

JULY 17, 2018

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the July 17, 2018 meeting to order at 7:03 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 Michael Chesna, Weymouth 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
Don Hill – Asst. Fire Chief
Rick Konopasek – Director of Public Works

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to adopt the minutes of the July 10, 2018 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Council President Rick Ryfa asked if there was any discussion on the motion. Council Member James Marker stated that he was withdrawing his vote on AT&T Small Cell Tower Lease that was passed at the July 10, 2018 meeting. He changed his vote to “abstain” in order to remove any hint of a conflict of interest because he is employed by AT&T, he also stated that he receives no monetary benefit from the lease. This changes the vote on the lease to 3 (three) in favor, 1 (one) abstain and 1 (one) absent. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Claims No.18485 – 18616, \$1,429,676.79, (One million, four hundred twenty-nine thousand, six hundred seventy-six dollars and seventy-nine cents). Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next council meeting will be on Tuesday, August 7, 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 Redevelopment Commission meeting on Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., with a study session at 6:00 p.m.
3. There will not be a Town Council study session at on Tuesday, July 24, 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Council Member Melissa Robbins announced that over \$1,000.00 in tips were collected at the Blues Fest. The first \$1,000.00 will be donated to “My Brothers’ Keeper” a homeless shelter in Gary, IN and the balance will be used for free pumpkins and t-shirts for the children at the Oktober Fest later this year.

REPORTS:

- Public Works – No Report
- Police - No Report
- Fire – Fire Chief Roy Schoon thanked Council Member James Marker for taking photographs at the recent Fire Department recruitment event.
- Finance - No Report

PENDING ITEMS:

TOWNSHIP ISSUES: Calumet Township Secession update: Council President Rick Ryfa gave

the following update: Town Hall will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 21, 2018 to collect signatures and volunteers will canvas the Town to gather more signatures on the Township Petition. Also he will contact the Board of Elections to arrange a date for the Referendum vote.

1. Golf Course update: No Report
2. Interceptor Project: Project is moving forward. Some "Right of Entry" letters still need to be received.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

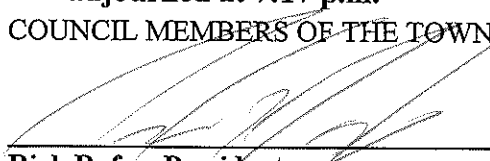
- a. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to reaffirm the Main and Broad St. Intersection Project, part time construction inspection contract with Butler, Fairman & Seufert, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried
- b. Council Member James Marker made a motion to reaffirm the agreement with Butler, Fairman & Seufert for Asset Management and Community Crossings Matching Grant Program Assistance, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion Carried.
- c. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to enter into an agreement with Lake County IN Economic Alliance (LCEA) to assist Griffith with the economic development process and to actively promote the Town of Griffith, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion Carried.
- d. Council President Rick Ryfa and Council Member Lawrence Ballah opened the bids for the SCADA project. The bids are as follows; Austgen Electric: Base, \$1,093,268.00, Alternate #1, \$89,118.00; Midwestern Electric: Base, \$995,670.00, Alternate #1, \$89,210.00; Sweney Electric: Base, \$1,089,000.00, Alternate #1, \$78,590.00. Council Member Lawrence Ballah made a motion to allow the Town Attorney and the Public Works Director to review and make a recommendation on the bids, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Kathy Rueskin asked what the SCADA was. She was advised that it is an electronic monitoring system for the Towns various pumping stations that send the information to a centralized computer location. SCADA stands for Supervisor Control and Data Acquisition.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

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

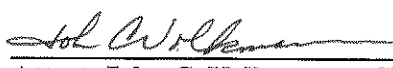

Rick Ryfa – President


James Marker


Melissa Robbins


Larry Ballah – Vice President


Tony Hobson


Attest: John C. Volkmann – Clerk Treasurer