

Index Town Council  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
July 2, 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	Karen Sample	Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer
Bob Hubbard	Patrick Woods	
Dean Johnson	Sean Horst	

Minutes from the June meeting were read and Sample moved to accept them as amended. With a second by Johnson the motion carried. The amendment will reflect a change on page two listing the reason for calling an executive session, which was to discuss personnel matters.

Stowe read the June warrants, numbered 2180 – 2198. Payroll and tax warrants totaled \$4,693.77 and all others were \$6,416.30 for a grand total of \$11,110.07. The warrant to Phoenix Accounting is the annual maintenance fee for payroll software. Sample asked about the warrant for Chase Card Services, and all the charges are detailed on the warrant. These included printing the newsletter, an order for new cash receipt books, and operating supplies. Johnson moved to pay the warrants as presented, and with a second by Hubbard the motion carried.

During public comments a resident asked the Council to consider allowing no fireworks outside of any day but the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Albert said a decision like this would need the support of the town. Stowe thinks this ruling all ready exists in the Municipal Code. The resident complained about some fireworks going off that sounded like dynamite, and Albert reminded her that anything of that nature is illegal in Washington, and she can call 911.

The same resident displayed an embroidered sweatshirt made by a local, with the Town logo. The same embroidered logo is framed at the Town hall.

During Council comments, Johnson presented a letter to the Council with an update on licensing for the Water Manager.

The Planning Commission met with a representative from Snohomish County to review a buildable lands map. This draft will address growth in the County over the next twenty years.

As Cross is on vacation, Stowe presented the Maintenance report for him. He is asking the Council and Mayor to consider allowing a load of gravel to be dumped at the west end of Crescent Trail where the mud hole is. Sample asked if a more permanent solution could be found, such as 4-inch rock, as gravel has been dumped there previously. Albert said that's a possibility. He also said one of the Planning Commission members had asked about maintaining the trail as blackberries were growing up and she questioned whether emergency vehicles could get through. The goal is to keep vehicle use to a minimum so the trail is not maintained as a thoroughfare. Horst will take a look at the mud hole, but as for maintaining a more open trail, emergency vehicles can get through fine.

Albert brought up the flurry of remodeling/repair work being done by residents currently. The work has brought an even bigger flurry of comments to the Town hall and to the Mayor, ranging from compliments on the work being done, to complaints because some are not getting permits. Albert has been researching the current process, Town codes, and County codes. When the work in question is remodeling, rules get muddy. The County does inspections for the Town, and the Town has different standards than the County. The old tavern is not the only violation as there are up to six other building violations in Town currently. This is not a good situation and a more workable solution is needed. Albert gave Council members a hand out with current codes, and he would like to have a work session that includes at least one Council member, a Planning Commission member, the general public, and himself. This work session would go through current codes, create a draft ordinance, and amend the current County interlocal relating to remodeling and permits. He asked Council members to, as they go through Town, put themselves in his shoes and ask if a project is a code violation or not. He wants a system that is fair and workable. Hubbard and Horst both volunteered to assist Albert.

This work session will be posted beforehand, be open to the public, and will involve no action. Drafts will be created to be presented to the Council for action. As well as what is listed in the above paragraph, drafts should also include grading

outside of critical areas, the possibility of adopting the County amendments to the International Building Code, and adding "teeth" to current wording for enforcing violations.

Stowe asked about the need for a budget amendment ordinance reflecting the new garbage rates and increases. She is not sure if one is needed. Albert suggested she call for clarification.

There were no business or land use applications at this time.

Ordinance #395 relating to a cable franchise was presented for action. No public comments were received. Johnson moved to accept the ordinance as presented, and with a second by Sample the motion carried. The owner now has a year to get the business up and running.

Resolution #07-03 relating to the Department of Transportation Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan was presented. Sample moved to accept the resolution as presented and with a second by Horst the motion carried.

Under other business, a resident presented ideas for a River Festival next year. He would like to make sure there are no issues with the Town and the activity will include flora, fauna, and geology of the river, competitions on the river, a river clean up, river sense to teach kids about safety and ecology, and other activities. He has received information on applying to the Town, and is talking to other entities for permits as well, including the Forest Service.

Sample may not be able to attend next month's meeting.

As there was no further business Horst moved to adjourn. Hubbard seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Adopted by the Index Town Council this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2007.

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

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