

March 21, 2017

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the March 21, 2017 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Council Member James Marker read the names of Police Officers killed in the line of duty:
Police Officer Houston James Largo, Navajo Division of Public Safety, TR
Sergeant Shawn T. Anderson, East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office, LA

ROLL CALL:

James Marker
Larry Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Tony Hobson
Melissa Robbins

ALSO ATTENDING:

John C. Volkmann- Clerk Treasurer
Greg Mance – Chief of Police-Absent
Steve McDermott – Building Commissioner
Robert Schwerd– Attorney for the Town
Roy Schoon – Fire Chief
Don Hill – Asst. Fire Chief

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Council Member Tony Hobson moved to adopt the minutes of the March 7, 2017 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No. 11143 - 11329, in the amount of \$823,417.32 (Eight hundred, twenty-three thousand, four hundred, seventeen dollars and thirty-two cents) A motion was made by Council Member Tony Hobson to accept the claims as presented, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 7:00pm. A Study Session will be held at 6:30pm before the meeting and one will follow if necessary. There will not be a study session on Tuesday March 28.

2. COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve the request by the Fire Department Women's Auxiliary to hold their annual Chili Cook-off on April 1, 2017. Seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.
- b. Council President Rick Ryfa read a request of the Griffith Youth Baseball to hold their annual parade on May 6, 2017. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the parade. Seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried

REPORTS:

1. Public Works – No Report
2. Police – No Report
3. Fire – No Report
4. Pending Items – None

1. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. None.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Council Member James Marker read Ordinance 2017-20, an ordinance establishing the fees for the collection and disposal of solid waste for residential

customers at \$18.25 per month, this rate is effective until December 31, 2019. Council Member James Marker made a motion to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2017-20 on the first reading. Seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. A roll call vote was taken; Council Member James Marker: in favor; Council Member Larry Ballah: in favor; Council President Rick Ryfa: in favor; Council Member Melissa Robbins: in favor; Council Member Tony Hobson: in favor. Motion carried to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2017-20 on the first reading. Council Member James Marker made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-20. Seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion carried.

- b. Council Member Tony Hobson did a first reading of Ordinance 2017-21, an ordinance amending Chapter 14 – Buildings and building regulations, Article II – Building Code. Building Commissioner Steve McDermott explained that this ordinance establishes an inspection fee of two percent (2%) for the inspection of site, public facilities and public improvements throughout the construction process.
- c. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-19, an ordinance amending Chapter 78 – Utilities, Article III Sewer Service. Seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Council Member Melissa Robbins read Salary Ordinance 2017-23, an ordinance updating and correcting the Town Salary Ordinance. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2017-23 on the first reading. Seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. A roll call vote was taken; Council Member James Marker: in favor; Council Member Larry Ballah: in favor; Council President Rick Ryfa: in favor; Council Member Melissa Robbins: in favor; Council Member Tony Hobson: in favor. Motion carried to suspend the rules and pass ordinance 2017-23 on the first reading. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-23. Seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. Motion Carried.
- b. Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-24, a resolution to transfer monies from fund 505: Ave. H Project, which was completed, to fund 232: Casino. The amount to be transferred is \$177,891.22. Seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. Motion Carried.
- c. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-25, a motion to transfer monies from fund 750: Payroll Self Insurance Fund to fund 101: General. The purpose of this transfer is to account for the Town Matching Share of the Local Roads and Bridges Grant, also known as the Community Crossings Grant. Seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion Carried.
- d. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to allow the Clerk Treasurer to write off outstanding checks from the year 2014 as directed by the State Board of Accounts. Seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried.
- e. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-26, a resolution amending the Town Personnel Policy Manual. This resolution allows an employee, with the approval of the Department Head, to carry over not more than forty (40) hours of vacation time from one year to the next and the hours carried over must be used within the first four (4) months of the year. Seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried.

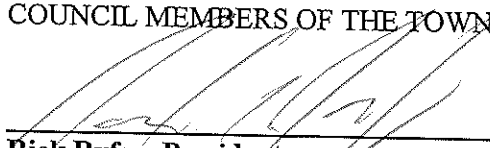
PUBLIC COMMENTS:


- a. Kathy Ruesken, 1103 E. Lake St., stated that there are a lot of potholes on Miller St. east of J St. Public Works Director Rick Konopasek said that he would look into it.

- b. Marilyn Glinski, 1187 Sawgrass, expressed concern over a U-Tube video referring to RDA funds and HB1144. Council President Rick Ryfa stated that the Town is very aware of the impact of HB1144 and is keeping close watch on it.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

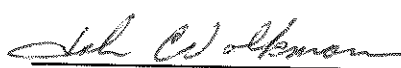

Rick Ryfa – President


Larry Ballah – Vice President


James Marker


Tony Hobson


Melissa Robbins


Attest: John C. Volkmann
Clerk Treasurer