

The Town of Warsaw Board of Commissioners met in regular session on July 12, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Warsaw Town Hall.

Board Members Present:

Mayor A.J. Connors
Commissioner Scotty Smith
Commissioner Jack Hawes
Commissioner Russell Eason
Commissioner Owen Martin

Also Present:

Town Manager, Scotty Summerlin
Town Clerk, Lea Turner
Public Works Director, Craig Armstrong
Police Chief, Patrick Giddeons
Recreation Director, Betty Smith

Mayor Connors opened the meeting with prayer led by DreamWorks Warsaw Manager, Brian DiCicco. Prayer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised there was a change to the agenda. He advised there would need to be an addition of closed session to discuss a legal matter. Commissioner Russell Eason made a motion to accept the agenda with the change. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the agenda with the addition of closed session.

Consent Agenda:

Mayor Connors asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Commissioner Scotty Smith made the motion to approve the consent agenda items. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the following consent agenda items: (1) Approval of Minutes from June 14th Regular Commissioner Meeting, (2) Approval of Tax Release for Linda Mathis Williams; value adjusted by county appraiser.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Speeding Concerns Along Dogwood Dr:

Manager Summerlin advised that the new speed limits signs have been posted. However, there have still been complaints of speeding. Residents say that if the speeding is not going to be enforced then the signs should be removed. Police Chief, Patrick Giddeons stated that the speed trailer has been placed in the area and he would check it once it had been placed long enough for accurate data. Chief Giddeons advised that speed bumps may actually be what is needed as that area is similar to a cul-de-sac and is difficult to set up for an officer to sit and watch without being seen immediately.

Commissioner Scotty Smith made a motion to add speed bumps to Elm and Dogwood. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to add speed bumps to this area.

It was also discussed that Prospect was having trouble with individuals speeding and not stopping for the 4-way stops. Speed bumps may be a later consideration for this area, as well. The matter may be discussed, at a later time.

Special Recognition and Appreciation for First Responders:

Ms. Teri Brinegar advised she was new to town, but wanted to do something special to recognize first responders. She created a poster and went through Warsaw businesses and asked for signatures. She presented the poster to the Police Dept.

Brief Update of new Dreamworks Warsaw Facility/Programs:

Brian DiCicco stated that they had a new strength training room and that other areas of the gym had been rearranged to allow more room for members. The Java/Smoothie Shop improvements have been made with fat-free frozen yogurt coming soon. Since July 1 there have been 45 new members. Discussion has been had with employees and members and new hours have been established (Monday & Tuesday 6am – 10pm, Wednesday 6am – 9pm, Thursday 6am – 8pm, Friday 6am – 6pm and Saturday 8am – 12pm). Revisions to operating hours may occur in the future, to accommodate users and based upon demand. Visit the website at dreamworkswarsaw.com.

End-of-Year Review:

Public Works Director, Craig Armstrong, gave an update on Public Works. He advised that for the last two (2) years they had cleaned about 200 ft of ditches per month. This year it is his goal to clean 700 ft per month. He also advised that as the ditches were being cleaned, they were upgrading the tiles. He stated that with the new, better, equipment he would be able to work more efficiently. Armstrong also advised he had met with NCDOT at Hill Street in reference to complaints. They are looking to do a cross pipe replacement at Hill & Bell St. Paving has begun and it is about 25% complete. Two (2) fire hydrants have also been replaced and put back in service on Penny Branch Rd.

Police Chief Patrick Giddeons advised they were still working on their professional standards. They are awaiting reimbursement from the 20/21 grant and have completed the paperwork for a 21/22 grant. With the COVID funds the Town was able to purchase AED's for all town buildings and some patrol vehicles. Enterprise Fleet Management has saved some on vehicle repairs, due to being able to replace police vehicles on a shorter life cycle. The Police Department has also been working on more community involvement. Chief Giddeons introduced Officer Darius Lacewell to speak about a program he is working on. Officer Lacewell described National Night Out, a community event where the officers interact with the public and offer food and entertainment. This event will be held August 3, 2021 from 4:30pm – 8:30pm at the Recreation Center, 309 Memorial Dr.

Recreation Director, Betty Smith, informed of Summer Basketball. She stated they have 11-15 teams. Cheerleading will be offered for basketball and there are 12 cheerleaders. Currently signups are going on for fall football and cheerleading. Betty Smith also advised she was getting more requests now for gym rentals.

Town Manager advised that there were currently about 60 outstanding ordinance violations, which include overgrown lots, debris/trash, junk/abandoned vehicles, and dilapidated structure violations. Generally speaking, there are about 200 notice of violations and about 10-15 dilapidated structures repaired or removed. From January – July there have been four (4) new home construction starts, seven (7) new mobile homes, four (4) new or retrofitted commercial properties, four (4) sign permits, and one (1) zoning compliance letter.

Manager's Update:

Manager Summerlin advised on August 7th there will be a Warsaw Community Yard Sale at the Recreation Center on Memorial Dr. Setup begins at 6:00am and the event will begin at 7:00am- until. Manager Summerlin also mentioned that the Public Works and the Police Department were prepared for Tropical Storm Elsa. Luckily, there were no significant damages.

Mayor's Update:

Mayor Connors advised of the dates for filing for candidacy for an elected position for Warsaw. The filing window is July 2-16. He also mentioned the need to revisit and update the town ordinances. Mayor Connors shared that the Mayor from Warsaw, Indiana had visited on his vacation. He sent back a book of the history of Warsaw, Indiana as well as a nice letter. Mayors Connors also shared a suggestion that the Board meet and perform an annual performance evaluation of the Manager.

Board Comments:

Commissioner Scotty Smith advised he would like to see the phone tree used more as things were happening in town that he was unaware of.

Closed Session:

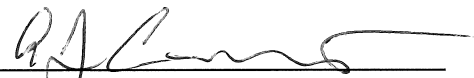
Commissioner Scotty Smith made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Jack Hawes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to go into closed session in reference to NCGS 143-318.11(3).

Commissioner Owen Martin made a motion to resume regular session. Commissioner Russell Eason seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to resume regular session.

No action was taken in closed session.

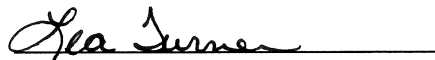
Adjournment:

Commissioner Russell Eason made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.



Mayor

Attest:



Town Clerk