

# BROWNSBURG



# SENTINEL

A News / Commentary Publication

Informative / Insightful

Jan. / Feb. / Mar. 2019

## Community Center Takes Shape

On March 6, 2019, the Parks Department held a meeting in town hall where the public was invited to listen to details regarding the multi-generational community center's progress to date; to answer key questions to help the facility design team determine the needs and priorities for the facility and services desired by the public. This meeting was standing room only, with well over 110+ in attendance.

The meeting covered the following agenda items:

- 1) Background of the project
- 2) Demographics of Brownsburg & surrounding community
- 3) Needs Assessment Findings from 2012 and 2017.
- 4) Master Plan Findings overview
- 5) Design Principles & Criteria discussion for next steps
- 6) Building Program review and voting
- 7) Site Analysis presentation of the two likely locations  
Arbuckle Acres and Tague property
- 8) Site Program outdoor use discussion



Travis Tranbarger speaks to a standing room only crowd

The Brownsburg Parks will host a series of three meetings as the next steps in the design process. With the participant's voice at the forefront in the decision-making process, their consultant team consisting of designers and architects will take notes and create rough concepts of the facility design. The concepts will be shared the following night for additional feedback. All members of the Brownsburg Parks, Park Board, and design team invite participants to come back each evening to get a firsthand look at how their input helped shape the facility design process. These meetings were held on April 23, 24 and 25 at the Brownsburg Fire Territory headquarters (470 E. Northfield Dr.). To follow this projects progress and other related matters. Please use the following link. <<http://planbrownsburgparks.com>>.

For the entire presentation, voting results and a discussion with Park's Director Travis Tranbarger. Please use the following link: <https://brownsburgsentinel.com/site/2019/03/09/5552/>. - The Editor

## Contested Town Council Races 2019

This being an off-cycle election year, there are 3 open Town Council positions up for election. There are no Democrats running for Town Council. Since Brian Jessen is running unopposed for re-election for Ward 3, the Brownsburg Sentinel will concentrate on the two races that are contested. Those Wards would be Ward 2 which is currently held by Chris Worley and Ward 4 which is currently held by Ashley Bascu. Readers in the town limits of Brownsburg, can all vote for the town council candidates whether you live in their ward or not. Please exercise your voting rights on May 7th especially in these contested races. - The Editor

### Ward 2 - Jeff Gracey vs. Chris Worley (I)

**Ward 2 - Jeff Gracey** is opposing Mr. Worley for the Ward 2 Town Council seat. Mr. Gracey moved to Brownsburg 15 years ago to raise his family. Mr. Gracey is a Marine Corp veteran, a blue-collar working man, a father and grandfather. On his Facebook page, Mr. Gracey states his platform as: He is determined to work towards a  
*cont. to pg. 4*

**Ward 2 - Chris Worley** has served on the Brownsburg Town Council since January 2016 and is seeking his second term in office. He expresses that his experience on the Town Council and as a 5-year member of the Advisory Planning Commission gives him unique  
*cont. to pg. 4*



### Ward 4 - Matt Bowles vs. Matt Simpson

**Ward 4 - Matt Bowles** is the only candidate that positively responded to the request from this publication for an interview. When asked why he wants to serve an elected capacity. Mr. Bowles answered: A willingness to serve helps you to get in touch with your sense of purpose. The impulse to rise to the challenge can be a  
*cont. to pg. 4*

**Ward 4 - Matt Simpson** is a current member of the Re-development Commission on which he has served for approximately 3 years. On his Facebook page, he has listed his top 5 issues that is important to him as he looks forward to the possibility of serving Brownsburg. Those issues are: 1) infrastructure as  
*cont. to pg. 4*

See [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com) - For Candidate Video Interviews And Polling Locations

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

April 2019 marks the 5th anniversary of this publication.

Despite the slow progress made to date, actions of our public servants show there will always be work to be done.

Only 7 meetings into his term Councilman Travis Tschaenn announces at a convenient opportunity he's not had a chance to review just one of the many items contained within the meeting packet, and therefore that item under consideration should be tabled. The public found it odd, only one item eluded Mr. Tschaenn's attention that night, many question if he should have recused himself from all items under consideration March 14th, 2019.

What was the issue? In 2011, the Town of Brownsburg started titling equipment solely in their name instead of the Brownsburg Fire Territory or all three entities (Brown Township, Lincoln Township and Brownsburg). The ordinance under discussion would have all future BFT equipment purchases titled with the names of all three participating members Brown Township, Lincoln Township, and the Town of Brownsburg. Many members of the public believed this to be a rice paper thin political maneuver, to table an ordinance until conditions more favorable to the Town of Brownsburg presented themselves. The problem here is the town is one of three separate but equal bodies governing the Brownsburg Fire Territory.

While not surprising, I am disheartened 3 of the 5 candidates running for office chose to ignore this publication's offer for a four question video interview. Of the remaining 2 candidates, 1 candidate declined my offer and as of this printing April 29th, 2019 Matt Bowles is the only candidate to accept this publication's offer. The other 3 candidates failed to acknowledge receipt of the offer; many outright avoided any contact with me while attending multiple public events where the candidate and I were both in attendance. I find it difficult to rationalize the actions of those who claim to advocate transparency if elected to public service, yet fail to extend it while running for office. This publication is not endorsing any candidate. However, to hear Matt Bowles answer to the Sentinel's questions, please see [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com) for details in his own words regarding his platform. -- *The Editor*

## Brownsburg Marching Band Selected for Macy's 2020 Thanksgiving Parade



Macy's announced to the Brownsburg Marching Band and Color Guard, a.k.a. "The Sound of Brownsburg" they were one of nine bands selected from over 100+ applicants to perform in the 2020 94th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade!

When asked to provide insight into the selection process Wesley Whatley, Creative Producer, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade said "First and foremost we look at the product in the field, and

Brownsburg over the last couple of years has really evolved. They are doing really exciting performances. It's artistic, it's exciting, it's high energy and ultimately super entertaining. That's our number one criteria, we're looking for the most entertaining bands to represent their state. We really feel like Brownsburg has achieved that level."

Mathew Smith a Freshman at Brownsburg High school exclaimed "I'm super happy about the opportunity they've given us."

Tracy Runyon band co-director "I grew up in Brownsburg, graduated from Brownsburg and to be a part of the program for so long at this level of achievement these students have had for so long has just been a blast. The families the students they commit so much of their time for so long, it just pays off when there are moments like this."

Tracy Runyon band co-director went on to say: "We have a great administration that supports us every chance they get. We have great middle school directors who provide us a great foundation. This shows our students have the best educational opportunities possible."

With more than 50 million viewers across the country and more than 3.5 million spectators that line up along the streets of New York City each year, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is a national icon that has grown into a world-famous holiday event. -- *The Editor*

## Brownsburg Fire Territory Awarded Highest ISO Accreditation Rating



Chief Alcorn from the Brownsburg Fire Territory reported being awarded ISO (International Standards Organization) highest rating of 1.

This rating places the Brownsburg Fire Territory in the top 1% of all ISO Certified Fire Departments in the nation.

Areas reviewed in this assessment include fire equipment type, routine maintenance and testing procedures, the type and extent of training of various employees and the department's response to a variety of emergencies.

Only three departments (including Brownsburg) have achieved this rating in the state of Indiana, and BFT is only the 349th department out of 47,000 departments across the entire nation to receive this designation.

