

Index Town Council
Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2009

The regularly scheduled 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	Patrick Woods
Bob Hubbard	Sean Horst
Dean Johnson	Bob Foster, on call Clerk- Treasurer
Karen Sample	

Albert acknowledges Foster as stand in clerk.

Roll call completed.

Minutes from the June meeting were read. Hubbard moved to accept the minutes as presented and with a second by Woods, the motion carried.

Foster read the June warrants, numbered 2623 through 2638, (warrants: 2625 and 2627 not included).

Total of warrants read: \$10,882.03

Horst moved that the warrants be accepted as read, seconded by Sample, motion carried.

Albert informed the council that there were two warrants that Foster was not able to complete, pending further clarification from Stowe. They are the warrants for Payroll quarterly taxes (L&I and Employment Security) so they are delayed.

As an unusual circumstance, he asked the council's permission to pay these two bills by proxy (stating the prior quarterly amounts). That once the warrants are completed by Foster, that three council members sign the claim vouchers.

Albert made the motion to pay the bills as described, Horst seconded, motion carried.

During public comments Albert thanked Sgt. Martin for attending the meeting and commented on the absence of the Town maintenance man, Cross and the circumstance surrounding his injury, framing nail in the stomach and hopes for his speedy recovery.

Further Albert goes on public record thanking Peggy and Joel Zimmerman for putting on the 4th of July in the park and parade.

Sgt. Martin states in reference to the recent burglaries in the region (Skyko, the Index Café and the Bush House), Dep. Cook assigned out of Gold Bar has made several arrests (2) of suspects to date that may positively affect Index, the two arrests were made here in Index. They are continuing their investigations.

Sue Susor asks Sgt. Martin about suspected meth labs in the area. Sgt. Martin stated that there are two active drug cases in the area, one being a marijuana growing operation and one meth lab. Albert reminded people to report anything in town to the Sheriffs office. Hubbard thanked the Sheriffs office for responding the prior Friday in regards to trespassers (squatting) on the Museum property. Sgt. Martin states that the Deputies are very familiar with most of the homeless population and not to hesitate to call them.

Ed Boress, asked about the Dept. of Corrections warrant, where the funds go, Albert responded that it is for the DOC work crew that does regular cleanup and maintenance of the town properties.

Dana Starfire and Yvonne Lawson were present on behalf of the Index Arts Festival. Dana requested from the Council if she could have permission to "get creative" with her walk chalking around town streets and sidewalks for the Festival. Also to explore non-toxic washable sprays for decorating the streets. Mayor and council had no objections. Yvonne was present to request that Mayor Albert accept an invitation to open the Annual Index Arts Festival, Albert accepted.

During Council comments, Sample was wondering how the new fireworks ordinance fared thru the 4th of July weekend. Albert responded that as far as he knows the weekend went well, with the exception of a private party on the west end of Ave. A, that got carried away and that he was present to witness unsafe fireworks being set off by youngsters that went into private property. Woods stated that the affair on Ave. A seemed to have been going well until teenagers and unknown out-of-towners showed up in the street. Ed Boress, from Index Ave. states that in a nearby house, the people there were setting off fireworks that ended up in his yard. He said that the fireworks were illegal. All in all the general feeling about the 4th of July was that it was a success.

Sample states that she liked the signage in town that informed of the fireworks ordinance and the coverage was thorough and commented on the differences between legal and illegal fireworks. Horst had positive comments about the 4th, thanking the Zimmermans for their work and additionally asked the council for permission to repaint the basketball and tennis court lines. All agreed to allow this and Albert referred Horst to Bill Cross.

Woods commented that it was a great parade this year and good to see it growing.

Johnson stated that the signage for the fireworks was great.

Albert stated that Dean from the Art Gallery was covering for Cross in town, including garbage collection. A broken water line and meter was investigated by Albert and Peterson.

No Planning Commission people were present. Foster reported that the application submitted by resident Hoffman, was approved by the commission.

There was no maintenance report as Cross was not present.

Mayors Report.

Albert stated that Pete Gott had made application to the Index planning commission. His appointment may however be short lived as he is also a candidate for the city council. Albert stated that he is making the appointment for Gott, in spite of Gott's absence at this meeting. Albert made a motion to council to confirm or deny the appointment for Gott. Sample moved that the Mayor approve Gott's appointment to the planning commission. Johnson seconds the motion, motion carried.

Albert mentioned the fire (building) inspection interlocal, with the county. He will approach the county with questions about code enforcement suggestions to clarify the agreement. Hubbard asks the difference between a site review and inspection. Albert's reply was that a site review takes place prior to approval and an inspection takes place after to make sure the project conforms.

Albert states that Johnson (also Mayor pro tem) is leaving the council and asked council to consider election of a new Mayor pro-tem.

Albert cites one building code violation in town and the letter was sent out. Also, the potential commercial code violation, of which research continues as to the town's proper response. Albert states that the county handles code violations with written complaint from the complainants, connecting complaints with court actions. This is what he would like to see the town doing also. He recommends the creation of a form to facilitate this, available to the public.

Treasurers Report, none. Albert briefed Foster on what Stowe may typically present here.

Albert calls council to discuss the Hoffman rip-rap repair application. Recommends that the application be tabled for a month pending further considerations from other agencies as well. He would like to go to the site and view. States that tabling this application will not affect its timely execution if accepted. Hubbard made comments on vegetation considerations. Albert said that the SEPA application needs to be posted for comment by clerk and a formal public hearing held. Hubbard said he has concerns about endangered species impacted by this application. Council agrees to table this app, for further consideration.

The annual Transportation Improvement Plan Resolution 09-08, was discussed. Motion to adopt this Resolution by Horst seconded by Hubbard, so carried.

Iron Goat Networks (previously) submitted a proposal for a bank of computers under a grant they are applying for. Under the proposal, ten computers would be set up in the Old Fire Hall with broadband access. After discussion it was decided at that time to postpone a decision pending further information. An email was received regarding the questions and expressing the intent to attend this meeting. No representation by Iron Goat Networks was present for comment or questions. Again, there were too many issues not addressed to be able to take action. Sample said that this might be an opportunity for the town to benefit for building improvements, however the application remains too vague. If they eventually show up, we will give them some time. Concerns again included the proposed hours the Hall would be open, no information regarding staffing or security, no information on what happens after the two year timeframe, no information on how to monitor what the computers are used for, and no information on how to fit the computers into space that is full during meetings. Application is to be tabled pending further input from the applicants. Albert said that the town might possibly be better suited for a broadband internet program.

Horst made a motion to accept the Index Group AA picnic in the park special events application. Albert asked Foster if the date is open for the event. Foster replied that the date, Aug. 29th, is open. Foster informed the council of the attendance anticipated and the activities that will be going on. Motion seconded by Sample. Motion carried.

Horst asked if the Index Arts Festival sign on the bridge is ok, council had no objection.

No other business to be addressed.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Horst and seconded by Hubbard, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Signed: _____
Bruce Albert, Mayor

Attest: _____
Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer