

TOWN OF LOGANSFORT
MINUTES
June 14, 2011

The regular meeting of the Logansport Town Council was held Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber with Mayor Katherine Freeman presiding. Council members present: Norman Arbuckle, Douglas Guillotte, June Hooper, Deborah Roberts, and Edith Williams.
Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Edith Williams and the Pledge of Allegiance.

With a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Williams a public hearing was opened for questions and/or objections pertaining to the proposed issuance of not exceeding \$1,135,000 of Sewer Revenue Bonds of the Town of Logansport, for the purpose of paying costs of constructing and acquiring improvements and replacements to the sewerage system of the Town, including equipment and furnishings. All ayes.

In addition to the Mayor, Council, and Town Clerk, there were 29 guests present at the public hearing. The Town was unable to obtain grant funds from the DEQ for this sewer project. However, due to the strong financial position, the Town qualified for a low 0.95% loan. Mark Odom questioned the timing of such a loan, due to the economic situation of the entire country and presented a petition requesting the Council "Place on the ballot of a special election the issuance not exceeding \$1,135,000 sewer revenue bonds in the manner provided by Chapter 6-A, Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950: SHALL The Town Council issue Sewer Revenue Bonds not exceeding \$1.135,000 in one or more series, the proceeds of which will be used to pay the cost of constructing acquiring additions, extensions and improvements to the sewerage of the Town." The petition was signed by 50 people of which 39 qualified as genuine qualified electors on the petition. This number is over 12% of the 321 voters in the last general election. In addition to the presented petition by Mr. Odom, there were several Town residents present expressing favorable comments regarding the project and urged the Council to go forward with the project. Mayor Freeman stated the petition with the objections will be taken under advisement and the Town will confer with the bonding attorneys. The public hearing closed with a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Roberts. All ayes.

With a motion from Mrs. Williams and second from Mr. Arbuckle the 5/10/11 minutes were approved as written. All ayes.

General fund bills were approved with a motion from Mr. Guillotte and second from Mr. Arbuckle. All ayes.

Utility fund bills were approved with a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Williams. All ayes.

With a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Hooper, a resolution was adopted conforming to the findings and determining that a petition has been filed and presented and objections filed to the proposed issuance of not exceeding \$1,135,000 of sewer revenue bonds of the Town of Logansport. All ayes.

Ordinance #683—Amending Zoning Ordinance #641, relating to the storage and occupancy of camper trailers and recreational vehicles within all zoning districts within the boundaries of the Town of Logansport, was introduced with a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Hooper and a public hearing set for Tuesday, July 12, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. All ayes.

Ordinance #684—Amending Zoning Ordinance #641, relating to the clarification of the minimum residential standards defined by “Supplementary Regulations & Non-Conforming Uses” (Page 26-28 of Ordinance #641), and the application of the permitted uses defined by Zoning District LR-2 to Zoning Districts LG-O and LC/I was introduced with a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Hooper and a public hearing set for Tuesday, July 12, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. All ayes.

With a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Hooper, a resolution authorizing the closing and abandoning of Foreman/Chestnut Street was adopted. All ayes.

Ordinance #687—Closing and abandoning Foreman/Chestnut Street was introduced with a motion from Mrs. Hooper and second from Mr. Arbuckle and a public hearing set for Tuesday, July 12, 2011. All ayes.

A resolution adopting procedures to be utilized for procurement with LCDBG funds was passed with a motion from Mrs. Hooper and second from Mr. Arbuckle. All ayes.

With a motion from Mrs. Roberts and second from Mr. Arbuckle, a resolution requesting engineers qualifications for LCDBG funds was adopted. All ayes.

A resolution was adopted requesting administrative consultants’ proposal for services with a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mr. Guillotte. All ayes.

The 2011 property tax millage rate of 7.41 mills was set with a motion from Mrs. Williams and second from Mr. Arbuckle. All ayes.

With a motion from Mrs. Hooper and second from Mr. Guillotte *THE ENTERPRISE* was appointed as the Town’s official journal from 7/01/2011 thru 6/30/2012. All ayes.

Dwight Gatlin addressed the Council questioning the Town’s hiring practices, inquiring as to why the vacancy in the Town Office was not filled for 9 months and how the decision was made as to whom was hired. Town Clerk, Sharon Stewart, explained that she and the billing clerk had been handling the duties of the accounts payable clerk to gauge the time required for the position. Also, the Clerk had implemented some new programs and wanted to be able to become familiar with the programs before training a new employee in the use of the programs. The decision to hire Lekia Markham was based on her experience, qualifications, and interview.

Linda Vidler informed the Council that the Logansport Chamber of Commerce had been approached to possibly host the Texaco Country Showdown at the Town’s Riverstage in October. As more information becomes available, she will keep the Council informed.

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With a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Hooper it was approved to purchase a monument to be erected on the riverfront to serve as a memorial to Kazan, the Town's "drug dog" for many years. All ayes.

Mary M. Thompson, Planning & Zoning Chairman, was asked to give a brief synopsis as to how the Planning & Zoning Commission came into being.

With no further business to transact, the meeting adjourned with a motion from Mr. Arbuckle and second from Mrs. Hooper. All ayes.

Sharon Stewart, Town Clerk

Katherine Freeman, Mayor