The Class 1 ISO rating may have an impact on insurance rates throughout the territory. Other areas included in the insurance rate determination are emergency communications, community water supply and community risk reduction.

More information will be forthcoming as various town, county and BFT employees meet with ISO officials. Please join this publication, and extend your thanks and appreciation to all members of the BFT.

-- *The Editor*



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## First Quarter School Board Reports *by Anne Sering*



The Brownsburg Community School Board met on **January 14, 2019**. The meeting length came close to setting some type of record, ending short of two hours and 30 minutes. Perhaps it was a contest of some sort between Superintendent Dr. Snapp and High School Principal Dr. Bret Daghe because the two were making eye contact and smiling as the meeting was coming to an end.

Judge Robert Freese was present to swear in Board members Ms. Jessica Heffernan and Mrs. Tiffany Dearman. Ms. Heffernan was elected to the position after being appointed to complete a term. This is Mrs. Dearman's first term.

The reorganization of the Board resulted in President Phil Utterback, Secretary Eric Hylton, and Vice President Jessica Heffernan. Mr. Barry Gardner and Tracy Boss were reappointed to the positions of Corporation Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer. President Utterback appointed Ms. Heffernan as Representative to the Brownsburg Education Foundation, Mr. Gardner as Representative to the Brownsburg Redevelopment Commission and Mr. Hylton as Legislative Liaison to the Indiana School Boards Association.

The regular Board meeting was suspended to convene as the Board of Finance. Mr. Gardner gave a brief report on Investments noting that the value was twice as great as the previous year and approximately 3 times greater than prior year. (*This good news is probably responsible for what I thought is good news for some parents and students that will be related later in this article.*) The S&P rating was discussed because of some items lacking in the Board Policies. BCSC rating is presently an A-. This seems high unless one realizes the S&P rating ranges from A+++ and down. One of the reasons for this is the overlapping debt in the community governmental entities. Still, it is the second highest among school corporations with only 11 out of 289 corporations having an A rating. The Board did approve a new policy Reserve and Liquidity which may affect future S&P ratings positively. (*The Board had at their disposal pages of information and details I am confident is not of interest to readers. If a reader wants more detailed information, they are encouraged to do their own research.*) The other items covered were standard items. The Board of Finance was adjourned and the Board of School Trustees reconvened.

The Consent Items were accepted. And Mr. Voigt proceeded to give the operations update: all custodians positions filled (*Wow*), The fifth BCSC policeman, Derrick Sanon, will be joining the force upon completion of the Law Enforcement Academy, the lunch program is funded through March and the construction is nearing completion after the pouring of two more concrete slab areas including the cafeteria, auditorium, and common areas. (*The staircase in the center of BHS where most students will go up and down to go north or south is enormous.*) Now comes the good news I referred to earlier. Mr. Voigt along with the Coordinator of Transportation Nick Meyerrose presented information on walking areas. The summary as provided to the media follows:

*Following the submission for and approval of the Transportation Levy Appeal in the Fall of 2018, the Administration has been reviewing the practical and financial implications of adjusting the current walking area. "The presentation, a draft copy of which will be issued with the Board Packet, will include:*

- *The history, physical extents, and student counts of the walking areas as they currently exist at all grade levels*
- *The potential implications of adjusting the current walking areas, including:*
  - Proposed criteria for the adjustment;*
  - Potential results in numbers and distances of students walking to school;*
  - Financial and physical impacts*
- *A proposed schedule for further discussion and direction on adjustment to the walking area*

*Mr. Voigt and Mr. Meyerrose will present the information at the meeting and address any immediate questions the Board may have, with the intention of having greater discussion at the January 28, 2019 Board Work Session. "*

I was amused when reading that the intention was to have a greater discussion at the Board Working Session because I had more notes on this subject than any another. Presently, if an elementary student is within a 1-mile walking limit, 1.5 for middle school students and 2 miles for high school students they must walk. The walking area was revised in 2018 with the addition of Lincoln Elementary. Cardinal Elementary has the largest walking area and Delaware Trail the smallest with 10% of the total school population walking. The plan, as I understand, is to decrease the walking limit to ½-mile. During this discussion it was mentioned that the number of registered sex offenders is increasing within the school district. *Long walks alone for students present an increased danger.* It was estimated that between 5 to 9 additional bus routes would be needed with 7 expected. The plan is to have parents and students in the 1-mile to 1/2-mile area have the choice of walking or riding, expecting that some will prefer to walk. Problems include determining bus stops, crossing guards, obtaining buses and drivers and space to park additional buses. Another issue brought up was subdivisions with col de sacs. If a bus cannot drive within the col de sac, the bus will not enter. Backing up a bus is not permitted because of safety issues. The proposed developers are aware of this and it may be that some students within these subdivisions may have to walk more than a half mile to get to a bus stop. Stay tuned for more information on this subject.

Ms. Heffernan mentioned entries for the Education Foundation 2019 Metamorphosis award were due by February 13. Information can be found on the BCSC web site under the tab ABOUT US.

At this point the agenda was amended so West Middle School student Alex Chavamo did not have to wait any longer to invite the Board to the January 31<sup>st</sup> Family Fitness Night at his school. All are invited to this free 2-hour event which starts at 5 p.m. and welcomes everyone from a preschooler to a senior citizen.

As I remember, a candidate for the School Board ran saying BCSC policies needed to be updated. This is done extensively every few years and modified annually as needed. Guess what! This is the year! This meeting was the first reading of Policies 0000-Bylaws and 1000-Administration. This process tested the patience of the 'in-the-dark' audience; at least more than this reporter could bear. But as I was once reminded "School Board meetings are not for the benefit of the citizens but are for the Board." With two having a first reading, I am estimating that this process will take another 5 months before it is complete.

### Candence subdivision students are assigned to White Lick Elementary and West Middle School

# Contested Town Council Races 2019 *continued from page 1*

**Jeff Gracey** *cont. from 1*

balanced tax base. He is supportive of efforts to take steps towards city status for Brownsburg. He will be focused on future infrastructure being planned and developed to benefit future development. Lastly, he states that he supports transparency in governance and wants to keep the town people engaged as the town moves forward. For more information on Mr. Gracey please see his biography on the Hendricks County Election Board site and his Facebook page: Jeff Gracey for Brownsburg Town Council- *The Editor*

**Chris Worley** *cont. from 1*

qualifications to meet the challenges that will be facing Brownsburg as it grows. Mr. Worley has stated that his emphasis will be on infrastructure improvement, residential and commercial growth, the Brownsburg Community School Corporation growth, Public Safety and the Parks Department especially as it comes to the development of a community center.

In a recent Facebook post Mr. Worley defined his position when it comes to the Community Center. "I expressed today was my support for a Community Center in the heart of the new Downtown. Our Parks Dept. is currently taking renewed public input for design and features of a Community Center and I support their efforts in that. Their work will also look at funding mechanism of course. Years of public opinion polls show many Brownsburg residents, including our important Senior Citizens (and BOAA = Brownsburg Older Adults Alliance) strongly support a new multi-generation Community Center (with aquatics) that offer a diverse mix of program offerings. A list of possible programs I have seen is quite diverse, and most do not compete with our local private gyms & workout facilities. I also believe a well-done Community Center in the heart of new Downtown will help to fill all those new apartments with the targeted millennial age group population. My support for a Community Center in the new Downtown is not something new. I have supported it and the Parks Dept. for years. I believe the Parks Dept. is doing extensive research on a new Community Center and has a good format for accepting lots of public input on the process." For more information on Mr. Worley please see his biography on the Hendricks County Election Board site and his Facebook page: Chris Worley for Brownsburg Town Council 2019. - *The Editor*

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*"A little out of the way, far from ordinary"*

**Matt Bowles** *cont. from 1*

source of guidance when you see that there is consequential work that needs to be done. Experience, knowledge and wisdom are gifts meant to be shared. When circumstances resonate on a deep inner level, it is easy to feel certain that you are exactly where you need to be at precisely the correct moment in time. Open your mind to possibility and the opportunities to do good multiply. I seek to serve with an open heart and mind to better our community. I run unabashed of my previous performance on the Council. I have no secret agenda or special interests to answer to. I serve honest and open.

