

March 20, 2018

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the March 20, 2018 meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Council President Rick Ryfa introduced the Girl Scout Troop that performed a flag ceremony and lead those in attendance in to Pledge of Allegiance.

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 Christopher Ryan Morton, Clinton Police Department, MO
- Police Officer Gregory Casillas, Pomona Police Department, CA
- Reserve Officer Christopher Michael Lawton, Zachary Police Department, LA
- Police Officer Scotty Hamilton, Pikeville Police Department, KY

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 March 6, 2018 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No 16615 – 16819, \$920,413.91. (Nine hundred twenty thousand, four hundred thirteen dollars and ninety-one 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 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a study session at 6:30 p.m. and one will follow if necessary.
2. There will be a study session on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
3. There will be a Redevelopment Commission meeting in the Town Hall on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. and a study session at 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS:

REPORTS:

Public Works – No Report
Police – Police Chief Greg Mance gave an update on blighted properties in the Town.
Fire - No Report
Finance - No Report

PENDING ITEMS:

TOWNSHIP ISSUES:

1. Calumet Township Secession update: No Report
2. Golf Course update: Council President Rick Ryfa announced that the RFP (Request For Proposals) will be available on Monday, March 26, 2018. It will be available on the Town Website and at the Clerk Treasurers' Office in Town Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

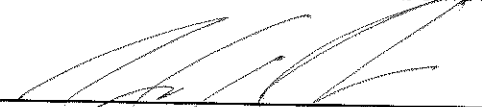
- a. Council Member James Marker made a motion to affirm the emergency sanitary sewer extension and two (2) new residential taps in the 300 block of Ernest Ave. in the amount of \$29,000.00, work to be performed by Grimmer Construction, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried.
- b. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to affirm the emergency storm sewer replacement on East Main St. from Gatlin Drive west approximately 625' of 18" RCP pipe and three (3) catch-basins in the amount of \$49,500.00, work to be performed by Gatlin P&H, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion Carried.
- c. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to affirm the emergency repair/replacement of a storm sewer manhole/sink-hole at Wiggs & Columbia, work to be performed by Gatlin P&H on a time and material basis, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.
- d. Council Member Lawrence Ballah made a motion to approve the purchase of a new 2018 Chevrolet Trax Vehicle for the Water Department Meter Reader from Christensen Chevrolet for \$15,881.75, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.
- e. Council President Rick Ryfa opened the bids for the Community Crossings Grant for the paving of various streets in Town, Council Member Lawrence Ballah read the bids: Reith/Riley: \$1,644,159.01; Walsh and Kelly: \$1,481,276.14.
Council Member Lawrence Ballah made a motion to forward the bids to the Director of Public Works and the Town Attorney for review and recommendation, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.


PUBLIC COMMENTS:

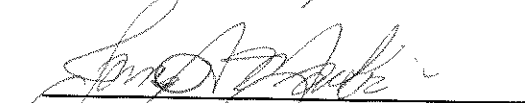
- a. Marylyn Glinski commented on the new light arms at Main and Broad and asked if there were any plans to install left turn arrows at the intersection. Council President Rick Ryfa advised her that a traffic study has been completed and changes will be made probably by the end of summer.
- b. Vicky Harris stated that the lot next to her home on North Harvey has been sold and the new owner will start construction in the spring, she expressed concern about water drainage because the lot grade will have to be raised and she has concerns that the water will drain onto her property. Building Commissioner Steve McDermott advised that there are ordinances that prohibit draining water onto adjoining properties and that the new grading must allow the drainage to go to the rear of the property.
- c. An unidentified male suggested that left-turn arrows be installed at Main and Broad and at Elm and Broad. He was advised that a traffic study has been completed and that changes should be made at Main and Broad by the end of summer.
- d. Donna Baker expressed concern over the new street signs that are being installed. She said that she has lived on Lafayette Street for over 40 years and now the sign says Lafayette Avenue. She was advised that the correct name is Lafayette Avenue. The program to install the new signs is being partially funded by the Federal Government and the Town is now correcting the signs to reflect the correct terminology. She was advised that most North/South streets should be Avenues and most East/West streets should be Streets. The Town apologized for the confusion and is trying to rectify the error.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11p.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