

WALKERTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
July 17, 2017

1. **REGULAR MEETING:** A meeting of the Walkerton Town Council was held on July 10, 2017 at the Walkerton Municipal Building at 301 Michigan St. Walkerton, Indiana.

2. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Council President Karol Jackson. President Karol Jackson offered the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:** A silent roll call was taken:

Council President Karol Jackson	present
Council Vice President Gene Reese	present
Council Member Roberta Kickbush	present
Council Member Jeff Fansler	present
Council Member Kackie Chrapliwy	present
Town Attorney Fred Jones	present
Clerk Treasurer Terri Buckmaster	present

4. **MINUTES: Minutes were presented by** Clerk Treasurer Terri Buckmaster.

➤ **Motion:** A motion was made by Council Vice President Gene Reese to approve the minutes of July 10, 2017. Seconded by Council Member Roberta Kickbush. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote

5. **CLAIMS:** A Claim Docket starting at 6-30-2017 and ending July 17, 2017 for \$88,787.26 was presented by Clerk Treasurer Terri Buckmaster.

➤ **Motion:** was made by Council Member Kackie Chrapliwy to pay the claims. Seconded by Council Member Jeff Fansler. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE:** The Cardno Company extended an invitation to the Council to an open house for the Native Plant Nursery on July 21st between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

7. **CITIZENS INPUT:** None at this time.

8. **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

❖ **COMPUTER SERVICES:** Craig DeMyer gave his report:

- Disposal of Computer-Server racks.
- Daily monitoring of Server data backups and performing weekly additional backups as necessary.
- Monitoring Servers and desktop systems. Installing updates as required.

- General Maintenance and Support Duties.

Craig said he thought he had a buyer for the racks and would like to dispose of them.

- **Motion:** A motion was made by Council Member Kackie Chrapliwy to have Craig sell the racks. Seconded by Council Member Jeff Fansler. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

❖ **UTILITIES:** Public Works Director Jason Cox was not present to present his report:

Town of Walkerton Utility Report for June 2017

Electric & Water

- Install new underground electric service on 825 N.
- Repair lines down on 750 E.
- Replace stopped water meters.
- Continue tree trimming to prevent power outages.
- Clean up downed trees from recent storms.
- Repair and restore power from downed trees and lightning.
- Worked on line maintenance changing out bad lightning arrestors, insulators, and cross arms.
- Install several new security lights.
- Worked on work orders throughout the month.
- Spray weeds around transformers and substation.
- Cut vines growing up poles to prevent outages.

Streets and Wastewater

- Worked on clarifier A and skimmers at the plant.
- Drained the entire A side of the wastewater plant to fix air connections and check for any problems. Also cleaned out the tanks as well.
- Mowed a lot due to all of rain we have had.
- Trimmed trees and brush throughout the town.
- Picked up many truckloads of brush due to storms.

- Set up barricades for the parade and the fourth festivities. Also put up no parking signs around the school.
- We obtained an old trailer to be fitted for caring all of our cones, barricades, and safety devices.
- Cleaned up and trimmed the rest of brush around the lagoons.
- Trimmed all around the plant, lift stations, and where it was needed.

❖ **PARK DEPARTMENT:** No report was submitted however, Council Vice President Gene Reese said he was aware the Park Board was interviewing a person for the superintendent’s position tonight.

❖ **CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Code Enforcement Officer Denis Burns was not present due to an illness. The Council had his report on activity for June, 2017. Updates on properties with code violations pending or resolved were on report for the Council.

❖ **POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Police Chief Matthew Schalliol submitted a report on the activity for the month of June, 2017.

Calls for Service	378
Criminal Cases	29
Criminal Cases Closed	28
Criminal Cases Open	1
Arrests	4
Alarms	4
K-9 Calls	1
Monthly Calls	
Copies of Reports	6
VIN Checks	5
Gun Permits	0
Fingerprints	0

Accidents – 5	OPO – W – 41
Citations – 63	CFS - 378
Warnings – 67	OPO –C - 79
Impounds – 8	Reserve Hours 204

Police Chief Matthew Schalliol was asked by Council Vice President Gene Reese about officer Jackson and the number of his K-9 cases in Walkerton being only one. Is that normal? Police Chief Matthew Schalliol said it is hard to predict the number of cases. we

would have in a month. Officer Jackson also works the Metro Division as a detective with his K-9. Council Vice President Gene Reese asked if the Council could have access to those cases. Police Chief Matthew Schalliol said he could probably be able to give the council the number of cases Officer Jackson has but that would be all the information the Council could have.