When asked for his qualifications for the position. Mr. Bowles listed the following: 1) Previous experience on the Council serving Brownsburg from 2008-2011. Brownsburg was twice nationally recognized as a Top Community during my tenure. 2) Board Member on the Regional Transportation Board in central Indiana. 3) My service advising the Economic Development Commission in Brownsburg. 4) Professional certifications include Green Belt, Project Management, Building Better Communities, Ball State University School of Urban Planning.

Mr. Bowles listed the following areas as his top three priorities if elected: 1) Bring spending back in line with revenues without adding debt. 2) Main Street Redevelopment I will get a Grocery Store for the east side! 3) Work with IEDC to develop the RRP interchange supporting the States SME Initiative (Small and Medium Enterprise). Facebook page: Matt Bowles for Brownsburg Town Council. - *The Editor*

**Matt Simpson** *cont. from 1*

it pertains to roads and sidewalks, 2) Transparency of governance, 3) Fiscal responsibility, 4) Economic development bringing new business to Brownsburg to improve the balance between residential and commercial, and 5) Public safety.

On a recent post on his Facebook page, Mr. Simpson addressed a question he received asking his top five accomplishments on the RDC and the three things he wished he would have accomplished. The top 5 accomplishments were 1) Utilities to the Hendricks Regional Health Hospital on Ronald Reagan, 2) the expansion of Northfield drive between 300N and 400N, 3) the downtown redevelopment project (Town Center), 4) communication with the residents, and 5) infrastructure projects to include two possible overpasses close to or over I-74. The three projects he wished could have been completed were: 1) Main street revitalization, 2) communication and discussions with the Little League, and 3) working on a new grocery store on the south side of Brownsburg. Mr. Simpson did not place a biography on the Hendricks County Election Board site. However, you can learn more on his Facebook page: Matt Simpson for Brownsburg Town Council. - *The Editor*

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## First Quarter School Board Reports *continued from page 3*

I hope the reader is not getting burned out as we still have Old Business, New Business and the Superintendent and Board Member Comments. I will be brief. Dr. Jessup presented the Program of Studies for BHS and the academic recognition process for academic excellence at Brownsburg High School which is based on grade index only: Cum Laude 3.8 – 3.99; Magna Cum Laude 4.0 – 4.199; and Summa Cum Laude 4.2 and higher. Mr. Gardner recommended the publication of Notice to Taxpayers (with the caveat that this is upper limits not expected to be reached), and transfers of monies to the Rainy-Day Fund. New business included the School assignment of the 92-home subdivision Cadence. The projected 72 students will be assigned to White Lick and West Middle School. As a reminder, placement to a school keeps in mind the goal for all schools is to have as much as possible the same economic levels. Cadence will be developed east of 267 N and north of Garner Road in Brown Township. Mr. Voigt recommended the purchase of BHS Chiller 4 replacement for \$253,000 and is separate from the BHS expansion costs.

The last item that caught my attention was that 66 new students enrolled after the winter break. (*People: that is approximately 2 classrooms.*) Dr. Snapp also discussed the hiring of staff who did not directly affect classroom costs. He indicated that this is a balancing act of funds and that custodians, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, etc. are a necessary commodity. (*my wording*). Dr. Freije mentioned the success of the Wrestling team and Mr. Hylton, in referring to Dr. Snapp's comment, stated the hiring of staff, not in a classroom, as a state-wide issue. And with this, the meeting adjourned. -- *Anne Sering*

### **The School Board: February 11, 2019**

The Board of Trustees for Brownsburg Community School Corporation met for the February meeting on the 11th. All members were present. The audience numbered around 20 and most were affiliated with the Corporation.

Dr. Snapp and Mr. Utterback presented Brinly Schreiber, State Thespian Winner, with a Commendation for winning Technical Design Best of Show for her Costume Designs for Honk, The Musical. Brinly is a Sophomore at BHS.

Mr. Voigt discussed the problems with the cul-de-sac designs in housing developments and school buses. Money was saved by the Transportation Coordinator bringing in extra fuel for the winter season. Later in the meeting he asked for recommendations for the Construction Contracts for 2019 Summer Projects and for reroofing part of Brown Elementary. Six contracts will be issued with the Summer Projects for Brown Elementary and both middle schools. Mr. Voigt also asked the Board to approve a transfer of real estate for utility easement on 700N by the Crossroads Barn where one can purchase seed, mulch and much more. His final recommendation was to approve Extra Curricular Activity Transportation fees for 2019-2020 school year. I don't remember the fees being announced.

On March 8 the teacher and student who win the 2019 Metamorphosis Award will be announced by the Brownsburg Educational Foundation sponsored by Stutler Dental. This was announced by Ms. Heffernan.

The first reading of 2019-2020 Student Handbooks was presented by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jessup with the comment that the same changes were those as throughout the various handbooks. The first reading of the Board Policies (200 Program) and the second reading of Board Policies (0000 – Bylaws and 1000 Administration) were also discussed. Board member Dr. Freije had many questions about various items. At some point Dr. Snapp mentioned that the annual School Plan

to the State had been reduced from 150 pages to 9 in recent years. It is apparent that Dr. Freije is taking his position seriously.

Business Director Barry Gardner had remarks under Old and New Business. The recommended Debt Management and Reserve and Liquidity policies introduced in the January meeting were approved. These policies will affect our Standard and Poor rating in a positive manner. BCSC did provide the press with the policies which would have meaning to an accountant. The Rainy Day Appropriation was approved. This approval, and sometimes others, are always passed with the caveat that the money amount is 'in case' and does not represent what the final amount will be if anything. The monies are only to be used for instructional salaries, land acquisition and site improvements. The following three items pertaining to 2019 Bonds were approved: Preliminary Plans, Form of lease and Authorization of Publication of Notice of Hearing; Re-approving of the Building Corporation; Authorizing Issuance of Bond Anticipation Note. I hope I am the only one who just accepts these recommendations without concern. The final recommendation by Mr. Gardner was under New Business and was to approve advertisement of Project and Preliminary Determination Hearings. This last item was introduced under New Business.

The Board approved the revised walking areas for 2019-2020 school term with Dr. Freije opposing. With this passing the Administration will "By February 15, 2019: 1. The precise number of buses to be ordered will have been confirmed with the manufacturer ensuring delivery for the start of the school year, at this time the expected number of buses will not exceed seven. 2. Recruitment of up to seven qualified drivers will begin, ensuring adequate staffing by the start of the new school year. 3. More precise maps of walking area routes and stops will begin to be developed. 4. Communication with families in the current walking areas will be initiated to better determine expected ridership."

