

Index Town Council  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
February 5, 2007

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Index Town Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Bruce Albert.

**COUNCILMEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Bruce Albert  
Bob Hubbard  
Karen Sample

Patrick Woods  
Sean Horst

Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer  
Maintenance Supervisor Bill Cross

Johnson called ahead and his absence was excused.

Minutes from the January meeting were read and Sample moved to accept them as presented. With a second by Hubbard, the motion carried.

Stowe read the January warrants, numbered 2088 - 2106. Payroll and tax warrants totaled \$4007.44 and all others were \$16999.91 for a grand total of \$21007.35. The warrant to Pacific Ridge Excavating has been reimbursed through the Backflow grant. The warrant to Railroad Management is for rent to Burlington Northern for the water line crossing under the tracks. It is unclear if the Town has ever paid this before or if this amount is an annual fee or not. Stowe talked to the company and it appears they have just taken over from a previous agency. After discussion, Sample moved to pay the warrants for January excluding Railroad Management which will be paid next month after further research. With a second by Horst the motion carried.

During public comments, Councilman Amenn from Gold Bar presented information on Snohomish County Cities and Towns Association and the legislative items they are currently working on. One of these included legislation on Real Estate Excise Tax, which the Town currently does not receive. Amenn offered to look into this for the Town and it appears the Town would need a resolution passed to receive the percentage of this tax. The Town is not a member of Cities and Towns and hasn't been for a few years. Current membership is \$35 a year. Hubbard was concerned that if the Town joined, and voted against an item, the Town could be forced to go with the majority anyway, but Amenn said something like that would destroy the Association as they are working for consensus. Horst moved to table a decision on membership until next month in order to have time to make a decision. With a second by Sample the motion carried.

Sample asked the Council if there is some way to grade the right of way by her driveway as people use her driveway to sled on during the snow and it is causing access problems. While the Town cannot create a sledding area because of liabilities, Albert will meet with Sample and review the area to see if there are other options.

Albert asked Horst if there were any updates on ivy removal. Horst is waiting for better weather, and it appears there will be no problem with ivy removal in the railroad right of way since the Town brush-cuts that area regularly anyway.

The Planning Commission did not meet because there were no agenda items.

During the Maintenance report, Cross also updated the Council on the proposed logging of Heybrook Ridge. Dialog has been initiated with the owners, who are amenable to a sale and Friends of Heybrook are working to find a buyer. Albert said he was approached as the Mayor but chose not to attend. He clarified that the Council has the power to take action whether the Mayor approves or not.

Cross has spoken with the Hazardous Materials crew and would like to set up the Town's annual Spring Clean up at the same time. They are looking at May 12<sup>th</sup>. Stowe was asked about cost vs. donations. Normally the Town spends a minimum of \$700 - \$800, receiving no more than \$120 in donations. However the Garbage fund has been able to carry this. Sample moved to hold the Spring Clean up on May 12<sup>th</sup>, with the Town paying for it and accepting donations. With a second by Hubbard the motion carried.

Two contracts have been accepted for flood damage repairs. Work will not begin for one contract until the Letter of Intent is filed, which should be completed in the next week. Reconstruction of the spillway will start after the water level drops. Albert is now looking at FEMA to repair rip rap between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> streets, as well as going ahead with a National Hazard

Mitigation grant process. He is hoping that the Hazard grant will help fund a biologically approved engineering design to move the channel away from the Town. He also is hoping to receive funding to set up an assistance program to help homeowners raise their homes above flood elevation, as well as to purchase supplies, tools, and a backhoe.

Snohomish County Drug Task Force would like the Town to join back up this year. The Council was fine with Albert signing a Letter of Intent, which will be followed by an interlocal for review.

Stowe is working on updating the Disaster Plan, and once that is done, Albert and Horst will meet with her to go over it.

Albert would like to start making plans for the Town's Centennial this summer. There will be another Art Festival, but a date has not yet been set. Albert is thinking of holding a Town picnic/potluck, inviting former residents, and the Smith family, and having a group portrait done. He will choose a date and get a Special Event's form filled out. Sample suggested holding it on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and including a parade and Council members liked the idea of a parade. Stowe suggested hiring Horst's band to provide music.

Albert will be talking to the fire department about burning within Town limits. Recently the Town ended up with a lot of smoke coming from a legal burn outside of Town limits. People who live in Town cannot burn but still have to deal with the smoke. AWC just came out with an article on the same issue, and Albert plans on pursuing this issue.

Stowe told the Council that with this last payment to Pacific Ridge, the Water System Protection Grant is now complete. A final report needs to be submitted. The Council agreed that the project was completed.

Snohomish County Tourism Bureau is looking for a Councilmember to work with them as a liaison. Hubbard offered to take this on and will call the contact person at the Bureau.

The Town has received another letter of good standing from AWC for a year with no claims.

AWC is also looking for three events over the past 75 years that affected the course of the Town, for a project they are working on. Albert will come up with these. Two events could include the relocation of the railroad tracks, which resulted in paved streets and water mains, and the construction of the Wes Smith Bridge, which enabled vehicles of any weight to cross into Town.

Ordinance #391 amending the 2007 budget to reflect flood repairs was presented for action. Sample moved to adopt the Ordinance as presented and with a second by Hubbard the motion carried.

Resolution 07-01 relating to Career and Technical Month was presented. The City of Marysville had asked the Town to declare February Career and Technical Month. While Council members could not see what benefit this would cause, they agreed to go ahead with it. Sample moved to accept the Resolution and with a second by Horst the motion carried.

Ordinance #392 amending the budget for the Water Fund was presented for a first reading. When the 2007 budget was being formulated, it was assumed the final bill and reimbursement for the Water System grant would come in before the end of the year. As it did not, the amount received and paid out are not reflected in this current budget.

Allied Waste was unable to get a draft interlocal to the Town in time for this meeting. Albert asked if the Council had any objection to extending the current contract until March when the draft will be reviewed. There were no objections to this.

Sample asked if the Department of Emergency Management had responded yet to changes made with their interlocal. While there is nothing yet, Albert had a very positive meeting with them so he thinks it will all work out.

As there was no further business Sample moved to adjourn. Horst seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Adopted by the Index Town Council this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Albert, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer