Town of Washington Park

Municipal Building

March 1, 2021

7:00 p.m.

United Bank General Fund $ 284,319.89

United Bank Capital Reserve Fund/Truck Fund 82,100.00

United Bank Powell Bill Checking 7,770.38

United Bank Powell Bill/Saving CD 65,221.89

United Bank Capital Reserve Fund/CD 76,190.82

Total $ 515,602.98

Present Absent

Thomas B. Richter, Mayor

Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem

Lee Bowen, Commissioner

Belinda Cowell, Commissioner

Wade Dale, Commissioner

Patrick Nash, Commissioner

Mayor Richter called the meeting to order. Commissioner Dale made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Passed by all.

Mayor Richter called for public input. Mr. John Crew spoke to the Board saying that he was curious about the Spruce Street residents and the new owner of the property to the east of the Town limits who had sent a letter to the residents. Mr. Crew is concerned about the new owner’s survey and possible encroachments by residents over the past years. Mayor Richter said that it was his understanding that the new owner, River City Christian Center, was going to have a survey done and get in touch individually with the homeowners regarding any encroachments. Mr. Crew also asked about the commercial property at 512 River Road. Mayor Richter said that the property had been sold, but the owner had been apprised that the permitted uses in the commercial district were a hardware store, a marina, and a flower shop. Mr. Crew thanked the Board. Mayor Richter thanked Mr. Crew for his input.

The financial report and the minutes were approved upon motion by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Seconded by Commissioner Cowell. Passed by all.

Old Business

320 Isabella Avenue: Mayor Richter said that he had called the homeowner’s son and had sent him a copy of the letter and photos of the property. The mayor said that the son had been encouraged to attend tonight’s meeting, but that he was not present.

Dump truck body: The clerk reported that CAM Enterprises is continuing to work on the new body for the dump truck.

North side of Isabella East end: Commissioner Bowen reported that B.E. Singleton had looked at cutting a swale from the east side of 510 Isabella Avenue and removing swale from 520 Isabella Avenue and putting in a pipe and cutting a swale east of 520 Isabella to 530 Isabella Avenue. The approximate cost of the ditch, grading, concrete repair is $19,600. Lengthy discussion followed regarding residents’ decisions regarding drainage as well as drainage easements for the Town. No action was taken regarding this report.

Ditch erosion east of the residence at 530 Isabella Avenue: Commissioner Bowen reported that he had had two landscapers and B. E. Singleton look at this tidal ditch. Discussion followed. No action was taken. Discussion followed regarding drafting a Town policy for ditching expenses and cost-sharing between residents and the Town. Mayor Richter, Commissioner Bowen, and Mayor pro tem Peacock will work on drafting a policy to present to the Board.

160D Legislation regarding Zoning Ordinance: The clerk reported that Mr. Pittman had agreed to update the Zoning Ordinance to be compliant with 160D legislation for $50/hour for approximately 10 hours of work. It will be completed prior to the next meeting. After that, the Planning Board will review it and make recommendations to the Town Board prior to a public hearing for adoption in June, 2021.

Utility lines underground on Isabella: Mayor Richter has contacted Hatteras Brooks, the Washington Park representative to the Washington Electric Advisory Board. Mr. Brooks will contact the new Electric Utilities Supervisor regarding the possibility of placing the powerlines on Isabella Avenue underground.

Reports

Commissioner Cowell – no report.

Commissioner Bowen – reported that the resident at 603 Isabella Avenue is putting in a vinyl portion behind the current bulkhead.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – no report. He asked about unlicensed/abandoned vehicles parked in peoples’ yards and our current ordinance. Discussion followed. No action taken.

Commissioner Nash – no report.

Commissioner Dale – reported that the Town had purchased 500 feet of wind screening for the tennis/pickleball courts. The windscreens come in 50-foot sections that are nine feet in height. There will be one entrance only to the court to accommodate the windscreens. Commissioner Dale reported that the April 17th wedding event scheduled on the waterfront had been canceled.

Clerk’s Report

The clerk reported that ad valorem taxes had been received for $27,330.40; that local option sales tax had been received for $11,989.03 and that solid waste tax had been received for $82.39. The clerk reported that the annual flood insurance had been paid for $885.00; that the annual website hosting had been paid for $125.00; that legal fees for $450 had been paid; that James had been provided new work shoes and that Toby had been reimbursed for his CDL renewal fees. Clerk Dale reported that she had received both her COVID-19 vaccinations and that James was scheduled to receive the vaccinations on 3/2 and 3/26/21. The clerk reported that 503 Fairview had come for a Zoning Compliance letter to elevate the house. Clerk Dale read an email from Kim Miltenberger Warren requesting six estate sales for her father’s things. Discussion followed. Commissioner Bowen made a motion to allow Ms. Warren to have 4 estate sales in 60 days and then no more. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all. Commissioner Bowen made a motion to adopt an Estate Sale policy which limits sales to two estate sales within thirty days. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

The clerk gave the supervisor’s report saying that poor drainage between the municipal building and the shop due to excessive rainfall prohibited the flushing of toilets in the building. He also reported that the dump truck was at Elks Garage for a clutch adjustment and that James took three days of vacation in February.

Mayor Richter asked the Board to think about potential candidates for the vacancy on the Planning Board since Rick Peed has left Washington Park.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Richter.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, April 12, 2021, at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Denise D. Dale

Clerk, Town of Washington Park