

VOMC Post-Annexation Meeting

Carmel City Hall
Wednesday, March 5, 2003 – 7:00 pm

Mayor Brainard opened the meeting at 7 pm with greetings and thanks for everyone's attendance. He introduced the other City officials who were present, and they included:

John Duffy, Carmel Utilities
Kate Weese, City Engineer
Dave Klingensmith, Streets Commissioner
Marvin Stewart, Communications (911)
Mike Fogarty, Police Chief

Also present was a City Councilman (Wayne Wilson), the Hamilton County Sheriff, and Rick Sharp, the lone candidate for the City Council seat which will represent us.

There were approximately 18 residents in attendance. Jodi Miller and Dave Goff were the only VOMC Board members present.

The annexation was effective February 5, 2003.

We should receive a letter from the Mayor in the next few days explaining how City services will affect us, including the reduced water and sewer rates, which we will now be paying.

The Mayor's estimate of the effect of annexation on property taxes is that our property taxes will increase by 12 to 15% (which he thinks will be offset by the reduction in water and sewer charges).

The meeting was opened to questions, and following is a summary of the topics covered:

- 1) The City will deliver softened water to us, beginning in late April or early May. It should be softened to the equivalent of about 95% of what a home softener would do.
- 2) The City sends its trucks out for snow removal anytime the depth reaches 3". Their goal is to have every city street plowed within 24 hours of a snowfall, starting with main roads, then secondary roads, then neighborhood roads.
- 3) The city will install streetlights at any intersections deemed "dangerous" by the City Engineer.
- 4) The City does not install sidewalks in neighborhoods.
- 5) Any existing streetlights, which are being paid for by a neighborhood, will continue to be the responsibility of the neighborhood.

- 6) The city has a plan to convert Towne Road into a “Hazel Dell Parkway” type of road, widening and installing roundabouts. That will happen as those areas of the township are annexed.
- 7) Springmill Road will see some improvements, with roundabouts being installed at 131st Street and 136th Street.
- 8) There are no currently approved plans for any type of development of the ground to the west of the Cosmetic Surgery Center at 136th and Oakridge.
- 9) The intersection of 146th and Oakridge is the County’s responsibility, although it is not uncommon for the city and county to agree to cooperate.
- 10) The city does not provide trash pick-up.
- 11) As Carmel residents, we are now able to use the city’s hazardous waste disposal center (on Range Line Road, south of the Dairy Queen). It is open M, T, W, F, and Sa.
- 12) White lines will be painted on the streets at intersections with stop signs.
- 13) There are a few city ordinances, which will affect us, which we did not have to deal with prior to annexation (it is illegal to fire a gun inside the city limits, for instance). There are noise ordinances (barking dogs, for instance), which may affect us. There are rules covering grass height (10” is the limit).

There was an explanation of the “Reverse 911” system that Carmel has in place, which permits the city to call every phone in the city within 45 minutes with emergency information.

City services will be available to us as of April 1, 2003, despite the law that permits the City to take up to a year to provide full services.

The email address for city officials is the first initial of their first name, their last name @ci.carmel.in.us For instance, Mayor Jim Brainard’ s email address is jbrainard@ci.carmel.in.us

The meeting adjourned shortly before 8 o’clock.

Dave Goff
Secretary, VOMC Civic Association