

The Village Voice

Vol 1, No.1

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

April 2, 1991

**Third Indian Springs Village
Town Council Meeting
Indian Springs School Town Hall
Tuesday, April 9, 1991, 7 p.m.**

Agenda

- I. **Featured Speakers**
**John Cox, Shelby Co. Build-
ing Inspection Dept.**
**John Ellison, Director, Shelby
County E911**
- II. **Mayor/Council Committee
Reports**
- III. **Proposed Resolutions (Addit-
ions probable)**
**Membership in League of
Municipalities**
- IV. **Proposed Annexations**

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

As head of Communications and Community Relations for the town of Indian Springs Village, I am very pleased to present to you the premier issue of our community newsletter, *The Village Voice*. My sincere hope is that you will find this publication to be both informative and enjoyable.

This project has been made possible entirely through the efforts and expertise of our dedicated staff, as well as those who have contributed their time and talents to making this edition possible. I personally wish to encourage your involvement and hope to hear from many of you very soon.

-Patricia Crapet

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I am pleased that at long last our community has a "voice". *The Village Voice* will serve to further our town's unity and inform our citizens. Councilwoman Patricia Crapet and *The Village Voice* committee have done a superb job in coordinating this first issue, and I know that we will all look forward to each future issue.

Presently, the town council is making progress in several areas. The Finance Committee continues to pursue coordination and collection of our revenues. Indian Springs Village now has an account with First Alabama Bank. Any questions concerning the Finance Committee should be directed to Stewart Dudley. He will be happy to share all town financial information with any interested citizen.

Our Zoning and Planning Committee has been in touch with several surrounding municipalities concerning their zoning laws. Our committee is now reviewing this information to assist them in drafting zoning recommendations to present to the town council. Any questions concerning zoning matters should be addressed to Peyton Lacy, head of the Zoning and Planning Committee, or to Russ Allison who will chair the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

I have spoken with John Ellison, the director of Shelby County 911, concerning our new 911 addresses. Mr. Ellison suggested that each family dial 911 and inform them that you are calling to test the accuracy of 911's information concerning your household. 911 will then confirm your address and phone number. This call should be made during the next few weeks.

I have also spoken with Robert Harris, head of addresses in our U.S. Postal Service District. Mr. Harris has conferred with the Pelham Post Office which services our zip codes and advised the postmasters that our town is recognized, and authorized, to have our mailing address as Indian Springs Village or Indian Springs according to personal preference. Therefore, we should now use our new 911 street address number and our town address. Those of you who have been notified of a zip code change should implement that change. If you have not been notified of a zip code change, don't be concerned. Not everyone in our town will have a new Zip code. (Editor's Note: See March Town Council Meeting Highlights on this subject.)

- **INDIAN SPRINGS, AL, RECOGNIZED BY U.S. POSTAL SERVICE!**
- **LITTER WALK WEEK - APRIL 13-20**

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MARCH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The council met March 12 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall of Indian Springs School with Mayor Hub Harrington presiding. Council members Stewart Dudley, Patricia Crapet and Peter Peacock were present, making a quorum.

The featured speaker was Grady Parsons of Envirotech Operating Systems which operates the Shelby County Wastewater System. Mr. Parsons gave a brief synopsis of the system, its benefits, and some of the associated costs to residents interested in tapping into the system.

Benji Thomas, dubbed our resident ambassador to Washington by Mayor Harrington, gave a brief summary of his trip to the capitol where he met Congressman Claude Harris and Senator Richard Shelby. Both were aware of the incorporation of the new town.

Mayor Harrington's reports included the following information:

- Mayor Harrington met with the Indian Springs School Board of Directors, which has established a committee to coordinate mutual benefits with the town of Indian Springs Village.
- As interested persons, the mayor and Councilwoman Crapet attended a rezoning hearing at a Pelham Council meeting on March 4. M. M. Argo, III, had sought commercial (B-2) Rezoning for 12 acres at the intersection of Cahaba Valley Road and Cahaba Valley Trace. This was a second hearing, the first being after Pelham annexed this neighboring property in April of 1990. The county's planning staff recommended that the land not be rezoned and the Pelham Council also rejected Argo's proposal.
- The new street numbers assigned by Emergency 911 should now be used, and either Indian Springs or Indian Springs Village, Alabama, can be used with the appropriate Zip code for the post office serving the address. After Mayor Harrington met downtown with the Birmingham postal officials, they consented to putting Indian Springs into the database as a recognized postal area. "Village" was not included in the database because of a length limitation on mail scanning; but if you choose to use Indian Springs Village, we have been assured that your mail will be delivered.