Police Chief Matthew Schalliol told the Council the department is using the County Wide CAD System now and it is very useful

❖ **FINANCE DEPARTMENT:** Clerk Treasurer Terri Buckmaster presented the Month End Report for June. (1) Clerk Treasurer Terri Buckmaster informed the Council on the Salary Ordinance for next year saying she will use the matrix we have in place however; the matrix does not cover elected officials and the Economic Director. (2) Clerk Treasurer Terri Buckmaster reminded the Council the hearing on the Water Rates will be August 7th the same day as the next Council meeting.

❖ **ECONOMIC DIRECTOR:** Economic Director Phil Buckmaster presented the Walkerton Economic Director’s Report for June.

Walkerton Economic Directors Report

June 30, 2017

<u>Building Department</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
406 Ohio St – Demolish Trailer	\$ 40.00	
603 Ohio St- Re-model	\$ 76.00	
Total This Month	\$ 116.00	\$298.00
Year to Date	\$ 997.00	\$ 2,848.00
Total This Month of Improvements	\$ 22,100.00	\$ 88,975.00
Yearly Cost of Improvements	\$ 128,326.50	\$983,030.62

Made Inspections 34

Economic Director

UPDATES

Had 28 Meetings

Water Treatment – SRF Review

Library- Bid Opening July 31

Street Project- Start around July 13

Community Center – 2018

Red Hots- Open

B P Station- Who Knows

(1) Economic Director Phil Buckmaster informed the Council the Trailer on Jefferson St. was also being demolished. (2) Economic Director Phil Buckmaster informed the Council on the bid opening scheduled for July 31 for the New Library. It has been advertised and we had 5 companies interested so far. (3) Council Vice President Gene Reese asked what was happening with the Sparrow and Red Tail Court streets. Economic Director Phil Buckmaster said we had put those streets into the Plan because at the time we thought we would be doing those two streets and we had 13.1 miles of streets within the town's limits. We received \$200,000 to improve our streets and if we did not do those particular streets we would have to return the amount it would have taken to do those streets. I felt we needed to help those citizens who have been stuck with the deplorable situation for many years and I think it was the right thing to do. Council Member Roberta Kickbush interrupted the conversation and said she came into office a few years ago and this situation has been a real burden on everyone for far too long. I think those citizens living in that area had tried everything they knew of to get it resolved to no avail. It is time to move on. I think we owe it to our citizens who waited for way too long to get this resolved. We need to pave the two streets so that we can complete that area with nice streets that can be plowed when the snow falls and more homes built on the empty lots. Council President Karol Jackson asked what Council Member Kackie Chrapliwy thought. Council Member Kackie Chrapliwy said, I totally agree with Council Member Roberta Kickbush we have had this situation for many years. The citizens have asked us to fix it and we have had to tell them that our hands were tied. We tried to handle the situation but it got us nowhere so here we are at the breaking point. In my heart, I too feel it is the right thing to do. Council President Karol Jackson called on Council Vice President Gene Reese for his opinion. Council Vice President Gene Reese said, I am frustrated with the Economic Director Phil Buckmaster for acting on this without our knowledge. I think he is fed up with it and just wants it to go away. Economic Director Phil Buckmaster said that is not true we have done everything we can to resolve this problem. I have even made calls this last week to Randy Williams and of course he has not returned any of those calls. Council Vice President Gene Reese said, so you just put those two streets into the Plan on your own. Economic Director Phil Buckmaster said no I did not do that on my own. The Bureau had said we had 13.1 miles of streets within the town's limits. We received \$200,000 to improve our streets and if we did not do those particular streets we would have to return the amount it would have taken to do those streets. None of us has done anything wrong. The only one that did not fulfill his part is Randy Williams, he was supposed to put in the streets and he refused. Council President Karol Jackson called for a motion.

- **Motion:** Council Member Kackie Chrapliwy made the motion to pave Sparrow and Red Tail Court. Council Member Roberta Kickbush seconded the motion. The vote carried with a 4-1 vote. Council Vice President Gene Reese cast the opposing vote stating he voted nay because it is my understanding we are violating a town ordinance.

9. OLD BUSINESS: Nothing to report at this time.

10. NEW BUSINESS: Nothing to report at this time

11. PROJECTS IN PROGRESS: Nothing to report at this time

12. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Council President Karol Jackson asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm.

- **Motion:** A motion was made by Council Vice President Gene Reese to adjourn. A second motion was made by Council Member Jeff Fansler. Motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Council President Karol Jackson

Terri Buckmaster Clerk-Treasurer