

Eagle Township Board  
Wednesday, December 5, 2006 6:30 p.m.  
Old National Bank  
385 South Main Street  
Zionsville, Indiana 46077

Members in Attendance: Rob Schein, President \_\_\_x\_\_\_  
Ralph Stacy, Secretary \_\_\_x\_\_\_  
Jeff Papa, Bd. Member \_\_\_x\_\_\_  
Judith Essex, Trustee \_\_\_x\_\_\_

Agenda Items:

1. Call to Order . President Rob Schein called the meeting to order.
2. Minutes. The November minutes were approved as read. The October minutes will be held over until the next meeting.
3. Financial Report. The receipts for December totaled \$113,958.03. This included the Fall Property tax payment of \$95,813.71, County Option Income Tax, 17,149.00, Financial Institute Tax, \$151.52 and Commercial Vehicle Tax of \$726.65. The disbursements for December totaled \$65,331.00.
4. Fire Territory/Annexation. Rob Schein and Trustee Essex attended the Whitestown Town Council public hearing on November 29, 2006. There were approximately 60-70 people present at the Worth Township Fire Department. The meeting began with comments from the public and everyone present had the opportunity to be heard. The Town Council stated this was a public meeting to hear from taxpayers and they would not be responding to any of the questions. They indicated they would take everything that was said under advisement. Trustee Judith Essex and President Rob Schein both addressed the Council. Judith talked about the concerns of fire protection for West Eagle Township, and the proposed fire territory that is to begin January 1, 2007 and the proposed fire station in the Anson development. Rob addressed similar issues as well as concern of Worth Township Fire Department's ability to provide fire protection in Eagle Township. Both Schein and Essex encouraged communication channels to be better rather than reading information in the paper. Following the public comment period, Michael Shaber, Whitestown's financial consultant was there and presented the fiscal plan and analysis. Mr. Shaber works for Wabash, the same company that Carmel hired in their annexation. Mr. Shaber took questions from the audience and responded. There were several questions about declining property value if the annexation takes place. Fox News was there to cover the meeting. Whitestown Town Council has 30 to 60 days to make a decision.

After the meeting Worth Township Trustee Rob Guest expressed interest to Essex and Schein in meeting with Eagle Township regarding Fire protection. Both Judith and Rob agree that Zionsville Fire Department and the Town Council President need to be present at such a meeting.

Whitestown fiscal plan states it is not providing fire protection. Fire protection will be provided through a cooperative agreement with Worth Township. Their strategic plan is proposing two fire departments. There was indication by Trustee Rob Guest that one station would be on the west side of I-65.

Eagles Nest residents conveyed concerns over their homes value. Fire protection is a major

concern for the neighborhood. Some homeowners have received letters from their insurance companies stating they would not be covered for fire insurance if the proposed Whitestown annexation goes through and Worth Township Fire Department provides fire protection service. Issue to be presented to the Fire department: Will the proposed annexation have a negative impact on the Zionsville Fire Departments ISO ratings.

The Board and Trustee agree that current legal counsel of Kroger, Gardis and Regas is not providing the services needed. It was decided that the Trustee will review their engagement letter and proceed to investigate other options for legal services.

6. Calendar for 2007. The Board reviewed and confirmed the meeting agenda for 2007.
7. Cemetery Report Mr. Stacy reported that Jones Cemetery that is a non-Taxable entity. He also suggested the board seek additional funding for the proposed fence, i.e. the Rotary Club.
8. Other Business. The Trustee received an email from Dick Crane stating that he and Ed Mitro would be willing to meet with Trustee Essex and Rob to discuss House Bill 1362 that became effective March 2006. Jeff Papa explained that House Bill 1362 gives government entities the ability to merge.

The Trustee addressed the board regarding the current township Clerk position. The Clerks position is currently vacant and those duties are being performed by the Trustee. The Trustee suggests the Board combine the clerk's position with that of the Trustee. Mr. Stacy suggested the Trustee review the Indiana Code for legal aspects of the position. Rob Schein stated that the person doing the work should be compensated. Trustee will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

The Township Board will present former board member and President of the Board, Mr. Tom Yeo with a plaque honoring his years of service on the Township Board.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The next monthly Eagle Township Board meeting is scheduled for January 2, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at Old National Bank.