

April 17, 2018

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the April 17, 2018 meeting to order at 7:03 pm

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 Sean McNamee Gannon, Yarmouth Police Department, MA

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
Sheri Bradtke-McNeil – 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 April 3, 2018 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Claims No16988 – 17232 \$1,464,030.40 (One million, four hundred sixty-four thousand, thirty dollars and forty 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 April 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. with a study session to follow. The purpose of this meeting is to explore the creation of a new economic development area at the far northwest corner of the Town.
2. There will be a council meeting on Tuesday May 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a study session at 6:30 p.m. and one will follow if necessary. There will be a study session on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
3. There will be a Plan Commission meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 5:55 p.m. in the Town Hall.
4. There will be Redevelopment Commission Meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a study session at 6:00 p.m.
5. There will be a Public Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant for 2018 on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. The Public Hearing will be part of the regular Town Council meeting.
6. Council Member James Marker made a motion to allow the Griffith Fire Department to hold its' Annual Boot Drive on May 5, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with a rain day of May 12, 2018; Boot Drive proceeds will go to the Hoosier Burn Camp, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

REPORTS:

- Public Works – Brad Stump from Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc. gave an update on the the street sign replacement program. He addressed the concerns of some of the residents about the difference between the old and new signage and the avenue vs. street designation. As a general rule north/south streets are avenues and east/west streets are streets. Resident Evelyn Mochon expressed her displeasure at the changes, she claims to have lived on Lafayette St. for over 40 years and now the sign says Avenue and she is not happy and does not want her street changed to Avenue. She was advised that the change

is necessary and is to correct errors in street nomenclature. The Council apologized for any confusion that the change has caused but the change is necessary.

- Police - No Report
- Fire – Don Hill reported that the Annual Chili Cook Off will be Saturday, April 21, 2018 from noon until 3:00 p.m. at the North Fire Station.
- Finance - No Report

PENDING ITEMS:

TOWNSHIP ISSUES:

1. Calumet Township Secession update: Council President Rick Ryfa gave the following update. The DLGF has published the statewide township assistance property tax rate for the Pay 2018 tax year and that Calumet Township will not be able to meet the criteria of being less than 12 times the rate no matter what average they use.
2. Golf Course update: No Report
3. Interceptor Project: No Report
4. South Broad Street: Council Member James Marker made a motion to allow the Town Council to deed properties in the 100 block of South Broad St. on both the east and west sides of South Broad St. to the Town of Griffith Redevelopment Commission, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Council Member Lawrence Ballah made a motion to approve the Plan Commission recommendation to rezone the North East corner of Pine and Arbogast from R2 to R3, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.
2. Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-08, an ordinance amending Ordinance 95-13, Chapter 74, section 74-41, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

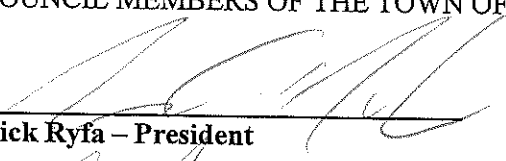
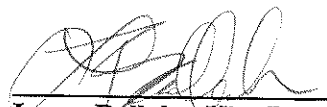
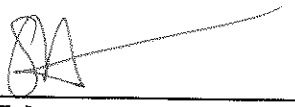

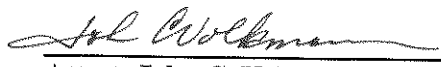
1. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the Construction Engineering and Layout Services for 2018 Community Crossing Various Street Resurfacing Location Option No. 1 – Full Time Observation, Documentation and Project Administration Services as submitted by Robinson Engineering, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion Carried.
2. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to authorize the Council President to sign the contractor notice of award of the CIPP Sanitary Interceptor Project, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a. Tonya Beal commented on the danger that exists where the entrance to the Turnberry Subdivision crosses the bike path. She said that neither the trail users or the vehicles entering and leaving the subdivision pay any attention to the warning signs or to the speed limit. She is concerned that someone is going to get hurt. Building Commissioner Steve McDermott will speak to the various contractors about this safety issue. She also expressed concern about the speeding on Fairbanks. Chief of Police Greg Mance said he would step up patrols in the area.
- b. Marylyn Glinski asked if something could be done about the various contractors speeding through the Trail Creek subdivision, especially the Ozinga trucks. Building Commissioner Steve McDermott will speak to Ozinga and the other contractors about speeding in the subdivision.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33p.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