

**November 20, 2018**

**TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Council President Rick Ryfa called the November 20, 2018 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 the Police Officers killed in the line of duty:

- Police Officer Samuel Jimenez, Chicago Police Department, IL

**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 - Absent  
Rick Konopasek – Director of Public Works

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2018 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion carried 5 in favor, none opposed.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** Claims No. 20590 – 20712 \$743,157.13 (Seven hundred forty-three thousand, one hundred fifty-seven dollars and thirteen cents). Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. There will be a Town Council Meeting on Tuesday December 4, 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 November 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. A study session will take place before the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**REPORTS:**

- Public Works – Director of Public Works Rick Konopasek advised that leaf pick up is ongoing and asked that residents leave at least 40 feet of access to leaves that need to be vacuumed.
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner – No Report
- Finance - No Report
- **PENDING ITEMS:**

**TOWNSHIP ISSUES:** Calumet Township Secession update: A resolution requesting to join St. John Township has been sent. Their next meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2018

Golf Course: No Report

Interceptor Project: There will be no relining this week due to the holiday.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None**

**BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-43, an ordinance establishing a “Special Event Non-Reverting Fund”, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.
- b. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-47, a resolution by the Town Council of the Town of Griffith requesting to join North Township, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve a \$100.00 donation the the Griffith FOP for their "Cops and Kids" program, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Council President Rick Ryfa commented that this donation will come from the newly established "Special Event Non-Reverting Fund" which is funded by donations received at the various Town Special Events and does not utilize any Town collected taxes. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.
- b. Council Member Lawrence Ballah did a first reading of Ordinance 2018-48, an ordinance of the Town of Griffith approving the issuance of bonds of the Town of Griffith Park District. Council President Rick Ryfa commented that these bonds will be used for capital projects by the Park Department. He also praised the Park Department for their efficient use of budgeted dollars.
- c. Council Member Melissa Robbins did a first reading of Ordinance 2018-49, an ordinance amending Town Code Section 74-175 entitled "Parking and Storage of RVs, Motor Homes, Boats, Boat Trailers, Recreational Equipment and Trailers Generally.
- d. Council Member Tony Hobson did a first reading of Ordinance 2018-50, an ordinance amending Town Code section 62-80 entitled "placement" and repealing all Town Code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith.
- e. Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve Change Order #4 from SAK Interceptor Project and to allow the Council President to sign the change order, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion carried 5 in favor none opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Don McCarter commented on Ordinance 2018-49. He stated that 24 hours is too short a time frame. He would like to see it revised to 72 hours. Mr. McCarter also said that at times Code Enforcement will see an RV on a Friday, then the owner uses the RV all weekend and reparks it on Sunday night, then Code Enforcement will come on Monday and issue a citation because they think the RV has been parked all weekend when it was actually in use. He says something needs to be done about this.

Kathy Rueskin commented on Ordinance 2018-50. She stated that when the recycling company empties the bin they leave it in the street and not in the parkway as stipulated in the ordinance. Public Works Director Rick Konopased said he will look into this.

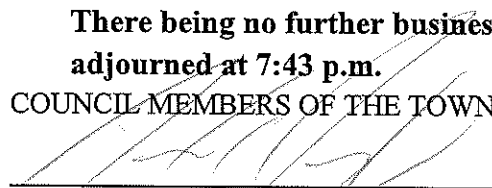
Bob McGinnins of Oakwood Properties asked how he should proceed to have a sewer and sanitary run to a trailer home park in Calumet Township because it is in violation of State health codes. He was advised to send a formal written request to the Board of Public Works, the Sanitary Board and the Water Board detailing why and what he is asking for.

Stan Dobosz said congratulations on the decision to petition North Township and to get rid of the yellow recycle bins and go to green ones.

Council President Rick Ryfa commented on how nice the new park near the North Fire Station is and that it is a great addition to the area.

**There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 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