

**ST. JOHN TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
ST. JOHN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MAIN MEETING ROOM  
10955 W. 93<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE, ST. JOHN, INDIANA  
JANUARY 17, 2008 - 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Fryzel called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Michael Fryzel, President; Jerri Teibel, Vice-President; Gregory Volk, Member; Mark Barenie, Member; Michael Forbes, Member; Tim Kuiper for David Austgen, Attorney, Steve Kil, Town Manager and Sherry Sury, Clerk-Treasurer. Also present were Fred Frego, Police Chief and Fred Willman, Fire Chief. Absent were Bob Pharazyn, Public Works Director; Chip Sobek, Parks Superintendent and John Mainwaring, Code Enforcement Officer.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consider amending FY2007 – CDBG Project** – Mr. Fryzel stated that the proposed project is to provide a handicap accessible safety surface for the sprinkler park at Prairie West Park. The project to be deleted is the construction of a handicap accessible parking area at Lake Hills. Mr. Volk asked how much the federal grant was. Discussion ensued and included the intended use of these funds for the concrete pad at Prairie West Park.

Mr. Volk inquired as to the entire project cost for the sprinkler park in relation to the use of the CDBG funds. Mr. Fryzel provided an overview of the project and stated that the CDBG funds would be used just for the concrete pad with the remaining cost that included the sprinklers; (events) building (washrooms) would be paid by the Park Department. Discussion ensued. Mr. Kil stated that for the sprinkler park itself with pad is about \$50,000 (equipment, concrete and piping). The only way the town qualifies for the CDBG money would be if the money were spent in a park or a public place, and he cannot think of an area of town where they can do a low-income survey. Mr. Fryzel said they should start looking at where they will spend the 2008 money.

Mr. Fryzel opened to the floor for public comment. There was none.

**Ms. Teibel motioned to amend FY2007 CDBG project from improvements at Lake Hills to Prairie West Park. Seconded by Mr. Barenie. Motion unanimously passed.**

**Resolution #08-01-17, declaring uncollectible accounts as “bad debt” for last half of 2007** – Mr. Forbes asked if they collect whatever Medicare/Medicaid payments are presented and if they pursue those payments afterwards. Mr. Kil said they cannot pursue Medicare/Medicaid, it is against the law. The State Board of Accounts said they must get rid of the debt, which is why they are writing this off. Discussion ensued including the timeframe and collectable and non-collectable amounts. **Ms. Teibel motioned to adopt Resolution #08-01-17. Seconded by Mr. Barenie. Motion unanimously passed.**

**Approve the official 2008 Roster of the St. John Volunteer Fire Department** – Chief Willman stated that there are now 44 members. **Ms. Teibel motioned to approve the**

**2008 roster as submitted. (Exhibit A) Seconded by Mr. Barenie. Motion unanimously passed.**

**Consider agreement with Butler, Fairman & Seufert for construction inspection services for Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail** – Mr. Kil stated that this is basically for the firm to serve as construction inspector for the construction of the bicycle trail itself. The firm invoices the town for their services and is paid by the town. The town then sends the voucher to INDOT who in turn pays 80% of the company's fee back to the town. The construction company sends their invoices directly to INDOT. Mr. Forbes inquired as to the number of firms that submitted bids and Mr. Kil stated that there were a total of nine that responded. Mr. Forbes inquired as to the location of the office of Butler, Fairman & Seufert and Mr. Pete Kohot provided the information as to the location of the local office, the residency of the inspector to be in Munster, Indiana, and the status of the bridges. **Ms. Teibel motioned to approve the agreement with Butler, Fairman & Seufert. Seconded by Mr. Barenie. Motion unanimously passed.**

### **Reports & Correspondence**

Town Council

Mr. Barenie mentioned that part of the fence at the Olthof construction project by the former ice arena has blown down and there are large signs erected there that he believes are in violation of the sign ordinance. He requested that the scraps from the fencing be picked up and the fence fixed when the weather permits. Mr. Fryzel stated that he was aware of the situation; it is being addressed and believes it is a violation of the sign ordinance.

Mr. Forbes inquired about adding the meeting minutes for all the departments to the website. Discussion ensued that included the procedure and timeframe after the approval of minutes to be forwarded to the website for posting. Mr. Forbes asked if the agenda's can be put on the website. Discussion ensued. Agendas will not be posted on the website due to the frequency of changes, deletions or additions occurring prior to the beginning of the meetings.

Mr. Fryzel asked Ms. Sury to advertise for the Executive Session on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

Clerk-Treasurer – None

Staff – None

**Public Comment – None**

**Adjournment – Ms. Teibel motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Barenie. Motion unanimously passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Mr. Fryzel welcomed Mr. Forbes to the Town Council.

Attest:

/s/ Sherry P. Sury, Clerk-Treasurer