### 2019-2020 School Term Revised Walking Distance of a 1/2 Mile around each school approved

The Board also approved the addition of seven assistant principals, one per elementary school. This was discussed in more detail in the January meeting. As a reminder, no tax increase will be necessary with monies coming from credit card rewards, interest income and less monies being transferred from the education fund to the operation fund. The assistant principals will be in place for the 2019-2020 school year. The elementary principals were in attendance to support this proposal and some spoke in support. Mrs. Beebe, Brownsburg Teachers Association, expressed concern that money was being diverted from teachers but the lack of administrative support in the elementary schools was having a negative affect on teacher morale. The teachers were welcoming the prospect of having additional administrative help.

Also approved was the selection of McGraw Hill Wonders as the reading books for grades 1 to 5. Selection was made by a committee of teachers. Parents also were included in the selection process.

The Cooperative Purchasing Interlocal Agreement, Food2School, was passed. Food2School currently consists of fifty-five (55) Indiana districts with 226 school buildings providing meals for approximately 138,000 students.

At upcoming Board workshops, each school will have the opportunity to discuss their school and answer any questions the Board might have. Each school usually has the principal, guidance counselor and a few teachers in attendance. These meetings are open to the public. Generally, three schools are invited to participate separately at a workshop. Although interesting and uplifting, I do not plan to report on these workshops. -- *Anne Sering*

## School Board Reports *continued from page 5*

### Brownsburg School Board: March 11, 2019

The Board of Trustees for the Brownsburg Community School Corporation met on March 11, 2019 with all members and senior staff present. There were six people present in the audience, four of which were employees. The number of people in the audience was an indication that there would be no controversy this night.

Having passed the consent items, items described as Communications were addressed. Mr. Voigt joked that for once he did not have to follow Brownsburg students. The student commendations always drew audiences and applause. Mr. Voigt stated that 5 bus routes would be added to pick up students within the 0.5 – 1.0 mile range. Because my grandchildren fit in that category and their mother knew where the new bus stop would be, I imagine all parents have been notified as to the details affecting their children. Mr. Voigt also said the corporation hoped to have a cul-de-sac resolution. The school corporation has I believe, requested action by the Brownsburg Town Council. It was requested that the pavement width be increased so the busses can turn around. This was deemed a safety issue. Lastly, the nurse supervisor for BCSC, Jennifer Wright, was able to provide training sessions on mass shooting focusing on mass victim triage.

Ms. Heffernan reported Ivan Wojciechowski won the student 2019 Metamorphosis Award. Fourth grader Ivan wrote about the positive impact of participating in the Eagle Robotics Club. The staff recipient for the award was teacher Shelley Rankin who wrote about the positive impact to the students through the Project LIT BEMS program. Project LIT hopes to encourage the enjoyment of reading by providing high interest novels that students discuss while socializing. The goal is to encourage action based on the problems and issues that form the backbone of the novels the students select to read. The March 8 Rally for Our Kids Gala had 325 attendees and raised \$80,000.

The final four items under Communications were: (1) a review of the 2019 budget calendar (Mr. Gardner should be commended with the detailed information he provides the press.); a The first reading of the 2020-2021 School Calendar; (3) First reading of the Board policies for Professional and Support Staff; (4) The second reading of the Board policies for Programs. These were presented by Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Gordon and Dr. Jessup.

Under Old Business a public hearing pertaining to 2019 bonds was held (No one from the public spoke.) and four recommendations were approved pertaining to the hearing. Mr. Gardner provided information on the legal steps required. (The information might mean something to an accountant or lawyer, but not me.) Following this were two items pertaining to 2020 Bonds. When Mr. Gardner is discussing these items, I jot numbers down and believe I understand but then realize I have neither the ability nor knowledge to retain the information. During the consideration of the items I did hear two recurring refrains: no increase in taxes and authorization to spend if needed but not expected. Under new business, the Board approved middle school and high school new novels for the 2019-2020. A transfer almost an acre of land was made at Airport Road and Northfield to the Hendricks County Rural Electric Membership Corporation for utilities. Twelve parcels of land, amounting to 8,480 square feet were transferred to the Town of Brownsburg for crosswalks adjacent to the two middle schools; high school; and Eagle, Brown and White Lick elementary schools.

The meeting concluded with Dr. Snapp stating that all nine schools received A ratings. Not included was Lincoln because it did not exist for the past few years. Ms. Heffernan praised the Education Foundation for the successful Gala. Mrs. Dearman thanked Vicki Murphy for being 'everywhere'. Vicki, Coordinator of Communications, is everywhere taking picture of events pertaining to BCSC. -- Anne Sering

## First Quarter Park Board - *By Anne Sering*



The first Park Board meeting of 2019 took place on January 17<sup>th</sup>. President Cari Palma and members Phil Utterback, Judy Kenninger, Michael Zonder, and Amy Hobrock. Absent was Jason Johnson. Ms. Hobrock and Mr. Zonder are newly appointed members of the Board. Staff present included Director Travis Tranbarger, Asst. Directors Jon Blake and Philip Cornelius, Community Engagement Manager Mary Louise Bewley, and, Administrative Services Manager and Board Secretary Amber Lane. Officers for 2019 are President Cari Palma, Vice President Phil Utterback and Secretary Amber Lane. Town Council President Brian Jessen addressed the Board to discuss the relationship of the Town Council and the Park Board as it concerns the proposed Community/Recreation Center. He wanted to reaffirm the Town Council's intention to fund the redesign of the Multigenerational Center. Contrary to some public opinion and his own past opposition to a facility of this type, Jessen says he is neither opposed nor in favor of the project. On thing he did mention was that Director Tranbarger would be giving quarterly updates to the Town Council.

Progress  
is fine  
if it  
does not  
eradicate  
history.  
-- Anne  
Sering

Under new business, Tracie Morris was recognized for serving six years on the Board; her most recent position being Vice President. Appointments to the standing committees are as follows: Finance, Amy Hobrock and Phil Utterback; Personnel, Jason Johnson and Cari Palma; and Policy, Michael Zonder and Judy Kenninger.

Mary Louise Bewley reported that the Recreation Guide would be available in mid-February. An RFP for public art in the parks was being worked on. Hopefully this would be a "must see" feature.

Philip Cornelius said the number of core program areas was increasing from 8 to 9 with the after-school program B.A.S.E. and the vacation programs being considered separately. In April a sport program will be offered for ages 3-5 and 6-8 that teach the 'fundamentals' of T-Ball, soccer, flag football and tennis. Brownsburg Parks contract with Let's Go Sports! who provide the coaches.

Jon Blake reported that the Memorial Park lights would be replaced and all restrooms in the parks will be upgraded with stainless steel replacing porcelain. The restrooms in the newly established Cardinal park will be heated. This is possible because of planning prior to construction. Mr. Zonder asked about the funding for the outdoor classroom at Williams Park. Because it is considered a program tool, it was funded using up built up reserves. Because the food and beverage revenue was higher than expected, phase II of Cardinal Park will be started sooner than planned. Phase II includes the dog park and facilities. The planned Equestrian Trail is under construction adjacent to the B & O Trail. Horses can enter at the Odell & Green St. location or West of Green Street.

Mary Louise Bewley and Travis Tranbarger gave an update on the website. The current site was created by the Town using eGov. The present software requires much scrolling by users who have difficulty finding information. An average of slightly over 500 users access the site daily. The goal is for users to find the information they need with less scrolling and with pages maintained by the knowledgeable park personnel. It is important to note that the site will remain linked to the town website. The RFP for a professional website designer will be completed and distributed this Spring and awarded in June. The

## First Quarter Park Board *continued from page 6*

expected completion date will be December 2019.

