

**TOWN OF DUNE ACRES  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
November 20, 2018**

The Town of Dune Acres Town Council met for its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, at the Town Hall. Council President Richard Hawksworth called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., with Council Members Peter Bomberger and Alexander Stemer, Clerk-Treasurer Jeannette Bapst, and Attorney Adam Mindel representing Dan Whitten in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes for the October 16, 2018, Town Council Meeting be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**BANK BALANCES 10/31/2018**

Porter State Bank	\$ 224,263.25
Trust Indiana	\$ 394,284.72
Record Balance	\$618,547.97

\*Those funds marked with an asterisk are designated monies and can only be spent for the designated purpose.

**BREAK DOWN OF FINANCES AMONG FUNDS  
As of October 31, 2018**

FUNDS	CASH BALANCE 10-31-18
GENERAL	152,103.32
MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	64,998.66
LOCAL ROAD & STREET	12,339.67
PARK & RECREATION	51,446.78
RAINY DAY FUND	131,930.78
CCI	-72.20
CCD	15,189.87
CEDIT	15,256.67
RIVERBOAT REVENUE SHARING	254.14
Donations*	26,743.97
Clubhouse Dune Grant*	.00
Construction Security Dep*	25,000.00
SalesTaxClubHouseRental*	304.79
ClubHouseRentalDeposit*	600.00
Local Road & Bridge Grant Fund*	114,514.75
Levy Excess Fund*	.00
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 610,611.20</b>

APP BAL.	% Left
\$102,385	26
\$60,000	100
2,000	33
\$1,069	13
\$50,000	100
0	0
\$8,118	27
\$5,800	29
0	0

Clerk-Treasurer Bapst reported the town had received its 1782 Notice from the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance for the 2019 Budget. All proposed rates, levies and appropriations were in order. She noted the town's Cumulative Capital Development Fund (CCD) tax levy for 2019 had been reduced by approximately \$2,000 compared to 2018 due to the 3-year averaging calculation required by statute. It was suggested the Council follow the practice of most cities and towns and conduct annual CCD rate hearings to ensure the target level is maintained.

Bapst then presented the October month-end financial report. It was moved and seconded to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

**PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:**

It was moved and seconded that claims for the month of November 2018, #6266 - #6308, in the amount of \$179,873.61 be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

## CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

Dune Acres Pollution Committee: A report submitted by Dune Acres Pollution Committee Chair Michael Treister was discussed. Treister provided details of the October 18, 2018, meeting held with ArcelorMittal executives that addressed concerns about air and water contaminants emitted from the steel mill. Residents wanting to review the full report may do so by contacting the Town Clerk-Treasurer's office.

## COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

**BEACH**: Beach Commissioner Rob Carstens was working to secure boat registrations from residents wintering their watercraft at East Beach, as required by ordinance. He was also coordinating delivery and installation of the new ice rink liner. Carstens had recommended delaying repairs to the East Beach viewing deck until spring, stating the deck structure itself may be in jeopardy from rising water levels.

**BUILDING**: It was moved and seconded to approve the following building permits, as recommended by Building Commissioner Tom Roberts: Permit #2018-13, 4 Shore Drive, \$19,000 septic replacement; Permit #2018-14, 84 West Road, \$30,000 deck extension; Permit #2018-16, 25 East Road, \$20,309 roof replacement; Permit #2018-17, 19 Hill Drive, \$67,000 window replacement and structure repairs. Motion passed unanimously.

**ENVIRONMENT**: President Hawksworth recognized Environmental Commissioner Robin Tennant for conducting another successful Town Cleanup on November 3, 2018, stating volunteers participated in record numbers. Tennant again made the event fun and productive. Her ongoing generosity in providing meals to all town volunteers is greatly appreciated.

**FIRE**: Fire Commissioner Mark Bapst reported that tests on the clubhouse fire system were successfully completed this month. He continues to address issues with the compressor unit that supports the system, stating pricing was being secured for parts and a possible unit replacement.

**MAINTENANCE**: Commissioner Dick Taylor reported on town maintenance work focused on winterization tasks.

**SECURITY**: Security Commissioner Bill Griffin reported the department was running smoothly with no current issues of concern.

**ROADS**: The Town's Indiana Department of Transportation Community Crossings Grant award was presented. All three applications were approved in an amount totaling \$325,542.90. The grants will be used to fund 75% of town road improvements, with a 25% required local match. The three projects and their estimated costs were reviewed as follows:

- 1.) Application #1211, Crackseal \$15,190 – Crackseal all pavement installed in the last 4 years.
- 2.) Application #1133, Paving “west side” \$129,953 – Pave Shore Drive from East Road to Clubhouse Drive, West Road from Hill Drive to Summit Drive, Willow Lane, Aspen Court.
- 3.) Application #1125, Paving “east side” \$297,914 – Pave East Road from Crest Drive to end, Crest Drive with all spurs, Ridge Drive from East Road to Fern, Circle Drive with all spurs.

The bid timeline for paving projects was then presented with an award date scheduled for the February 19, 2019, Town Council Meeting.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Land Donation: Attorney Mindel gave an update on the Chip and Sheryl Lesch land donation. He expected transfer of ownership to the town of the .60 acre parcel located on the corner of East Road and Circle Drive to be completed before year end.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Clubhouse Rentals: It was moved and seconded to approve clubhouse rentals for June 18, 2019, November 10, 2018, and November 17, 2018. Motion passed unanimously. It was then moved and seconded to waive fees for the November 17, 2018 memorial event. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2018-03, 2019 Salaries, First Reading: President Hawksworth presented the first reading of the 2019 Salary Ordinance. After discussion, and following a delay in the motion, it was moved and seconded to approve the first reading. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Flood Management Designee: The Council named Clerk-Treasurer Bapst to replace Joan Rearick as the town's DNR Floodplain Management Designee. A meeting with DNR was scheduled for December 11, 2018 to meet state floodplain management requirements and maintain the town's status with the program.

