

The Fairland Town Council met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 6, 2010, at 6:00 P.M. The meeting was held in the Fairland Volunteer Fire Department located at 106 S. Walnut St., Fairland, Indiana.

The following board members were present: Richard Daily, Jeremy Creech. John Hanson was absent.

Also present were Clerk-Treasurer, Christine Brinson, Attorney, John Merlau, and approximately 8 local residents.

President, Richard Daily, called the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROUTINE BUSINESS:**

Minutes: The minutes of following previous meetings held in June were considered: June 1, 2010 regular meeting; June 7, special meeting, June 7, executive session and June 16, special meeting. Jeremy Creech made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 1, 7, and 16<sup>th</sup> meetings as presented. Richard Daily seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of 2-0.

Claims: Claims were presented for approval as follows:

Claim # 24	Larkey Insurance, liability insurance premium	1,702.00
Claim #25	John Merlau, semi-annual attorney fees	3,000.00
Claim #26	Richard Daily, semi-annual fee	75.00
Claim #27	Jeremy Creech, semi-annual fee	75.00
Claim #28	John Hanson, semi-annual fee	75.00
Claim #29	Christine Brinson, semi-annual fee	<u>900.00</u>
	Total Claims	5,827.00

Jeremy Creech made a motion to approve claims #24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 as submitted. Richard Daily seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 2-0.

Clerk-Treasurer gave report.

A question arose regarding when the increase in the population would take effect based based upon the Governor's Order from the Census Certification which was to commence April 1, 2010, and the Legislative action which commenced funding at a reduced population count effective July 1, 2009. President Daily advised would check with Department of Local Government Finance.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Roads:** President Daily advised that CSX is working slowly on the railroad crossing on 400 N, and that the Calumet has until mid August before any penalties for not completing timely.

Attorney Merlau advised he had talked with Bill Hawkins who is the person from the State that is in charge of the 400 N road project regarding the damage to the Town Streets caused by the construction traffic, the unsatisfactory response received from Calumet, and that Mr. Hawkins is looking into the matter.

President Daily took the opportunity publicly acknowledge Commissioner David Mohr for his work in patching streets prior to the Fairland Volunteer Fire Department Fish Fry, and thanked him on behalf of the community.

**Sewer Study:** President Daily advised that Bob Taylor volunteered to serve on the Regional Sewer District Board as the representative for the Town of Fairland. Discussion ensued regarding how a replacement to the RSD Board would be handled in vacancies due to death, or resignation. What are the terms for replacement? Who takes over the Trustee appointments if the Township Trustee positions are eliminated? Jeremy Creech to inquire at the Sewer District Committee meeting on July 8, 2010.

**Annexation:** Jeremy Creech advised he has parcel numbers identified with owners, and that that County is encouraging the Town to annex an area encompassing at least one-half (1/2) mile outside what is perceived to be the Town of Fairland. Discussion ensued regarding methods of annexation; holding a public informational meeting regarding the same; and possibly including some surrounding farm properties due to drainage issues. Councilman Creech advised he can get a map with each property highlighted on it for proposed annexation.

**Emergency Preparedness Plan:** President Daily advised that although the Town had adopted a resolution for an Emergency Preparedness Plan, it is necessary to get a contractor identified for emergency services such as tree trimming; barricades, debris removal, etc. Attorney Merlau advised the Board it would be necessary to solicit proposals for an "as need" basis for such services. Jeremy Creech made a Motion to solicit proposals to handle emergency situations as they arise, including but is not limited to debris removal, structure repair, temporary road repair, sign placement for road closures, etc. Richard Daily seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of 2-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Town Maintenance Plan:** Board discussed the need for establishing a Town

maintenance plan, and designation for a contractor to perform maintenance on an as needed basis. It would include but is not limited to debris removal, tree trimming and removal, overgrown yard mowing, pothole repairs, sign maintenance (replace or repair), etc. Jeremy Creech made a motion to draft a town maintenance plan and to solicit proposals for the cost of contracting the work. Richard Daily seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of 2-0

**Drainage:** President Daily advised that he, Councilman Creech, and Commissioners Mohr and Nigh walked the town regarding the issue of poor drainage affecting the town residents. They found many problems areas, such as a culvert that causes flow to go into a flat field, tiles that run into trees, areas where tiles are needed and none could be found, and tiles that virtually go nowhere, tiles which have been dammed up; and tiles that apparently run through property owners land instead of in the right of way. Town residents, Dan Hewitt and Marge Etherton voiced their concern with the drainage and resulting flooding to their properties and their frustration with trying to get anyone in the county to address the issue. President Daily he has contacted RCAP to come in and help with funding to work on the drainage issue, however, no one from RCAP was available to attend tonight's Town meeting. The Town will continue to work on the issue.

**Weed ordinance:** Discussion regarding weed nuisance from vacant properties. Board will discuss possible ordinance on weed nuisance at the next meeting.

**Budget:** It being time to establish a budget for 2011, Board members discussed budget figures.

Jeremy Creech advised he proposed changing budget as follows:

	Total
Town Council members stay the same at \$150.00 per year	\$450.00
Raise Clerk-Treasurer to \$2,400.00	\$2400.00
Office Supplies	\$500.00
Operating Expenses	\$350.00
Engineering Services	\$4000.00
Attorney	\$6000.00
Strike telephone cost	-0-
Legal advertising	\$2000.00
Insurance	\$3500.00
Utilities	\$600.00
Repairs/maintenance to roads	\$6500.00
Rent for office space	\$1200.00
Fire Contract	\$5500.00
Dues/subscriptions for Cities/Towns organization	\$3000.00
Machine/equipment	<u>\$6000.00</u>
For a total of	<u>\$42000.00</u>

Clerk-Treasurer advised Town would have cost of municipal election in 2011, and is to investigate the cost for the County Clerk to conduct the election.

After discussion Jeremy Creech made a motion to raise the Clerk-Treasurer fee to the sum of \$2,400.00 per year in the 2011 budget. Richard Daily seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of 2-0.

There will be further budget discussion at the next council meeting, as the Town has a budget meeting with the DLGF on August 9, 2010.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Fall Festival Committee:** No one was present from the committee.

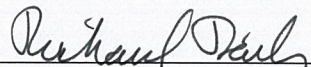
**Consider Other Business:** None

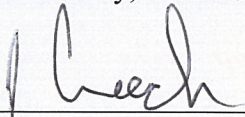
**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

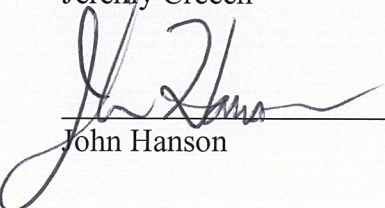
**Board Comments:** None.

Jeremy Creech made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard Daily seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

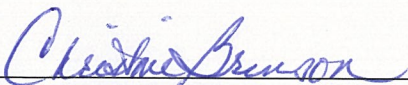
These minutes were approved: August 3, 2010

  
Richard Daily, President

  
Jeremy Creech

  
John Hanson

ATTESTED BY:

  
Christine Brinson  
Clerk-Treasurer