Travis Tranbarger gave an update on the Community Center Predesign. There will be a community meeting on March 6, using as basis the 2014 feasibility study. Additional information will be provided for three nights (April 23-25) at the Fire Territory Building. Citizens will be notified by postal cards to homes, yard signs, website and social media. The word "charrette" kept being mentioned as the process by which decisions will be made concerning the Community Center and will be used in the April meetings. The best definition as it will be used in Brownsburg found on the internet is: A charrette is an intensive planning session where citizens, designers and others collaborate on a vision for development. When the young Board member confessed that he had to Google the word, I decided that Mr. Zonder was the person I would ask as I had no idea how spell the word in order to use Google. As you may suspect the word is of French origin and the basis is obscure as to how it pertains to its present definition. This proves you are never to old to learn something new.

The last note worthy item is that Jim Sering, despite aphasia from a stroke, addressed the Board to question the status of rebuilding of the brick columns that held flag poles at the original entry of Arbuckle Acres. He was told that the only thing saved were the dedication plaques. However, he was again told that the plan was to build new columns to display the plaques, but flag poles will probably not be included. If you are wondering why this is of a concern to Sering, it is because he was a member of the Jaycees who built and placed the columns back in the 60s. Progress is fine if it does not eradicate history. -- *Anne Sering*

**The Park Board: February 21, 2019** The topics to be covered in this article are: 1. Little League Baseball Agreement, 2. Communications Report from Mary Louise Bewley, 3. Recreation Report by Phil Cornelius, 4. Operations and Development by Jon Blake and 5. Director Travis Tranbarger's Report. But before those topics, congratulations are due to Travis for receiving the 2019 Exceptional Young Professional Award by the Indiana Park and Recreation Association at the annual convention. The convention and expo was held in French Lick from February 19 thru 21.

The annual contract with the Brownsburg Little League which included waiving the 5% registration fee was passed after much discussion on other issues with the four ball fields. Additional concerns were raised concerning reconstruction of 2 batting cages that were eliminated with the sale of park land. Another issue that arose was the destruction of the park land abutting the development. Also, the Little League wanted to put up netting to protect the apartments from foul balls. Approval of the batting cages and netting was put on hold pending the issue of who is responsible for the damage to the grounds. Both seeding and sodding were ruled out as solutions because using either would not make the land useable by baseball season. It was felt that a gravel path leading to the proposed batting cages and ball fields would be the best solution. The question of 'who would pay' is the sticking point. General opinion was that the town and park share in the cost. However, this unexpected expense was not included in the 2019 Park budget. Member Utterback felt the Town should pay and not the Park Department since the damage was due to their actions. I have another suggestion that was not brought up. Contractors normally have insurance for Errors and Omissions. Hopefully, this possibility could be pursued. As far as the netting, The Arbuckle might want to support the Little League by purchasing the netting.

Mrs. Bewley reported she attended a seminar on the economic impact of parks and park programs at the IRPA convention. She picked up many suggestions she would be sharing with the rest of the staff. The

ad hoc committee looking into web design for the program part of the Park's website has met and the time line established at the January meeting is doable. (At the special town council meeting I attended on March 2, 2019 and which will be included in the next issue, Clerk Treasurer Ann Hathaway mentioned the Town web site was at its limits. (I hope the different departments are talking to each other about shared resources.)

Phil Cornelius reported on r Recreation Services. He highlighted the fact that the expense/revenue ratio was 115% for the 2014 non-reverting fund. This is the funding for B.A.S.E. and the profit would be transferred to the capital gains account. The other non-reverting fund ratio was 99% which is also good news. A new playground system at Arbuckle is in the very early planning stages and would be financed as a capital project. The summer recreation guide is available.

Jon Blake reported on operations and development. Phase I of the Greenway Trail (the original Phase I was the shelter and trail or walkway to Northfield Drive.) which will connect Arbuckle Park to the rear of McAlister's along White Lick Creek is in the process of obtaining grant money. If accepted, Brownsburg would have

### Travis Tranbarger 2019 Exceptional Young Professional Award By The Indiana Park And Recreational Association

to provide a 32% match to the \$1.58M grant and have available \$2.7M. Obtaining grants is a very competitive process. The Park Dept. should know before summer if it was a successful bid. A \$800,000 grant for constructing a walkway tunnel for the B&O trail at 300N is being developed for 2020. Also bids for Phase 2 of Cardinal Park are due March 14. All bidders must attend a March 6 pre-submittal meeting to be eligible. Presently, 3 contractors have picked up the specs.

The Director's Report follows. Mr. Tranbarger said the Strategic Master Plan will be presented to the Town Council on March 21st and brought before the Park Board on March 25. April 15th is the deadline to apply for state and Federal grants and the Plan is a necessity. A 2019 time-line has been established for establishing a Brownsburg Parks and Recreation Foundation. The Foundation would be a 501.C3. On January 31, the Community Center Task Force met and is tasked with providing a quarterly report to the Town Council. On March 6 the Park Department is hosting a public education meeting. In April, 3 workshops will be held at the Fire Territory Building.

Final comments for the evening were provided by President Cari Palma. She urged the public to attend the March 6 meeting on the Intergenerational Community Center in order to vote on priorities. She also encouraged residents to attend one or all three of the workshops being held on April 23, 24, and 25. Youth are also encouraged to attend and vote. Her final remarks were to congratulate Travis on his award.-- *Anne Sering*



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## Special Town 2019 Planning Meeting - *By Anne Sering*

The Brownsburg Town Council met early Saturday morning to review the past year and set priorities for the present year. Besides the Town Council, the heads of the many departments and Town Lawyer were present. Other than those were a few interested citizens and a representative from the local radio station. We met in the Tech Room and no extra chairs needed to be brought in. I was there out of curiosity and being an informant for my husband who now finds attending meetings arduous. However, when the Brownsburg Sentinel publisher showed up and saw me, writing about the meeting became my task. I was told the meeting was supposed to last 90 minutes and it did!

The presentation with its wonderful pictures is available on the Town of Brownsburg web site. If you are able, I suggest viewing it.

The lights were turned off for viewing the Power Point presentation. Acting Town Council Manager Brian Hartsell led the discussion of the 36 screens. It was a challenge making notes. Surprisingly, my notes might have been better than with lights on because there was no getting distracted by what I had written and so kept up with the presentation. It also helped that I was invited to sit at the table with those required to be there. Note: in the following sections copied from the Town Presentation, my comments are in parenthesis italicized.

The first topic was "Review of 2018 Goals and Priorities" as follows:

- Drainage Improvements – Repaired 9 stormwater catch basins in Whittington Estates neighborhood – Installed 75 ft. of drainage pipe in storm easement in Sugarbush subdivision – Replaced culvert near intersection of CR 700N and Windridge Way – Repaired retention pond inlet and outlet near Maple Grove – Installed 100 ft. of drainage pipe in storm easement along Franklin and N Grant Streets.

- Extension of Thornburg Parkway and Development of Cardinal Park— Phase 1 of the project, completed October 2018, includes trail connections to B&O and Fullwood Drive. Phase 2 is scheduled to go to bid in early 2019 and includes the construction of year-round restroom facilities, a dog park, and site amenities such as seating, play equipment, and shade structures. (This property is next Cardinal Elementary and was acquired by the Town in a trade with Park land across from Brownsburg High School. Come to think of, I believe that Park was named in honor of Coach Vic Overman. My web search found that there is a Vic Overman Sports Field. Thanks, Avon for keeping the name alive. Oops, further search discovers that this field shown on 2014 Avon web site is/was actually in Brownsburg.....).