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) "Railroad Crossing Taskforce": Under the leadership of City of Hammond Mayor Tom McDermott, a new taskforce was being formed to address problematic delays at the region's railroad crossings. The Council approved Commissioner Bill Griffin as town representative to the taskforce and requested he attend the first meeting scheduled at NIRPC on December 17, 2018.

The Council then asked Griffin to compile information on the Mineral Springs Road/NICTD South Shore crossing, specifically 1.) Data on gate down time with switching in process and 2.) Gate down time with no trains present. Griffin said he would work with his staff on a report.

Dune Acres Wildfire Prevention / Purdue Study on NW Indiana Climate Change: Extensive discussion was held regarding Dune Acres' exposure to wildfires as more information has been released about the catastrophic fires in California. President Hawksworth shared information from the Purdue University Climate Change Report which forecasted average temperatures in NW Indiana to rise exponentially over the next 20 years. He said the last major fire in Dune Acres occurred in March 1949, burning from Route 12 to the clubhouse, during a time period with far few houses and far fewer trees and brush present.

Fire Commissioner Mark Bapst had several suggestions for reducing wildfire risk. Maintenance Commissioner Dick Taylor reported the town brush collection conducted this month was overwhelming relative to the number of residents who had cleared invasive woody plants and vines from their property. The town was able to keep up with demand only by hiring an outside contractor with high-output equipment.

Preventative measures against wildfires that were discussed included continuing with annual prescribed burns on town parkland, keeping roadside right-of-ways cleared and mowed (roads as firebreaks), continue the town service of collecting brush and removing it from town, being mindful of 'trigger events' such as fireworks, and advising residents on best practice landscaping for fire safety. Allowing prescribed burns on private property was also suggested, which would require an amendment to town ordinance. Emergency alerts including a siren and/or automated phone calling were discussed.

## OTHER MATTERS:

Parabolic Mirrors: A resident asked that the installation of parabolic mirrors at blind intersections around town be considered to improve safety.

The meeting was briefly adjourned at 8:15 PM; reconvened to take a vote on Ordinance 2018-03, then adjourned at 8:17 PM.

The next regular meeting of the Town Council is December 18, 2018.

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RICH HAWKSWORTH, Town Council President

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PETER BOMBERGER, Town Council Member

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ALEXANDER STEMER, Town Council Member

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JEANNETTE E. BAPST, Clerk-Treasurer

CLAIMS FOR November, 2018

<u>CLAIMANT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
NIPSCO	Rt 12 & MSR	\$ 15.62
Comcast	Phone and Internet	\$ 145.90
Sprint	Security Mobile	\$ 88.71
Payroll, Gross	November payroll, gross	\$ 14,203.15
Payroll, Net	November payroll, net	\$ 11,325.01
Indiana Dept of Revenue	November payroll, state w/h	\$ 666.13
EFTPS	November payroll, fed w/h, fica/med	\$ 3,298.56
Adjustment	n/a	\$ -
Walsh & Kelly	Mineral Springs Road	\$ 120,000.00
NIPSCO	Gas and Electric	\$ 90.77
Frontier	Phone and Internet	\$ 173.88
NIPSCO	Gas and Electric	\$ 415.30
Applied Ecol Services	Environmental Town Wide	\$ 1,000.00
AE Boyce	Financial Softwre License, tax forms	\$ 2,918.08
Capital One VISA	Security Copier, Vehicle safety equip	\$ 490.31
Chesterton Feed & Grden	Environmental Chemicals	\$ 444.78
Datagraphics	Town Forms	\$ 17.50
Down to Earth	Clubhouse Irrigation System	\$ 98.00
Duneland Landscape	Emergency Access Drive, final	\$ 2,699.17
Gametime	Playground Equipment Panel	\$ 674.36
Gastons Towing & Repair	Vehicle, brakes and exhaust	\$ 401.20
Hopkins Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$ 276.78
Indiana American Water	Water	\$ 203.50
Justins Tree Service	Roadside Work	\$ 1,000.00
Master Fire Extinguisher	Clubhouse Fire System	\$ 100.00
Lou Mellen	Environmental Grant	\$ 455.59
Menards, Portage	Supplies	\$ 451.49
Menards, Michigan City	Supplies	\$ 26.90
Pinkerton Oil	Vehicle fuel	\$ 214.54
Pride Portable Toilet	Beach Toilet	\$ 120.00
Republic Service	Waste Service	\$ 96.80
Reeves Fence	Emergency Access Gate	\$ 11,392.00
Tilden Enterprises	Supplies	\$ 6.28
Michael Treister	Environmental Grant	\$ 450.00
Ivan Chermel	Sandhill Crane Talk Expense	\$ 28.36
Jeannette Bapst	Sandhill Crane Talk Expense	\$ 34.13
WA Recycling	Waste Service	\$ 745.00
Aaron Powers	Clubhouse deposit, Env plants	\$ 1,032.00
Ecorealm	Environmental, town-wide	\$ 499.39
Howard Silverman	Environmental Grant	\$ 346.37
Nicerink	Ice Rink Liner	\$ 1,334.32
David's Lawncare	Snow Removal, Salt	\$ 1,562.50
Comcast	Phone and Internet	\$ 331.23

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**TOTAL NOVEMBER 2018**

**\$179,873.61**