The council finalized several committee appointments including those involving Zoning and Planning, Communications and Annexations.

Two resolutions were presented by Stewart Dudley and passed unanimously. The first was to establish a general fund checking account for the town at First Alabama Bank, with signatories being either the city clerk, Paul Stephens, or assistant clerk, Jim Wyatt, and either Council members Dudley or Crapet. The second resolution was to establish a line of credit for one year at First Alabama Bank with a cap of \$10,000 and a guaranteed rate of 6 1/2%.

Patricia Crapet

LITTER WALK WEEK-APRIL 13-20

The Environmental committee report

Eight members of Dr. Peter Peacock's Environmental committee met on March 24. We all agreed that litter is an immediate environmental problem; we discussed having a clean-up day, possibly followed by block picnics. It has since been suggested that we declare April 13-20 Litter Walk Week-a fine way to celebrate this beautiful season! Other issues the committee discussed were: establishing a recycling center; erecting signs at the entrance to the town; designating our area as a bird sanctuary; improving our access to Oak Mountain Park; and setting town policies on unnecessary burning, on littering, and on the use of firearms. We decided that before moving ahead with any of these possibilities, we should recommend to the Town Council that they send a questionnaire to residents so we could learn the community's wishes on these matters.

Anne Wilson

Environmental Committee- Dr. Peter Peacock, Chairman

Members: Dr. Rowell and Rosemary Ashford, Dr. Leonard McGovern, Virginia Rancont, Jackie Johnson, Lindsay Allison, Anne Bishop, Anne Wilson, Sharon Kuhn, and Sharon Lampkin.

THE FIRST ANNUAL JULY FOURTH CELEBRATION - THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

If you would like to be involved in this very special project please contact Chairperson Sandy Luster, 987 7918, or Councilwoman Patricia Crapet, 985-9205.

FIRST TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

About 100 people were in attendance at the first council meeting on February 26, 1991. The meeting was lead by Mayor Hub Harrington, with all five of the newly-elected council members present.

The first order of business for the new council was to adopt an ordinance governing the rules and procedures of the town council meetings. Included in this ordinance was the provision that regular council meetings would be on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Indian Springs School Town Hall.

The first resolution was a declaration of the purpose of the founding of Indian Springs Village as well as the establishing of the future goals of the town. *Preserve, protect* and *enhance* are the key words used in this resolution which the council expects to be fulfilled through community awareness and involvement. Mayor Harrington said, "I think all of the town's officials are dedicated to seeing that this resolution becomes the cornerstone of all the others we pass. That's what we're here for."

The council adopted additional resolutions to enable city officials to conduct the city's business. Resolutions provided for ● the purchase of liability insurance for an annual premium of \$2,500 for the town and its officials to protect the town and council from financial burdens in the event of lawsuits ● a request to the Shelby County Building Inspection Department to continue to provide all building inspection services ● exemption of all private educational schools from paying municipal taxes on real property, allowing schools that are contiguous to opt for annexation in the future ● establishing the position of Assistant City Clerk in order to have two available persons to share the duties of the office ● establishing a standing committee to consider potential annexation requests from contiguous property owners. (This allows the Annexation Committee to make recommendations to the council and requires the committee to maintain and update the map of the town's boundaries) ● establishing a Zoning and Planning Board and an independent Zoning Board of Adjustments. (They adopted, on an interim basis, the Shelby County zoning ordinances and the zoning map as it existed on

September 18, 1990, the date of the filing of the boundaries of Indian Springs Village with the probate judge.)

A final resolution was a motion by Mayor Harrington for the town to intervene as a party plaintiff in the litigation presently pending against the city of Pelham regarding attempted annexation of a portion of the boundaries of the town. Indian Springs Village will absorb no costs and bear no expenses incurred by intervening in the lawsuit. All financial responsibility will continue to rest with the original plaintiffs until the final settlement. The resolution passed unanimously, with Gary Dennis and Stewart Dudley abstaining. Both abstaining council members are among the original plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

Stewart Dudley was elected Chairman Pro Tem of the council and will preside over any meetings the mayor is unable to attend. Mayor Harrington appointed Paul Stephens as the City Clerk and James Wyatt as the Assistant City Clerk.