- Northfield Dr. Extension—Roundabout at CR 300N and Northfield Dr. opened to traffic in November 2018. Project will include second roundabout at intersection of Airport Rd./CR 400 N and Northfield Dr. Estimated completion for extension of Northfield Dr. to Airport Rd. and B&O Trail tie-ins is the end of 2019. Total project cost for roadway is \$8.5M with \$6.3M in federal contribution, or 74%. (This is a big help for residents on the south side of Brownsburg heading East. Zip up CR 300N, take Ronald Reagan to I74, and you're on your way to Indy.)

- Tague Property Master Site Planning—RFP for project consultant will be issued in 2019. Parks Strategic Master Plan as well as community input will guide the design process. Plan will include potential facilities and amenities that can be located within the property and will highlight funding options and maintenance management needs. (This property is west of Green Street and will be accessed of West Main St. We are sad that the sale of this land was the result of losing Wilbur and the toy store. We are appreciative of the family for having this land preserved for our use. The smaller buildings have been removed, leaving the photo studio intact. Some 47 acres were farmed.)

- Street Resurfacing – S. Odell St. from Co. Rd. 400N (Airport Rd.) to Co. Rd. 300N – Hornaday Rd. from US 136 (E Main St.) to Co. Rd. 300N – Whittington Estates subdivision – Pennwood Ln.

- Sidewalk Connectivity/ADA Ramp Upgrades — Sidewalks are replaced/ADA ramp upgrades are made in conjunction with road resurfacing projects (if sidewalks do not already meet current ADA standards).

The next section was entitled "Notable 2018 Accomplishments". It started off with a full screen picture of a salt truck with snow plow, very important for commuters. One slide touted twelve new businesses and two more in the works. I would think that the citizens that support our local businesses should also be credited. Shopping locally first will encourage more shopping opportunities.

- Downtown Redevelopment – Elevate Brownsburg (Envoy) and Union Green (Scannell) have opened. The Arbuckle (Flaherty & Collins) is partially open, should be fully open in the near future. Green Street Depot (Paragon) plans to be fully open not long after.

- Downtown Redevelopment/Green St. Reconstruction – N. Green Street opened from 56th Street to Lucas Drive in December 2018. The road is now closed from the railroad crossing to Main Street. The work on this stretch of the road is currently underway and is anticipated to be complete in early Summer 2019.

- Arbuckle Commons Fountain & Memorial – Material has been ordered, crews waiting for warmer weather to begin. Estimated project completion is late Summer 2019.

- Wastewater Treatment Plant & Sewer System Expansion— \$23M project completed in August 2018. Expansion will help improve capacity and operations as well as help meet new IDEM requirements. (Comment was made that this was working well.)

- Recreation Trail Program (RTP)— Completed in October 2018, the RTP connects East Middle School with Cardinal Park and the B&O Trail. Town received \$150K in federal funding towards the \$540K total cost.

- Recreation Trail Program (RTP)— Completed in October 2018, the RTP connects East Middle School with Cardinal Park and the B&O Trail. Town received \$150K in federal funding towards the \$540K total cost. (As an example, the sidewalk in front of Cardinal and Delaware were replaced with wider asphalt paths.)

- 2019 – 2023 Parks Strategic Master Plan—Extensive community input process conducted throughout 2018 to collect data on parks and recreation priorities. Current parks properties, facilities, and amenities were assessed to map out needed improvements. Program assessment performed to analyze current core parks and recreation programs. Plan will detail goals for the Department to focus on during the planning period based on community input. Final plan will be presented to Park Board and Town Council in March 2019.

- Municipal Tax Rate Decreased for 7th Consecutive Year—decrease of .0012, or .13% from FY2018. Assessed Value up 9.35% from FY2018.

- 146 single family residential permits issued with estimated valuation of over \$40M (average \$274K)—233 permits in FY2017 at \$60.9M (average \$261K). (Living on the south side, I have seen the homes sprout up like mushrooms in spring. Each home represents a certain number of students which in turn represents new classrooms leading to new schools. The school corporation kept telling the northsiders that the south side was where the growth was first to grow.)

- Indiana Water Environment Association (IWEA) Awards—The Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant again received the "Excellence in Safety" in 2018. This is the 19th time that the Brownsburg plant has received the safety award. Kathy



## Special Town 2019 Planning Meeting - *contained from page 8*

Dillon is the Superintendent of Wastewater Department.

- Key Sewer Department Accomplishments – 66,461 ft of sewer cleaned – 46,507 ft of sewer televised – 485 sewer manhole structures inspected/cleaned – 11,042 storm inlets inspected (cleaned if needed).
- Key Water Department Accomplishments – 420 water samples taken and tested – 800 hydrants flushed and serviced – 12 hydrants repaired – 21 main breaks repaired.

The final segment of the presentation was “Goals and Priorities for FY2019 and Beyond”.

- Securing of Outside Funds for Capital Projects—Since 2012, the Town has been awarded \$49M in federal aid to be applied towards an estimated \$76M in major capital improvements: (Following was a listing of 15 projects completed or in progress. The five following here are in design and will be partially paid by part \$49M and be completed in 2020 -2023: Pedestrian Crosswalk Safety Around Schools, B&O Trail Tunnel Crossing on Co. Rd. 300 N, Airport Rd. & Hornaday Rd. Roundabout, Green St. & Airport Rd. Roundabout, and S. Green St. Reconstruction. The last 2 in this list will not occur until 2023.)
- Northfield Drive Improvements—The Town has entered into a design agreement with Crossroad Engineers to improve access to McNeas Way and Roland Manor. Plans include installation of a new signal near the old K-Mart location which will be tied into the synchronization of the adjacent signals along Northfield Drive. Construction is anticipated to take place in late 2019. (This is a definite safety improvement. However, there are those who prefer not to see more traffic signals. Some one I know likes to sit in the corner window of Burger King and count the number of drivers running red lights.)
- Roundabout at CR 300N & Hornaday— Currently under construction, estimated completion end-of-2019; estimated total project cost (minus ROW acquisition and utility relocation) is \$1.9M with \$1.2M federal contribution, or 64%, through Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).
- Roundabout at Airport Rd & Hornaday—Design—Design continues ahead of FY2021 construction; estimated total project cost is \$3.3M with \$2.1M federal contribution, or 54%, through Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).
- Resurfacing priorities – being developed for 2019. Plans include E. Northfield Dr. from N. Green St. to 56th St. pending the completion of improvement projects on E. Northfield Dr. from Roland Manor to McNeas Way.
- Sidewalk Improvements/ADA Ramp Upgrades – \$50K has been budgeted in 2019 to continue making improvements/upgrades in conjunction with road resurfacing projects.
- Restriping priorities – being developed for 2019. Street Department to prioritize areas where striping has faded. Plan will be to restripe as many areas as funding/time allows.
- White Lick Creek Greenway Design - Design of the section from Arbuckle to W. Northfield Dr. (by IHOP) is nearing completion. Parks applied for construction funding through the Governor’s Next Level Trails program in mid-February 2019.
- CR 900 E & US 136 Intersection Improvements—Town continues working with engineering firm and INDOT to develop and review preliminary designs and traffic modeling to determine overall best solution. Right (Slide shows a diagram) is most recent preliminary concept with estimated project cost (in FY2021) of \$4.2M. • Reduced ROW footprint • Improved traffic operations • Reduced roadway construction cost • Increased safety. (This proposed design for this intersection with the train tracks is for a ‘dog bone’ rather than a

circle. A dog bone is comprised of two connected circles which allow part of the traffic to avoid the train tracks and proceed upon their way.)

