

CITY OF WINCHESTER  
COMMON COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2013

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Schroeder  
Prayer – Councilor Sells

Regular meeting @ 6:30 p.m.  
Council Chambers / City Hall / 113 E. Washington St.

Councilor Schroeder called the meeting to order and presided over the meeting. Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney, recorded the minutes.

The Clerk's roll call showed five City Council Members present.

Precinct 1	Councilor Larry Preston
Precinct 2	Councilor Tom Sells
Precinct 3	Councilor Santiago (Jim) Nunez Jr.
Precinct 4	Councilor Leesa Friend
At Large	Councilor Todd Schroeder

Additional Officials Present:

Meeks Cockerill, City Attorney; Brad Cottrell, Police Detective; and Frank Lowrance, Street Department Superintendent.

Citizens Present:

Tim Yost, Linda DeHaven, Gary Girton, and Rob Baker (arrived at 6:54 pm)

Media Present:

Bill Richmond (News Gazette)

Approval of the Minutes:

Councilor Preston moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fountain Park Cemetery Report

Councilor Preston stated at the previous Council meeting, personnel changes have been made at the Fountain Park Cemetery. The Office Manager and Sexton were dismissed. Suzanne Fogleman is working in the office currently.

Ordinances

Copies of the Nuisance and Animal Control Ordinance and Regulating the Disposal of Construction Material will both be in the council packets for the next meeting for the Council to review before they are discussed.

## NEW BUSINESS

### The Journey Home Veterans Shelter

Linda DeHaven, Veterans Service Volunteer, of The Journey Home, was present to discuss this project. The Journey Home will be a shelter for veterans who have issues with alcohol abuse, drug abuse, and PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). This shelter will be located at the old hospital (323 Oak Street) where the Youth Opportunities Center was located. The group has raised Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and wants to reach Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) by December 31, 2013. Mrs. DeHaven was present to discuss the program and answer any questions the Council Members have. Each member at The Journey Home will complete a six week process called SART prior to living at The Journey Home. If this shelter were not available, each veteran would be sent to The Mission where they are given a place to sleep and food to eat, but they are not at the facility all day. The Journey Home will be open all day every day so the veterans will be monitored. Interviews are being taken for house parents who will live there. A manager, weekly nurse, and councilors will all be available to the veterans. As of now, the facility is just for men. The VA would fully fund this project if women were allowed in the facility; but at this time it will only be open for men. 15 to 16 men will be housed at the facility. Mandatory meetings will be held daily and each veteran will be encouraged to go to church. Twenty Three Percent of the homeless population is veterans. Each veteran must have an honorable discharge to go through this program. Job training will be available. A background check will be completed on each individual before they are admitted. Donations are accepted. An open house will be held on November 11, 2013 (Veterans Day) from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

### Public Concerns

Councilor Nunez asked about the street light located on Ball Road. The street light was discussed at a previous meeting. The residents on Ball Road wanted a street light in that area because it is very dark. Mr. Robert Mallory, 171 Ball Road, and Mr. Richard Kepner, 151 Ball Road ordered a street light from Indiana and Michigan Electric Power to light the area. The light was recently installed. Mr. Mallory and Mr. Kepner would like the City to assume the expense for the street light. Councilor Nunez moved for the City to pay for the electric bill for the street light. Councilor Sells seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Rob Baker, who lives at 315 W. Franklin Street, has complained about the gravel alley being too high and water is running into his garage. The Street Department removed the crown in July. Mr. Baker wants the water out and away from his garage. Mr. Tim Yost, Street Department Employee, stated the water is coming from Mr. Baker's roof and going into his garage. Councilor Schroeder suggested Mr. Baker install a gutter system to keep the water away from his garage. If the problem persists after the guttering system is installed the issue will be revisited. Mr. Baker arrived at the meeting at 6:54 pm. Mr. Baker stated there is only one section of the alley that is causing issues. The crown was taken out of the alley in June of 2013. If the cut is made any deeper it will create a gully in the alley. Tim Yost stated that the alley has been milled; two trucks of stone were taken out of the alley in June. Mr. Baker asked if the driveway could be milled out and it was never completed. If the gravel was ground out and taken into the alley it would have been taken out. Councilor Schroeder stated the Council Members will review the area and discuss it with Superintendent Lowrance. Councilor Schroeder does not want to do too much to the alley until gutters are put on the buildings to take the water away from the structure. Mr. Baker will put gutters on the structure. 100 feet of the alley needs to be drop graded. The driveway was built up to match the alley. The Council will take it under advisement. The solutions for the issue will be discussed when the cause of the problem is determined. Councilor Preston stated a citizen was concerned about the weeds around the Generations Restaurant. This property will be added to the list for mowing violations.

