

AVON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2009

Avon Town Hall Council Chamber

Call to Order was given by Michael Rogers, Council President.

Invocation was led by Council member, Charlie Dorton.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council President, Michael Rogers.

Roll Call was taken by Clerk-Treasurer, Sharon Howell. Council members present were Charlie Dorton, Nikki Gordy, Greg Zusan, Beverley Austin, and Michael Rogers. Town Manager, Tom Klein and Dan Taylor, Town Attorney, were also present.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Council Comment

Council member Rogers wanted to say thank you to all the council members for the working relationships. He is ready to step aside and allow someone else to take the leadership roll. He is proud to say that he feels that we have a strong council and feels that the town will be led well.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Election of Council Officers

Michael Rogers nominated Greg Zusan as President for Town Council.

Council member Rogers made a motion that Greg Zusan be Town Council President. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Council member Zusan made a motion that Beverley Austin be Town Council Vice President. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Council member Rogers handed the meeting over to the new Town Council President Greg Zusan for him to lead.

Appointment of Council Liaisons

Council President Zusan would like to see liaison positions remain the same. All members were in agreement with the liaisons remaining the same.

Appointment of Council Members to Boards & Commission Members

Redevelopment Commission

All five individuals are up for reappointment. Pat Laughlin, Mike Lynch, Doug Elmore, and John Batic would like to be reappointed to the Redevelopment Commission. Amy Lauth has filled out an application and would like to serve on the Redevelopment Commission replacing Doug Kremer.

Council member Zusan reappointed Pat Laughlin, John Batic, and Mike Lynch to the Redevelopment Commission.

Council member Dorton made a motion to appoint Amy Lauth and reappoint Doug Elmore to the Redevelopment Commission. Council member Austin seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Economic Development Commission

All three members are up for reappointed and would like to remain on the Commission; Tom Downard, Geoff Bradley, and Marland Villanueva.

Council President Zusan reappointed Tom Downard to the Economic Development Commission for another three year term.

Council member Dorton made a motion to reappoint Geoff Bradley for another two year term to expire December, 2010. Council member Austin seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Police Merit Board

Jack Lashenik would like to be reappointed. Ron Wagner would not like to be reappointed.

Council President, Zusan appointed Don Ulrey to the Police Merit Board.

Council member Dorton made a motion to reappoint Jack Lashenik to the Police Merit Board for a term four years. Council member Gordy seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Public Works Commission

Inactive Committee – no appointments made.

Sanitary Board

Mary King would like to be appointed to the Sanitary Board. She is an engineer and has done research on this committee. Martin Hadley would like to be appointed to the Sanitary Board. Council member Austin expressed concern that Mr. Hadley would not be able to fulfill any daytime commitments if necessary due to him working in Bloomington.

Council member Gordy made a motion for Ms. King and Mr. Hadley to be members of the Sanitary Board with Mr. Hadley's term expiring in 2009 and Ms. King's term expiring in 2010. Council member Rogers seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Police Pension Board

On the Police Pension Board Council President Zusan will replace Council member Rogers. All others remain the same.

Tax Abatement Committee

Current members are Pat Laughlin of Redevelopment Board, Marcus Turner of Plan Commission Board, Tom Klein, Town Manager, Tim Ogle of Avon Schools, and Tom Downard of Economic

Development Commission. Town Attorney, Dan Taylor is checking to see if they may add members to this Board.

Liaisons

Council member Zusan will remain the liaison for the Economic Development Commission. He will remain on the Board of Directors; however, will not remain on the Executive Committee.

Council member Zusan will also remain on the Redevelopment Commission.

Council member Austin will remain on the PRBC and the Chamber of Commerce.

Council member Rogers will remain on the Plan Commission, BZA, Avon Community School Corporation, and be a liaison to Hendricks County Government.

Council member Dorton will remain on the Police Merit Board.

Council member Gordy will remain on the Public Works Committee and Library Board.