- North Central Downtown (Phase IV) Sewer Separation Project— Estimated \$5.8M project. Potential start of construction in 2020 2021. (This is what occurred on West Tilden a few years ago. I remember it well.)
- Development of Magee Trailhead at CR 300N near CR 900E.
- Odell & College Drainage Improvement.
- Green St./Main St. Intersection Improvements—Process commenced by Council Resolution to pursue partnership with INDOT, design meetings with INDOT and engineer recommenced in January 2018. Next meeting planned for March 2019.
- Establish/Update Timeline for the Weight, Size, & Use Limitation Ordinance.
- CCD Reestablishment – Proposal to reestablish the rate to .05 will generate additional revenue to help fund the purchase of police vehicles, trucks, and other specialty equipment (Process underway).
- Intertie with Citizens Water – Northeast side of Town.
- Establish Timeline & Options for Stormwater Fee Increase.
- Establish Timeline & Options for Water Rate Increase.

Lights on! The final minutes of the meeting were spent discussing and establishing priorities with the Town Council. The items were listed under 6 headings: Town Operational Projects, Infrastructure Projects, Developmental Svcs Projects, Economic Development Projects, Park Department Projects, and Council “To-Do” List.

The first item provoking much discussion was a ‘new meter system’ which was one of three items in small print under Proposed Amendments to Section 54 (Town Code). This was one of the Towns Operational Projects. Costs and time to implement, valves that freeze, and more beyond my comprehension were brought up. This project was first introduced in 2016. Another item of discussion, also introduced in 2016, was a revue of sewers. It was reported that 3 of 5 were completed. Exactly of what the revue consisted was not given.

The last item under the Council “To-Do” list was for a ‘Whistleblower’ Policy to protect Town Staff if they spoke out. (Hmmm. I wonder what initiated this?)

Board Member Chris Worley listed his priorities as: street striping, Multigenerational Community Center, water, waste water, and utility concerns. Town Clerk, Ann Hathaway, suggested updating the town web site and being able to put financials, utilities, and payroll on the Town web site. Other items were mentioned without my being able to track who said what: such as having potential Town Manager undergo a personality test. Acting Town Manager Hartsell thanked his staff for help on the presentation which represented months of work but that constituents needed to know what was accomplished. After this, the meeting was winding down as well as my note taking and the meeting was adjourned.-- *Anne Sering*

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## Town Council 1st Quarter Highlights

### January 3, 2019 Special Town Council meeting

Brian Jessen opened the meeting indicating that all council members were present. This special meeting was held to elect new officers and appoint boards and commission members for 2019. AS vice President of the council for 2018. Brian Jessen opened the floor for nominations for President of the council. Dennis Dawes nominated Brian for President with no other nominations Brian was unanimously elected as President. Brian then asked for nominations for Vice-President. Dennis Dawes nominated Chris Worley and with no other nominations Chris was elected as Vice-President for 2019.

Then Brian started down the list of appointments to the different boards. The following boards and commission appointments were made that evening: Board of Zoning Appeals (2 members), Advisory Planning Commission (3 members), Police Commission (2 members), Fire Territory Board (1 member), Park Board (2 members), Redevelopment Commission (5 members), 911 Advisory Board (1 member), Metropolitan Planning Organization (2 members), Water Service Advisory Board (1 member), Hendricks County Economic Development Planning Organization (1 member), and Solid Waste District Management Board (1 member). The full list of appointees can be found at [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com). After the appointments, the meeting was adjourned.

### January 24, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting

Mr. Jessen opened the meeting and indicated that 4 council members were present with Ms. Bascu being absent that evening.

On the agenda was previously considered items. First up was ordinance 2018-26 proposed 2nd reading and public hearing for the ordinance which is about the water availability fees. The town met with members of BAGI on both the water and sewer ordinances. For the water availability ordinance, no changes were not suggested and so the Interim town manager recommends the ordinance approved as written. During the public hearing, Dave Compton from Pulte Homes came up to the podium. Noted that the developers understood the water calculation because of the need for the interconnect to provide water to their developments. The town has negotiated an interconnect with Citizen's Energy to provide the water needs for the current developments. During the discussion between council members there was not agreement on the size of the increase. Mr. Worley moved for approval of the ordinance on 2nd reading and it was seconded by Mr. Dawes. The vote was 2-2 with Clerk Treasurer Hathaway breaking the tie by voting for the ordinance.

Next the council moved to ordinance 2018-27 proposed 2nd reading and public hearing for the sewer availability fee. Mr. Hartsell presented three scenarios to the council. First, is the original plan of a 2-3 year phase in period with a 30% contingency. Second, is the plan if it is phased in over 2-3 years with no contingency added. Third, is a plan with a 10% contingency added. Mr. Hartsell recommends to amend the ordinance to have a three year phase in and a lower contingency. Mr. Jessen opened up this public hearing with Kate Collins coming to the podium. She stated with the original plan it was a 49% increase, with a 10% contingency it is a 35% increase and with no contingency it is still a 30% increase in fees. Brownsburg had a 29% decrease in new home builds in 2018 against 2017 numbers. Next to the podium was David Compton, looking at the detail behind the proposed increase 20% of the money raised was for infrastructure changes in 2020 and 80% was for 2025 and beyond. Even the 30% increase when added to the water availability fee increase will still be over 50%. The water availability is tied to the interconnect with Citizen's Water and so it is justified. However, the sewer increase is not so cut and dry. Next to the podium was John Rabold, stated the town was on the right path but too high of a rate increase will kill future growth. Mr. Worley stated that the advisory planning commission heard 5 new developments at the end of 2018 which

would add 1400 new homes in 2019 and 2020. He stated that the water and sewer needs were assessed by the town departments. Mr. Hartsell asked to make other comments. He highlighted the 700N sewer contract which is being paid for by the town without cost sharing with the developments. He also highlighted that the last time the fees were raised in 2010 Brownsburg was among the highest in the area. The availability fees provided the cash for the waste water treatment plant expansion if they were not there the user fees would have been higher. Mr. Dawes moved to approve the ordinance and Mr. Worley added an amendment to phase in over 3 years and lower the contingency to 10%. The council voted 4-0 in favor of the amendment. The vote on the amended ordinance ended with a 2-2 tie with Clerk Treasurer breaking the tie and voting to approve on second reading. The council did direct staff to come back with more options at the 3rd reading.

### February 14, 2019 Town Council Meeting

Mr. Jessen opened the meeting indicating that 4 members were present with Ms. Bascu being absent this evening.

After consent items, Mr. Blake came to the podium to give a capital project update. First he stated the Shrewsbury is the firm helping the town with the pedestrian crossings near the schools. Green Street reconstruction is dependent on the CSX portion of the street rebuild which is slated to start in May with an opening of the road by the end of June 2019. 300N and Hornaday roundabout came in 23% below the engineers estimate but it will be shut down at the same time as 400N and Northfield drive but should be open before school starts in the fall. The last project is 56th street and Wildridge which is across from Pit Road and the St. Vincent hospital and should be completed by the end of May. Airport and Hornaday road roundabout is scheduled for the spring of 2021. Airport Road and Green Street is scheduled for late fall 2021 or early spring 2022. Lastly, CR 700N design has begun with a late 2022 to an early 2023 construction schedule. Mr. Jessen asked for an update in June.