Fuel Prices

Councilor Nunez stated Harvest Land Co-op will submit fuel bids for the year of 2014 to the Randolph County Commissioners in December. All bids would be granted to the City of Winchester and the Fountain Park cemetery.

IACT

Councilor Nunez reported on attending the IACT (Indiana Association of Cities and Towns) Conference held October 6 – October 8, 2013 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Mr. Nunez had the opportunity to meet a vendor and to discuss saving the ash trees from the emerald ash bore.

Another vendor discussed LED lighting for Christmas lights that could be used on the Christmas tree located on the Courthouse lawn. Councilor Nunez asked if the Council will pay for the Christmas light bill for the lights on the Christmas tree located on the Courthouse lawn. WCCPC will submit a bill to the City for the Christmas lights.

Department Reports

Mike Burk, Police Chief –submitted a written report.

Frank Lowrance, Street Department Superintendent – submitted a written report.

Kathy Bond, Parks Department Superintendent – submitted a written report.

Bill Yost, Fire Chief – no report submitted.

Chris Martin, Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent – no report submitted.

Councilor Sells moved to accept the department reports as presented. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Accounts Payable Vouchers

The end of September accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Seventy One Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Six Dollars and Twenty Nine Cents (\$171,896.29).

General Fund	\$3,808.50
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$3,563.29
LLE Continuing Ed. Fund	\$26.28
Fire Department Non-Reverting Training	\$54.76
K-9 Donation	\$321.51
Win Fire Dept Prof Development	\$96.68
Animal Control Fund	\$57.00
Revolving Loan Fund	\$10,000.00
Employee Welfare Benefit Plan	\$170,985.63

The October 1 thru October 16 accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Seventy Five Thousand One Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Fifty Four Cents (\$175,117.54).

General Fund	\$33894.72
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$6,782.58
Light Fund	\$4,756.89
Court Cash Due County Fund	\$1,091.50
City Court User Fee Fund	\$1,080.00
Cumulative Capital Improvement	\$1,507.50
Beeson Estate Farm Fund	\$1,034.38
Fire Pension Fund	\$3,965.74
K-9 Donation Fund	\$6,534.00
Ambulance Non Reverting Fund	\$779.57
Win Pol Dept. Prof Development Fund	\$65.00
Cum Capital Development Fund	\$830.00
Employee Welfare Benefit Plan	\$11,135.42
Sidewalk Rehab Fund	\$10,152.50
Animal Control Fund	\$128.00
Animal Control Donation Fund	\$25.00

The Payroll accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Thirty One Thousand One Hundred Ninety Four Dollars and Forty Nine Cents (\$131,194.49). The total of all accounts payable vouchers totaled Four Hundred Seventy Eight Thousand Two Hundred Eight Dollars and Thirty Two Cents (\$478,208.32). Councilor Friend asked how many Halloween bags are ordered. Detective Cottrell stated the 600 bags are given to Kindergartners and are also handed out at the Halloween Parade. Councilor Nunez asked about the Pow Wow vouchers for the drummers (\$1,000.00). Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated the Goodrich Trust provides the funding for the drummers. A TV tower was installed at the Beeson Community Center for the wireless connection for telephone and internet connections. Councilor Nunez was concerned because the Park Director purchased a wireless microphone and sound board totaling over Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00). Councilor Preston is concerned with two employee's compensation time that is not being used. Councilor Preston moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

#### Adjournment

There being no further matters to discuss, Councilor Schroeder moved to adjourn. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0. The October 21, 2013 meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Mayor, Steve Croyle

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney