

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the September 17, 2019 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 the Police Officers killed in the line of duty:

- Trooper Nicholas J. Hopkins, Illinois State Police, IL
- Trooper Moises Sanchez, Texas Highway Patrol, TX
- Investigator Dornell Cousette, Tuscaloosa Police Department, AL

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 - Absent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2019 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins.

Motion carried 5 in favor, none opposed.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Claims No 24629 – 25117 \$2,359,539.72 (Two million, three hundred fifty-nine thousand, five hundred thirty-nine dollars and seventy-two 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. The next Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., there will be a study session before the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and one will follow if necessary.
2. There will be a Town Council study session on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
3. There will be a Redevelopment Commission meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a study session before the meeting at 6:00 p.m.
4. There will be a Town Council Study Session after the Redevelopment Commission meeting on September 24, 2019.
5. There will be a Plan Commission meeting immediately following today's Town Council meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

REPORTS:

- Public Works – Director of Public Works, Rick Konopasek reported that the Community Crossings paving project is almost complete, there is still some curb and corner work to be completed.
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner – No Report
- Finance - No Report

PENDING ITEMS:

TOWNSHIP ISSUES: Calumet Township Secession update: Council Member Lawrence Ballah reported that letters were sent to St. John and North Township trustees asking them to reconsider our petition to join their township.

Golf Course: No Report

2020 Budget: Tim Stricker of Reedy Financial Group gave an overview of the Town's financial picture and the circuit breaker impact on the 2020 budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Council Member Melissa Robbins read a letter from Republic Services about the expiration of the current contract, the potential of a contract extension and about the current recycling market and the need to negotiate pricing that will reflect the true costs of recycling.
- b. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve resolution 2019-22, a resolution approving a temporary loan from the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund to the Bond Temporary Transfer Fund in the amount of \$250,000.00, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.
- c. Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve a supplemental agreement with Butler, Fairman and Suefert for design services for the Reder Road water main extension to the Turnberry Subdivision, the cost of the supplement is not to exceed \$16,500.00, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.
- d. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to appoint Larry Stassin to the Plan Commission, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.
- e. Council Member Tony Hobson did a first reading of Ordinance 2019-20, an ordinance vacating a public way at 1001 W. Main St. Griffith, Indiana.
- f. Council Member Lawrence Ballah did a first reading of Ordinance 2019-23, an ordinance amending Chapter 74 of the Town of Griffith Code adding article IX and authorizing the use of golf carts and recreational off road vehicles on the streets and alleys of the Town of Griffith.
- g. Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-24, a resolution authorizing the purchase of a new Chevrolet Silverado 1500 for the Parks and Recreation Department, seconded by Council Member Lawrence Ballah. Motion carried, 5 in favor none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

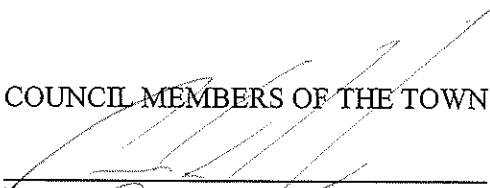
An unknown woman complimented the Town Council on the successful Rock N Rail festival.

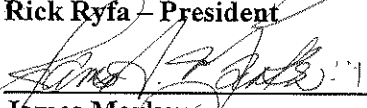
Tim Diamond asked if Golf Carts would have to have safety equipment similar to automobiles. Rick Ryfa advised that the carts would have to have headlights and brakelights and be insured.

An unknown male asked how feasible is it for the Town to provide Township services to its' residents. Rick Ryfa advised that it was very feasible.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

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

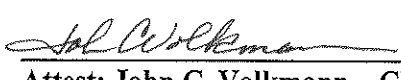

Rick Ryfa – President


James Marker


Melissa Robbins


Lawrence Ballah – Vice President


Tony Hobson


Attest: John C. Volkmann – Clerk Treasurer