

TOWN COUNCIL OF LEO-CEDARVILLE
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 21, 2009

ATTENDANCE:

Paul Steffens – Council President
John Clendenen – Vice President
John Eastes
Mike Young
Gordon Liechty, Jr.
Pamela Spannuth – Clerk-Treasurer

7:00 – Council President Steffens opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BRIDGE FUNDING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – Commissioner Nelson Peters was present to request that the town council reconsider entering into an inter-local agreement with the county. He is asking that the town council agree to remit 65% of the increase in wheel/surtax revenues back to the County. He stated that Leo-Cedarville was the only community that did not enter into this agreement and feels that there is a greater benefit to Leo-Cedarville than to the County if the town enters into this agreement. The Allen County council had already voted to increase the wheel/surtax prior to the June 30, 2009 deadline. Commissioner Peters is only asking that the town council agrees to the remittance of a percentage of the increase, and in exchange, the County will be ultimately responsible for the maintenance and liability of the bridges within the town. The increase in the wheel/surtax is due to be reviewed after eight years. County councilman Roy Buskirk discussed the effects of the new property tax reform legislation, and would like to see a reduction of dependency on property taxes by the use of user fees. Mr. Young stated that he voted against the proposed agreement previously because he was against the increase in the wheel/surtax. He asked Mr. Buskirk to explain several County budget and expenditure issues. Discussion ensued regarding the county's finances. Mr. Eastes stated whereas Allen County has passed Ordinance 2009-06-18-2, known as the wheel/surtax ordinance, he moved that the town enter into the inter-local agreement with the County for the maintenance and repair of all bridges within the Town of Leo-Cedarville due to expire on December 31, 2017. Mr. Young seconded the motion. Mr. Eastes stated that the wheel/surtax is a fact, and if this does not pass, the town should continue to establish a cumulative bridge fund. Mr. Eastes clarified that the agreement to be signed is in reference to the amended document addressed in the June 2, 2009 meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

NORTHEAST FIRE & EMS – Mr. Steve Herman was present to discuss the state of affairs with the fire department as well as to discuss the need to formally adopt NIMS, National Incident Management System. He presented a report detailing the volume of fire runs, EMS runs, training and on-duty hours, and revenue vs. expenditure report. He discussed the benefit that the three-person paid crew has provided to the community. Mr. Eastes asked for clarification on the two trucks that the department will be purchasing. They plan to replace a ladder truck and engine. Mr. Eastes questioned the legality of the department billing for runs within the town when the town is in contract and already paying NEF&EMS for services. Mr. Herman and Mr. Witmer assured the council that

this is legal and common practice amongst this service industry. Mr. Herman discussed the details of the audit performed by ISO the purpose of homeowner insurance ratings. Mr. Eastes asked if the fire department would be able to contribute if the town wished to spend the cumulative fire fund on establishing a station within the town; Mr. Eastes expressed his desire for the fire department to have a physical presence within the town. They would not have the funds available to significantly contribute to a large expenditure.

Mr. Herman discussed the need for the town to adopt an ordinance formally adopting NIMS, National Incident Management System. Additional information will be sought regarding this need. Ms. Spannuth will seek additional information from the office of homeland security regarding the process for adopting this ordinance.

Mr. Liechty asked about the status of the departments previous interest in running, ALS, advanced life support. Due to the close proximity of the coverage area to local hospitals, the cost vs. benefit does not support the department going ALS at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Ms. Spannuth presented the current fund and appropriation report. She addressed the timeline for preparing and submitting the 2010 budget. The council agreed to meet at 6:00 p.m. on August 4, 2009 for a budget discussion meeting.

STREET REPORT – Mr. Clendenen stated that the Associated Builders & Contractors of IN wage scale was adopted as the 2009 wage scale for the town of Leo-Cedarville.

ORDINANCE 2009-03 – The council reviewed proposed ordinance 2009-03 as well as the minor changes that needed to be made. Mr. Clendenen moved to waive the reading of Ordinance 2009-03; Mr. Liechty seconded. Mr. Clendenen discussed his desire to only have residents receive one bill which could even include second bins and recycling. Mr. Clendenen moved to adopt 2009-03, an ordinance amending ordinance no. 2001-05, Mr. Young seconded. The ordinance was adopted by unanimous vote.

JULY 7, 2009 MINUTES – A majority of the council approved the July 7, 2009 meeting minutes. Mr. Eastes abstained due to his absence at this meeting.

CUSTOM STREET SIGN – Mr. Eastes moved to approve the expenditure of \$15.00 to be made payable to Pioneer Village Homeowners Association towards the replacement of the Amstutz Road sign with an accompanying letter explaining that this is a one-time event with no future commitment towards the repair or replacement of decorative street signs. Mr. Clendenen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VOUCHERS – The July 21, 2009 line item voucher form was approved by signature.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Paul Steffens – Council President

Pamela Spannuth – Clerk-Treasurer