Other elected offices are the Town Judge, Maureen Owen and Town Clerk-Treasurer, Sharon Howell.

IWC Advisory Board and Dispatch Board liaison will remain Council member Dorton.

HCSWD Board will remain Council member Austin.

Avon Municipal Facilities Corp Committee

Council does not have control of this Board. This Board meets twice a year. Council member Zusan requested minutes from Mr. Klein.

Parks Council

Charlotte Martin, Christa Salyers, and Jennifer Turner would all like to be reappointed. Brock Ridgeway would like to serve one more year. Tom Veatch has not notified Town whether he would like to continue PRBC position.

Council member Austin recommended that Tom Veatch be moved up to the one year term.

Council member Austin made a nomination to appoint Brock Ridgeway and Tom Veatch to the one year terms and would like to nominate Christa Salyers, Jennifer Turner and Charlotte Martin to the two year terms and would like to add Pat Tutsie and Nathan Hunt to one of the one year terms. Council member Dorton seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for

5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Plan Commission

Council member Austin made a motion to reappoint John Batic and Doug Elmore to the Plan Commission for a one year term. Council member Rogers seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers- for

5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

BZA Commission

There is one position up for nomination, Stephen Bain.

Council member Rogers has made a motion to nominate Corey Herbert to the Plan Commission.

Council member Austin seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for

5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Council member Dorton made a motion to nominate Christopher Sopke, Sr. as the back-up for the BZA. Council member Gordy seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Town Council President, Zusan made a motion to nominate Vernon Lorenz as his representative for a back-up to the BZA.

Tom Klein will send a letter to all of the applicants and thank them for their interest. Council will keep their resumes on file. Klein will also send letters to all of the nominees so they know that they have been selected for a position and which board they are on.

Resolution

Resolution 2009-01: Authorizing Staff to Proceed with Court Cases for Code Violations

Town Attorney, Dan Taylor presented. This is a resolution that needs to be adopted by the Town Council for code enforcement.

Council member Austin made a motion to approve Resolution 2009-01, a Resolution of the Avon Town Council Authorizing Litigation for Code Enforcement. Council member Gordy seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

C. Dorton-for, N. Gordy-for, B. Austin-for, G. Zusan-for, M. Rogers-for
5-for, 0-against Motion carried 5-0

Work Session

2008 Review and 2009 Initiatives

Mr. Klein presented. A power point presentation was distributed.

Town Administration 2008 Council goals were reviewed. Brownsburg has not agreed to annexation boundary.

Avon Police Department 2008 Year End Report was reviewed. They had 1,813 cases in 2008. Public works 2008 Council goals and accomplishments were reviewed. Salt Dome price originally came back high. All the "Go Avon" projects are moving forward – presentation to come with updates.

Parks 2008 Council goals were reviewed. Consultant for Sidewalk Master Plan has been selected.

Planning & Building 2008 Council goals were reviewed. One of the completed tasks was the SR267/US 36 Gateway Plan. One in-completed task was the SR267/US 36 Gateway Plan – Implementation (was waiting on EPA grant) – did not receive funding. BZA summary – 21 cases were for variances, 5 special requests were for fences in the easements. Plan Commission petitions – there were 27 petitions total, 11 of those were for new or expanding institutional land uses. Building Permit and Residential Growth Comparison for 2007/2008 was reviewed. A summary of Town of Avon's neighborhoods was presented. Council President Zusan asked what happens when developers that no longer exist have violations and how do we receive payment. Mr. Cannon said that you may be able to recover the expenses; however, it will take a very long time. Every time they have a violation Town of Avon will file a lien against the property.

Town of Avon Administration 2009 Initiatives were reviewed. Council member Zusan recommended that 2010 start being considered as well. 1st priority is 2009 & 2010 budget.

Preparing for 2010, we need to identify what results the Council would like to have. Input will be needed early on to get working on 2010 budget. Need to have active engagement with Legislation.

