current council to appoint someone; he asked if everyone would please be thinking of a replacement.

With no other comments or items of business, the motion to adjourn was made by John Damron and seconded by Will Nuttle. The meeting adjourned at 442 pm.

Hester Stouder - Clerk Treasurer

Brent Shull - Council President