The mayor and council have established committee responsibilities which coordinate with each council member's area of expertise.

Ron Luster--Roads, Maintenance, and Construction
Patricia Crapet--Communications, Community Relations, and Newsletter

Gary Dennis--Public Services, Maintenance of Statistical Information

Peter Peacock--Public Health, Environmental Protection, Parks, Recreation, and Beautification

Stewart Dudley--Finance

Hub Harrington--Community Development, Zoning, Planning, and Legal Affairs in addition to overseeing appointed town officials

Anyone who is interested in working on any of these committees should contact the council liaison responsible.
Patricia Crapet

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Ordinance--A local, municipal, enforceable law which is permanent in nature.

Resolution--A formal statement of opinion or determination adopted by an assembly or other formal group regarding a decision as to a future action.

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE MAYOR/ COUNCIL INSTALLED

Tuesday evening, February 12, at Indian Springs School a standing-room-only crowd witnessed the birth of Indian Springs Village. Shelby County Probate Judge Thomas Snowden, Jr., swore in Hub Harrington as the town's first mayor.

Each council member extended remarks and emphasized a policy of welcoming suggestions and comments from townspeople aimed toward the betterment of the village. The overall mood was one of caring for environmental preservation and continuing a desirable atmosphere for the community.

Deborah Gibson

IN MEMORIAM

On March 26 Mildred Wyatt lost her mother, Julia May Powell, 89. Mrs. Powell had lived with the family on Indian Trail for 15 years. Our sympathy is with the Wyatts and the Schenks on their loss.

Our sympathy is extended to Jack Hughens, also on Indian Trail, on the loss of his wife, Ann Darring Hughens. Mrs. Hughens, 57, was a longtime resident of Indian Springs. We express our condolences to Madeline Johnson of 300 Valley View Road on the loss of her husband on March 5. Maurice Johnson had been a resident of the community for 20 years.

Our condolences also go to Jean Findlay of 3901 Willow Ridge Drive on the loss of her husband, John David Findlay, on February 11 after a long illness.

Our sympathy also goes to their daughter, Kathy Lane, of Highgate Hill.

VILLAGE PERSONALS

The first wedding in Indian Springs Village was December 8, 1990. Julie Wyatt and Russell Schenk exchanged vows in the Indian Trail home of Julie's parents, James and Mildred Wyatt. Julie and Rusty are couriers for *The Village Voice* and the Wyatt/Schenk household continues with a spirit of volunteerism.

We are eager to hear of the first baby born to Villagers after we became a town on October 16, 1990.

WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS

Bob and Marsha Clifton of 148 Willow Ridge Lane. Bob is a computer analyst and Marsha is a nurse at UAB. They have one daughter who is a senior at Auburn University.

Mayor (Continued From Page 1)

Next month a very important bill will be introduced in the legislature. This bill would create legislation that would require any city that annexes property in Shelby county to retain the county's zoning for that property for a two year period following the annexation. This would prevent property owners and developers from annexing into a city for the sole purpose of acquiring a zoning change. I urge you to contact your local representative to state your support for this bill.

I will continue to do my best to keep you informed of town matters through our town council meetings and through *The Village Voice*. I urge you to contact me any city council member or committee chair/member with any questions, comments or suggestions you may have. My phone number is 987-2748, or you may write to me at 291 Valley View Lane, 35124. Even though we will be busy in the future with many town activities, we should not lose sight of the purpose for which our town was founded: to protect our quality of life and, at the same time, create a community spirit. Every citizen of Indian Springs Village is special to our community. Through your much needed involvement, you can share in this formative period of our town. Plan to attend town meetings and functions, and join us in the securing the success of Indian Springs Village.

Sincerely, Hub

EDITOR'S NOTES

The Village Voice, the official organ of Indian Springs Village, AL, established October 16, 1990, is delivered at no charge to your home by volunteer couriers. *The Village Voice* is published the first Tuesday of the month. Articles for publication in each month's edition should be submitted by the last Tuesday of the preceding month. The editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. All opinions expressed in *The Village Voice* are those of the authors unless otherwise indicated.

Newspaper tubes are available from the Birmingham News/Post-Herald at no cost. However, subscribers must go in person to the newspaper office to get one. If they are installed it will simplify the deliveries for our block captains and help insure that your copy of *The Village Voice* arrives in good condition.

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