Economic Development – most important is Ronald Reagan Parkway. Other items include CSX Entrance, Marketing Consortium, and WIFI service. Council member Rogers feels that there needs to be a development plan in the first quarter. Annexations – need to establish Council liaison for annexations. Council member Rogers stated that there are a lot of parcels that are out there. Visible results (low cost improvement) – new/upgraded signs were put up, flower and tree plantings, art and banners.

Community Building Events – support and promote events in Avon. Council member Rogers asked if there could be a chart put together for the planned projects, phases they are in, and completion dates. Mr. Klein is going to provide Council with the requested spreadsheet.

Quality of Life – Avon, Brownsburg, Danville, and Plainfield will be competing to become the premier community of Arts & Culture to attract economic development and jobs. We have lost a few events so we need to look at bringing more events into Avon. An Arts Committee and Council Liaison need to be created. AJAA – they have some financial issues. The online registration company they used went bankrupt so they lost some monies. Town would like to explore avenues to provide assistance.

New Services – explore trash collection franchise, Christmas tree collection, large item drop-off, yard waste, and recycling drop-off. The intention would be to reduce the costs for homeowners in the Town of Avon. Communication, PR & Relationships – Boards & Commissions sent out emails to get a master list of all the neighborhoods and associations. This was also done for churches, also requested that they list what services they offer. We are trying to establish networks in the community. Also need to do website updating.

Mr. Klein is offering to have monthly or quarterly meetings with each Council member. Facilitate meetings with Town Presidents, have regular meetings with Town Managers, and meetings of government entities in Washington Township.

Operational – For code enforcement we are going to start using the Avon Town Court to order individuals to come into compliance with ordinances. Mr. Klein said there will be a timeline and hopes to have a liaison.

Human Resources, Sara Hubbard will become more involved and would like to promote her to Executive Assistant. This would change how the phones are being answered part of the time. Erin Mulryan's time needs to be shifted around to take advantage of building slowdown.

The Avon Police Department 2009 Initiatives were presented; Chief Jack Miller was present to answer questions. The APD plans to train all personnel in the new Tiburon Records Management System, revise SOP's to be in compliance with the Town Personnel Manual, review and update all Standard Operating Procedures, connect fiber optics to Consolidated Dispatch Center, complete feasibility study for a bicycle patrol program, develop a Women's Survival Tactics Seminar and Gun Safety Course.

Public Works 2009 Initiatives – businesses will be notified that are being affected in hopes to eliminate any hardship. There will be a few projects that will cross over. There will be a lot of projects going this upcoming spring/summer.

Parks 2009 Initiatives – Updating Park & Recreation Master Plan, complete agreement with YMCA, update Town Hall Park site plan.

2009 Planning & Building Department Initiatives – Improve all facets of departmental functions.
Next Steps – Council to rank initiatives, hold another work session to review, council to review results, and staff will link all programs to results.

Council members to return ranked initiatives in one week.

Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Taylor presented. Andy Mohr mediation is January 12, 2009 downtown in the Chase building. A letter will be distributed to the Council with details.

Pyramid final status meeting was scheduled for today. The arbitrator has become very ill, may be out for six months. The option was given to select a new arbitrator; it was declined. If the arbitrator for some reason will not be able to complete this meeting a new arbitrator will need to be selected.

Insurance carrier for Pyramid, their attorney invited the Town to go back to mediation. We went to mediation before as we were contractually obligated to do. The carrier was not properly notified. We have not been receiving responses. The attorney wanted to come to an agreement today regarding going back to mediation. Mr. Taylor would like the Council to think about this and put on the agenda for the next meeting. Council member Zusan asked to be informed how much money and time has been spent already on this case.

Council member Zusan asked if we have heard about any of the water issues.

Public Comment

There was no one from the public to come forward.

Council Calendar

- 1/8/09 - LHC Dinner
- 1/22/09 - Town Council Meeting
- 2/26/09 - Legislative Breakfast

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn.