

Village Council Meeting As
A Committee of the Whole
March 13, 2018
6:30 PM

ROLL CALL: Richard Bingham, Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer, Mindy Curry, Bob Keogh, Bill May, and Louann Artiaga. Also present were the following: Mayor Don Atkinson, Administrator Jordan Daugherty, Public Services Director Steve Pilcher, Clerk Susan Miller, Tom Malicki.

At 6:30 PM, President of Council, Bill May called the meeting to order.

Motion by Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer, seconded by Mindy Curry to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2018 meeting. 6 ayes

President of Council, Bill May asked for Citizen Comments pertaining to Agenda items. There were none.

General

The first order of business was to discuss the Village funded scholarships' criteria for award.

- Two \$500 scholarships have been approved
- Scholarships open to residents, not solely for high school students
- Use of public funds
- Criteria: What recipients want to do, goals, financial need, community involvement, Minimum GPA, No Convictions/Felonies
 - Older student shouldn't have to track down transcripts
 - Need to be accepted or attending an accredited institution
- Tuition is expensive and a burden to everyone, staying away from people's financial Information, Applications will be public
- Conflict of giving scholarships to family members
- Creation of a scholarship committee
 - Tom Malicki, Rob Casaletta?, Julie Cunningham?, staff liason
- Allowing the alumni association to administer the scholarships
 - Would like to see the village give the scholarships and not be limited to high school Students
- Keep it general, resident committee of 3, tweak as needed
- Will the same people be able to reapply?
- Change letter of recommendation to be from a nonelected Whitehouse resident, note on the Application that it is public record
- Serving all residents, supporting someone with a criminal background that is bettering Themselves
 - Not being for someone with a heinous crime in their background and Whitehouse gives Them a scholarship
 - Not putting the question on the application that is public record, asking in the interview Process if they have any violent felonies in their background

Public Service

The next order of business is consideration of Otsego Street as a one-way street.

- Construction of an island so that people can go both ways, plowing obstacle
- No room in the parking lot
- Does the Village have the authority to move a mailbox?
- Post office box by water bill drop off at Village hall
 - Idea to be presented when the new Postmaster is installed
 - Increased parking at the post office if the mailbox is move to Village hall
 - Camera to cover mailbox and internet pick up
- Mailbox near shell station

Public Service

The next order of business was to discuss Parks Master Plan and Council input on formation of Parks and Recreation Committee.

- Bill May likes the Committee of the Whole, all meetings done in one night, likes to be at the Meetings with input from the beginning of topics, Bob Keogh and Mindy Curry agree
- Planning Commission is a separate committee
- Previous distrust in committee process, hate to Think any of present members would operate That way
 - Doing grunt work
 - Specific time devoted to a topic by people with a passion for it
- Schedule and dedicate Committee of the Whole dates to discuss
- Staff can research for Council
 - Opportunity for Council to do some of the work
- Event planning, Master plan – paid a company thousands for the Master Plan – sits dormant for Years, nothing gets done
- Placing Parks and Recs on the COW agenda, How much has gotten done? Budget?
- A committed effort, Priorities, Budget, 5, 10, 15-20 year plan
- Tree Commission meets 1/month on one topic and is very productive
- If Council decides it would like a Parks and Rec committee, it will be a separate committee from The COW that reports back, last year the Village accomplished Pickleball and Basketball Courts And Musical equipment for the park, transparency of the committee, will other committees (Finance, Public Works) be down the road, Committee can approve what comes to Council or What does not
- Parks and Rec Levy, shows how much people are truly willing to support
 - Shouldn't pay extra, already gave us the money
- Park Priorities:
 - Louann Artiaga – refurbish shelterhouse, enlarge, windows, more functional, Fireplace Cuts large room, 10 years since the last update, Keep Indianapolis Street open – forego Green space
 - Bob Keogh – The Edge Group's work is fancy but not functional, like to see other ideas, Veteran's Park is overdone – difficulty funding, Maintenance not practical, vandalism,

Dirty sand, Fitness trail, upgrade playground equipment, younger families want the Parks, bike trail/walking trail are important

- Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer – formula for how much green space per person, designed For growth, Not closing Indianapolis, not moving soldier statue, when out Campaigning - Most requested improvement of the park, Playground as part of a larger plan including Fitness equipment, walkability of Village, Cause walks, Splash pad (structured programs Can be difficult for families and kids with disabilities) few minutes to cool off, residents Keep asking for water
 - Green space includes Oak Openings, Schools, and Metroparks
 - Bill May – lived in the Village for 50 years and never had anyone ask him about the park, Recently asked about the dock and the track around the park being weedy
 - Richard Bingham – Camp Courageous pool use for Whitehouse residents, Splash pad (\$100,000), look ahead to growth
 - Mindy Curry – A plan, the Master plan has changed, list of priorities, smaller items, next Year something bigger, Sandra park – allocate money for picnic area/benches, Camp Courageous pool
 - Mayor Don Atkinson – Influx of families to the area, first stop is the school, green space, High school, parks, Aesthetics – looks like a nice place to live, park has to pop out at you Aesthetically, limestone signs, Connectivity – walk/bike, center of town, the heart of Town, Aesthetics and amenities are very important
 - Administrator Jordan Daugherty – Parks Master plan was presented as ideal. A prioritized plan looking at 30 years from now. The Village was the oldest community in Lucas County in 2009, six years later we are one of the youngest, Aesthetics, Know Where the money is valuable, spend money on plans – get grants, Master plan has done A lot to make things cohesive, the plan is meant to be done over time, We want to be The best Village in the State, leave some things behind, It’s going to be hard if we’re Going to be great
- Administrator, Jordan Daugherty will contact Camp Courageous again, Director of Public Services will look around the small quarry
 - Council members return with top 3 priorities for the park
 - Renovate the park smart, get the most for our money that benefits the most people
 - Beautiful plan that we can’t afford
 - Veteran’s Memorial Park grant – appealing rejection

Motion by Bob Keogh, seconded by Bill May to Maintain the current Committee of the Whole system and not form a Parks and Recreation Committee. 4 ayes, 2 nays Richard Bingham, Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer

Other items discussed:

- Rebuilding the dock with staff, not going to be ADA compliant, can look at multiple plans, previous estimates were around \$180,000, aluminum floating dock – won’t last long with Freezing – meant to be removed in the winter, won’t work for Freezin’ for a Reason, Can’t hold Freezin’ for a Reason in the large Quarry – people aren’t allowed in the large quarry, investigate Accessible dock options, grade/stone expensive, check on repair vs. replace

- Quality of Life, What's driving developments – schools, safe, metroparks, second lowest real Estate taxes, small town Atmosphere, rural but accessible
- School populations are not growing because families are smaller
- Summer schedule
- Council members 3 park priorities, items the would like to see done first
- Pickleball windscreen

Motion by Bob Keogh, seconded by Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer to adjourn at 8:50 PM. 6 ayes