

December 5, 2017

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the December 5, 2017 meeting to order at 7:03pm

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:
Deputy Sheriff Eric Overall, Oakland County Sheriff's Office, MI
Trooper Damon Allen, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas, Highway Patrol, TX
Police Officer Kenneth Copeland, San Marcos Police Department, TX

ROLL CALL:

James Marker
Lawrence Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Tony Hobson
Melissa Robbins

ALSO ATTENDING:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Council Member Tony Hobson moved to adopt the minutes of the November 21, 2017 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins.
Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No. 15206 – 15413, \$777,515.64 (Seven hundred and seventy-seven thousand, five hundred and fifteen dollars and sixty-four cents). Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve the claims as read, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, December 19, 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, December 12, 2017.
2. There will be a public hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in Town Hall.
3. There will be a Redevelopment Commission meeting on Tuesday, December 26, 2017 at 6:30pm a study session will be at 6:00pm in the Town Hall. This is subject to change.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Council Member Tony Hobson read an announcement about the Meijer Simply Give Fundraiser. Meijer in Highland will match your donation from November 5 through December 30, 2017. On December 8th and 9th Meijer will donate \$20 for every \$10 donated. All of these donations will be for the benefit of the Greater Hammond Food Pantry. He also announced that the Griffith Emergency Fund is still accepting donations.

REPORTS:

Public Works – Public Works Director Rick Konopasek made the following announcement: Weather dependent, the Public Works Department will extend the leaf-vacuum pick-up through this week, and if weather allows, leaf vacuums will be out next week, December 11th through December 15th.

Police – No Report

Fire – No Report

Finance - No Report

PENDING ITEMS:

- a. Park Board appointment. Council President Rick Ryfa announced that Daniel Perez has been appointed to the Parks and Recreation Board. His term will extend until December 31, 2020.

TOWNSHIP ISSUES:

- a. Calumet Township Secession update: Council President Rick Ryfa gave the following update. We have collected over 675 signatures to date and will continue to collect signatures until we have acquired enough to proceed with the secession proceedings. There will also be a petition drive on Saturday, December 16, 2017 starting at 11:30 a.m. Interested parties can meet at that time in Town Hall and blank petitions and walking list will be handed out so volunteers can go door to door and collect the needed signatures.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

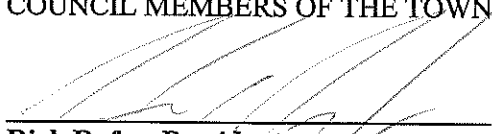
- a. Council Member James Marker made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign an agreement with Walsh & Kelly to extend the Town yearly asphalt paving contract through 2018, Walsh & Kelly has agreed to maintain pricing at the 2017 prices. Seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried.
- b. Council Member Lawrence Ballah made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign an agreement with Pinkerton Fuels to extend the Town yearly fuel supplies for gasoline and diesel fuel for the year 2018, Pinkerton has agreed to maintain pricing at the 2017 pricing. Seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.
- c. Council Member Melissa Robbins did a first reading of Ordinance 2017-57, an ordinance amending the salary and wages of the Town of Griffith for the year 2018.
- d. Council Member Tony Hobson announced that the Town has been awarded \$616,504.40 for the 2017 Community Crossings Grant. The work will consist of concrete curb replacement where needed, ADA concrete ramp replacement(s) where needed and asphalt patch, mill and overlay. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa sign an agreement with INDOT for the Community Crossings Grant, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a. Sue Fetch asked when Superior Ambulance would be in attendance at a meeting, she was advised that Superior would be at the December 20, 2017 EMS meeting.
- b. Tim Diamond asked if the Community Crossing Grant money could be used for sidewalk replacement, he was advised that it could not be used for that.

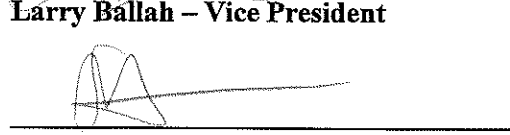
There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

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