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ORDINANCE 2016-22

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF WHITESTOWN, INDIANA

WHEREAS, as the fastest growing community in the State of Indiana, the Town of Whitestown ("Whitestown" or "Town") has numerous diverse neighborhoods that are already established, are growing, or are expected to develop in the near future; and

WHEREAS, the Whitestown Town Council desires to encourage neighborhoods within Whitestown to work together to create healthy, secure neighborhoods, provide organizational support, serve as a common forum and advocating voice for neighborhood concerns, and advise the Town Council with respect to such issues; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to encourage participation by neighborhoods in Town government in a manner that creates a better community for all Whitestown residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to create a Neighborhood Council within the Town for such purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Whitestown, Indiana, as follows:

Section 1. Establishment. There is hereby established the Whitestown Neighborhood Council ("WNC").

Section 2. Membership. The Whitestown Town Council shall appoint, by a majority vote of all members, one (1) WNC member from each neighborhood within Whitestown and recognized by the Town. Currently, the following eleven (11) Whitestown neighborhoods are recognized:

i. Clark Neighborhoods at Anson,
ii. Clark Meadows at Anson,
iii. Eagles Nest,
iv. Walker Farms,
v. Harvest Park,
vi. Legacy Core,
vii. The Boulevard Apartments,
viii. Westhaven Apartments,
ix. The Woodlands by Redwood, and
x. The Villas by Watermark.
xi. Maplegrove

WNC members shall be residents of their respective neighborhood.

The Town Council President shall have the authority to amend those neighborhoods recognized by the Town for appointments to the WNC, as new neighborhoods are added within Whitestown,

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when requested by areas desiring neighborhood status, as existing neighborhoods change, or as the Town Council President otherwise determines to be appropriate in his/her discretion and consistent with the purposes of this Ordinance. Future anticipated neighborhoods currently include: Westwood Landing, Manors at Clark Meadows, Spectrum Senior Living Community, and Golf Club of Indiana neighborhood.

Section 3. Terms. The term for each member of the WNC shall expire on December 31st of each year, or unless or until a successor is appointed. Individuals may be appointed for additional terms. WNC members shall further serve at the pleasure of the Town Council, and may be removed by a majority vote of the Whitestown Town Council with or without cause.

Section 4. Activities. The WNC shall have no legal obligations, responsibilities, duties, or governmental authority, and WNC membership shall not constitute a public office. However, the WNC is established towards the following goals, and is encouraged to engage in activities consistent with and in a manner that furthers such purposes:

i. provide advocacy for neighborhood issues and concerns;
ii. make the Whitestown communities safe, welcoming, and a desirable place to live;
iii. foster a sense of community between neighborhoods and Whitestown government;
iv. enhance communication and cooperation between different Whitestown neighborhood groups;
v. promote neighborhood preservation and advocate for appropriate land use;
vi. support and empower neighborhoods and residents for effective community action;
vii. provide a forum where neighborhood organizations can discuss specific concerns; and
viii. maintain and improve the quality of life in all of Whitestown neighborhoods.

The WNC shall report to the Town Council on its activities at least three (3) times each calendar year, which may include presenting an annual report to the Town Council. The WNC and its members are further encouraged to formulate positions on public policy, develop and advocate for resolutions and ordinances before the Whitestown Town Council, and represent their respective neighborhoods at government meetings.

Section 5. Meetings. The WNC shall meet at least six (6) times per year, and may hold such additional meetings as the WNC determines to be appropriate. The President of the Whitestown Town Council shall select the President and Vice-President of the WNC. At its first meeting each calendar year, the WNC shall select from its membership a Secretary. The WNC shall take and maintain minutes of its meetings, which once approved shall be signed by the President or Vice-President and attested by the Secretary of the WNC with copies provided to the Whitestown Town Council, and shall keep its meetings open to the public.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Whitestown, Indiana Town Council this 15 day of June, 2016.

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WHITESTOWN, INDIANA	YAY/NAY
Eric Miller, President	Yes
Susan Austin, Vice President	Yes.
Kevin Russell	
Clinton Bohm	Yes
Jeffrey Wishek	yes

ATTEST:

Matthew Sumner, Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Whitestown, Indiana

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