Previously considered items started with ordinance 2018-26, the water availability fee update. Mr. Hartsell proposed an amendment to the ordinance based on the interconnect with Citizens Energy coming in at a lower cost and the water tower will now be a 1 million gallon tank instead of a 2 million gallon tank. These two changes to the calculation lowers the increase from a 41% increase down to a 15% increase. The amendment is to revise the fees before final adoption. The amended ordinance was approved 4-0.

Next was the ordinance 2018-27 which was the sewer availability fee update. At second reading, an amendment was approved to lower the contingency down to 10% and have a 3 year phase in of the new fees. Mr. Hartsell asked for an amendment to change the sewer availability fee from a 49% increase down to a 19% increase with a five year outlook instead of a 10 year outlook. The amended ordinance was approved 4-0.

### February 28, 2019 Special Joint meeting with Brown and Lincoln Township Boards

Mr. Jessen opened the meeting for the town council indicating 4 members were present with Ms. Bascu being absent that evening. Then each of the township boards called the meeting to order with all members present.

The meeting was called to discuss the re-establishment of the Equipment Fund rate for the Brownsburg Fire Territory seeking approval from all three entities for adoption with 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final adoption that evening. The public hearing was opened by all three entities which brought Jim Murphy up to the podium. He started by saying he believed in the program but the way it is being handled is creating a windfall of funds for the program. Mr. Murphy handed out a chart that detailed the

## Town Council 1st Quarter Highlights *contained from page 10*

amount of revenue in the equipment replacement fund for the last four years and compared it to the consumer price index increases over that same time based on that information the fund should sit at around 652,000 dollars where in 2018 it generated 730,000 dollars. He also questioned the use of those funds which be state statute cannot be utilized for building upgrades or repairs. Chief Alcorn came to the podium to address some of Mr. Murphy's concerns. He stated that the tax rate has not changed over the last 5 years, the increase in dollars is because of population growth. He also stated that he had permission from two priori legal teams that the fund can be used for facility repairs. He requested to keep the fund where it is because monetary reserves have been spent down and the money will be needed if there is a catastrophic failure of equipment. He stated that the cost of equipment rises faster than the CPI. Mr. Dawes commented that the fund grows with the population of the town and townships and because it is in an account that bears interest. Mr. Mantlo stated that the fire building maintenance should be taken out of the general fund.

The public hearing was closed and the issue was brought to a vote through each entity. For Brown township, with only two members the vote was a tie which was broken by the trustee. The vote was against the re-establishment of the fund. For Lincoln, township, the vote was unanimous for re-establishment of the fund. Lastly, the town council considered the motion which carried unanimously. However, Ms. Breece (legal counsel for the Fire Territory Board) stated that since all three united did not approve the re-establishment of the fund that the fund is not re-established at the desired rate. At this point the meeting was adjourned.

### February 28, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting

Mr. Jessen opened the meeting indicating that 4 members were present with Ms. Bascu absent this evening. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cub Scout Pack 397 from St. Malachy. Next the council appointed a new member to the Park Board because of the resignation of member Jason Johnson. The council appointed Mr. Scott Latimer to the open position.

New for consideration was a motion to approve a second amendment to the multi-party agreement between the town of Brownsburg, the RDC, Home Bank and Brownsburg Office Suites, LLC and Brownsburg Office Suites II, LLC. Envoy is requesting to extend the interest only period of the loan repayment until July 2019. The bank is supportive but to do this the agreement needs to be amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

During town council items, Mr. Jessen provided an update on the town manager hiring process. Mr. Jessen moved to narrow the list of perspective candidates down to 3. The motion was approved. Mr. Jessen then commented on the intersection of 400N and Ronald Reagan Parkway. Even though the road is within the town limits, the project has not been closed out so the town does not have jurisdiction. The town is working with the county to get jurisdiction of the road.

During Citizen Comments one of the cub scouts, Matthew Riley, came to the podium. He asked about what types of jobs were there in the town especially on the council. Mr. Dawes explained the difference between employees and the elected representatives. Mr. Jessen allowed the cub scout adjourn the meeting (See pictures right).

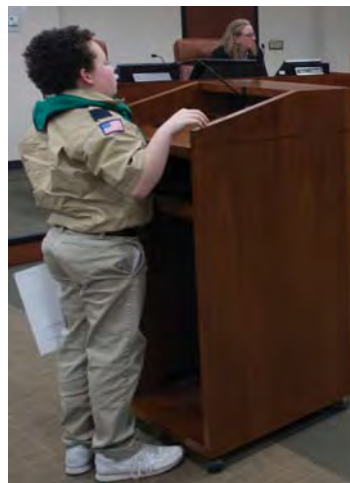
### March 14, 2019 Regular Town Council meeting

Mr. Jessen opened the meeting and indicating that 4 members were present with Mr. Worley absent this evening. The Fire Chief came to the podium to announce that the Fire Territory received their ISO rating this day. The Brownsburg Fire Territory was rated a class 1 department, The Fire Territory is the third department in the state of Indiana to achieve that rating and the 349th in the country. This places the Fire Territory in the top 1% in the country for providing fire protection services.

Mr. Jessen then opened the floor to citizen's comments relating to the agenda. First to the podium was Jim Murphy. He spoke to the agenda item on the title transfer of the Brownsburg Fire Territory vehicles. Mr. Murphy indicated that he was involved when the Fire Territory was incorporated and 22 years ago the town asked the townships to pay their share of the fire equipment. He brought documentation that the townships did in fact pay for their share of the equipment. He brought out the interlocal agreement where in article 3, 6 and 8.2 all state that the vehicles need to be titled in the name of the Fire Territory. Next to speak was Sabrina Graham about the titling of the fire territory vehicles. She stated that the equipment was titled in the name of the town in 2011. She also confirmed that the BMV has stated that the equipment can be titled in the name of all three entities of the Fire Territory. She addressed Mr. Jessen's concerns that the re-titling would have a negative effect on insurance by stating that the 2011 resolution did not change any of the insurance or liability paperwork only the title. She stated that if the town does not pass the resolution it would lead her to believe that the town had other motives since fire protection was one of the arguments for the north annexation. Last up to the podium was Kurt Disser who also spoke on the re-titling of the fire protection. He noted that in the packet pages 41-43 was information he provided to the town. He stated that the BMV did not bring up the issue but it was brought up by the town.

The last resolution for the evening was resolution 2019-05 which would provide for the transfer of title of the fire territory to all three entities of the Fire Territory. The resolution came up in the Fire Territory executive board and the vote was 2-1 with Mr. Jessen being the no vote. Chief Alcorn came up to state that he had talked with the BMV and the insurance agency and no one has a problem with adding the townships to the titles. Mr. Tschaenn asked to table the resolution until the townships have acted on the resolution since they are the entities to be added to the title. The motion was tabled by a vote 4-0.

During citizen's comments Mr. Weyant came to the podium. He had two comments: 1) that the town took the leadership position in 2011 and why should they not take the leadership position at this time. 2) Why Mr. Tschaenn did not have time to look at the material for that evening's meeting. See our full town council reporting on our website. [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com) -The Editor



A boyscout from an area church asks Dennis Dawes how to become a member of the town council.

### A Future Councilman



After a brief deliberation, the council votes unanimously to allow him to gavel the meeting to a close.

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