

CITY OF GOSHEN CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

October 16, 2017

The meeting of the City of Goshen Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Bobby Thacker at the North Oldham Fire Department, Goshen Station, 1660 South Highway 1793, with the following members present:

Bobby Thacker	Mayor	1014 Rollingwood Lane
Bill Rolfes	Commissioner	1042 Rollingwood Lane
Al Nesteruk	Commissioner	1125 Hollendale Way
Doug Morales	Commissioner	1024 Club Drive
Bob Hammon	Commissioner	1007 Rollingwood Lane

Commissioner Morales motioned to have public comment first on the agenda. Commissioner Nesteruk seconded the motion. Mayor Thacker stated he didn't see any need to have public comment first as no issues have been discussed yet and as always if a major issues comes up for a vote he will send it to the floor for residents comment before a vote is taken. Morales voted aye. Rolfes and Thacker voted nay and Nesteruk abstained. Motion failed.

Minutes

Commissioner Rolfes motioned to approve the September 18, 2017 regular meeting minutes, Morales seconded the motion. Rolfes, Morales and Thacker voted aye. Nesteruk voted nay. Minutes of September 18, 2017 were approved.

Commissioner Hammon arrived.

Rolfes motioned to approve the special meeting minutes of September 26, 2017. Hammon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Minutes were approved.

Public Safety – Bobby Thacker

Thacker announced the city will have extra patrols in the city on Halloween night.

Budget and Finance – Bob Hammon

Commissioner Hammon announced the auditor will present the city's annual audit at next month's meeting. Hammon motioned to approve the September financials, Rolfes seconded the motion. All voted aye to approve the September financials.

Drainage – Bob Hammon

Hammon stated he spoke with a homeowner on Springmeadow regarding some landscape timbers in or near the drainage easement. Hammon stated the landscape timbers have been there a long time and some have rotted and the homeowner wants to replace them. Hammon stated he informed her as long as she doesn't make any major changes to the area it would be alright to go ahead and make repairs.

Hammon stated the drainage repair project on Hollendale is so small that he thinks it should wait until another project comes up as a large part of the cost of the project is bringing the equipment in.

Ordinance Enforcement – Bill Rolfes

Rolfes reported 29 trash can violation notices, 6 trash can citations, 4 grass violations and 2 parking violations were sent out last month. Rolfes stated he would like to explore an ordinance

requiring landlords to register rentals with the city so the city can ensure new tenants are being made aware of city ordinances.

Jacob Rascon a potential buyer of 1027 Rollingwood Lane stated he would like to put a circular driveway in to accommodate his special needs son. Morales stated the buyer would need to submit plans and an engineering report before being able to proceed. Mr. Rascon asked that he be given a contingency to keep the pull off area in front of the property. Thacker stated there is a city ordinance that all pull offs be removed upon sale of the property. Rolfes suggested instead of a parking pad he could put in a path to the front door and park on the street while he transports his son into the house and then pull in the driveway. Nesteruk stated he was not in favor of keeping a pull off either because Rollingwood is one of the more challenging streets for pedestrians and snow removal. Morales suggested the possibility of widening the driveway. No action was taken.

Jim Welter, 1021 Harmony Landing Road stated he replaced an existing fence with a 6ft. privacy fence and has since received notice from the city that the finished side has to face the public. Mr. Welter stated he does have a letter from his neighbor stating he is fine with the fence the way it is now. Mr. Welter stated with the way property slopes a lot more stringers would be visible from the street if he turns it around. Rolfes motioned to grant a variance to allow the finished side of the fence in the side yard face in at 1021 Harmony Landing Road. Morales seconded the motion, all voted aye. Variance was granted.

Beautification – Bill Rolfes

Rolfes stated banners were changed to fall leaves. Rolfes said he forewent planting mums or tulips this year to allow for enough funds to do holiday lights.

Newsletter – Al Nesteruk

Nesteruk stated he sent out an email blast notifying everyone of a hazardous waste collection the county is holding this weekend.

Website – Al Nesteruk

Nesteruk stated he has sent a list of accepted items for junk removal to the website company to be added to the website. He is also looking into adding a frequently asked questions tab to the website.

Architectural Control – Doug Morales

Morales stated he issued one building permit to 1012 Forest Lane for a privacy fence. Thacker questioned how many architectural control permits had been issued this year and how many have been turned over to the city clerk to keep on file. Morales replied he has issued eight permits and will send them to the clerk this week.

Street and Public Works – Doug Morales

No report.

Playground – Bill Rolfes

Rolfes read the following statement:

The new City of Goshen park development has been put on hold until we can rectify our income versus expenses. The purchase of the land that came with a payment towards the loan of around \$10,000 per year and the reduced amount of insurance surcharges being received each year has put a strain on finances. The current fiscal year budget was made with realistic income expectations and balanced to that number which left no money for the park development.

I have heard and have even said it myself that we should just sell the land and be done with it. The more I think about that prospect the more I feel it would be taking a step backwards in the development of our city. I have taken a step back and looked at the city as a business and in doing so have realized there is a great comparison to be made. I have been in the same industry for nearly 30 years and have been with different companies through that time including my own. Times have been both good and bad. There are several things companies do when they get into revenue pinches. 1st and probably the worse step they take is laying off people. This would equate to cutting services in the city such as police, maintenance, chipping service or trash removal. The second thing that happens is they raise prices to make up for lost revenue. This would equate to raising taxes, lowering the early pay deductions or putting surcharges on utilities which would be passed along to residents. The third thing companies do is sell their assets. This is a temporary fix that goes away quickly after the initial funds. The 4th way in which companies can overcome financial difficulties is finding new revenue streams. This is the way I believe we should go. I have had some conversations with local businesses that have shown interest in sponsoring our parks. Since we already have a budget in place for this fiscal year I would ask that any motions made to sell the land be tabled until I have time to explore the option of sponsorship with local companies through the end of the calendar year.

The reason I believe we need the pocket park on the opposite side of the city from Creasey is it will help with the property values and it shows our city as progressing, not stagnant. There are many studies that show that a park, even a small park within walking distance increases a home's value. It could increase our homes value by 2-4% depending on how close to the park you live. That would equate to 4-8,000 dollars more per home.

I hope that the current commission and mayor will give me the time to explore these other revenue streams before we make a decision to sell the land.

Sanitation – Bobby Thacker

Thacker reported a junk pickup will take place on November 9th. Items for junk pickup should be placed at the curb the night before. Blue trash cans should be put out for regular pickup on Tuesday the 7th. Blue trash cans will not be included in the junk pickup.

Administrative Issues – Bobby Thacker

The clerk reported liens will be placed on unpaid tax bills after November 1st.

Old Business

None

New Business

Thacker stated Commissioner Nesteruk had been contacted by a resident regarding the legality of the city's firearms ordinance. Thacker stated the ordinance was repealed on July 18, 2011.

Thacker announced the Kentucky Supreme Court has ruled that cities can opt in to the telecom franchise fees. The clerk will contact the city attorney regarding this issue.

Thacker stated the city has been contacted by Creasey Mahan director, Tavia Brown, requesting a

donation for Nature of Christmas in Goshen. Thacker asked if there was any interest in participating or making a donation. No comment from any Commissioner.

Nesteruk stated the Commission cut expenses by 40,000 to come up with a balanced budget this year. Nesteruk stated he thinks the city needs other options to raise revenues. Nesteruk shared the current budget numbers with the audience stating some expenses are fixed such as Mayor/ Commission compensation, clerk/ treasurer wages, garbage collection, office rents, LG&E, mortgage and added police protection. Nesteruk said the commission needs to determine when roads will need to be repaved. Hammon stated the cost of repaving was around 180,000 the last time. Morales stated construction and petroleum costs have gone up in the last eight years. Nesteruk stated the commission is taxed with saving for roads and that may mean cutting the tax discount, raising property taxes or cutting extra police patrols.

Hammon stated the city is not in financial difficulties but does need to have long range plans. Hammon stated he previously suggested cutting the tax discount from 10% to 8% and that suggestion didn't go anywhere. Hammon suggested cutting the Mayor/ Commission salary by 10%. Thacker made a point of order that the current Commission cannot change its own salary; it can only be done for future commissions.

Thacker stated he will never agree with a tax increase or cutting services. Thacker stated there have been ups and downs before and the city has always got through it and will continue to do so. Morales motioned to transfer \$2000 from the general fund to pay for the annexation of the park property. Hammon seconded the motion. Morales stated he thinks it's smart to annex in it so deed restrictions can be placed on it and the city could collect tax revenues on it if they were to sell part or all the land.

Rolfes stated he disagrees with annexing the park property right now as the commission worked very hard on this last budget to come in with a balanced budget. Rolfes stated he would like to end the fiscal year in the positive and annexing could wait until the next fiscal year.

Nesteruk stated he would like to table the motion until the next meeting to see if they can find the money by cutting expenses from other line items. Hammon stated he is in agreement with annexing the property but agrees it can wait.

Thacker motioned to table Morales's motion to take \$2000 from the general fund to pay for annexation of the park property. Rolfes seconded the motion, all voted aye to table the motion. Morales stated there are ways to extend the life of roads by applying a micro seal and possibly installing a curb on Club Drive in the curve near Springmeadow where there's some sloughing on the edge of the road. Morales suggested contacting a couple of paving companies for estimates. Hammon motioned to approve \$1700 on drainage repair by Risinger Construction at 1114 Hollendale Way. Morales seconded the motion. All voted aye.

Public Comment

The following gave public comment: Carol Warren, Christa Druin, Jenifer Pendelton, Debree Underwood, Craig Incorvia, Martin Martinez, Jodi Martinez, Jeff Mangan, Bob Dearmond, Janelle Schiender and Adam Schiender.

Rolfes motioned to adjourn, Morales seconded the motion. All voted aye

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joyce Morphew
Clerk/ Treasurer
11/20/2017

Bobby Thacker
Mayor