

July 7, 2020

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the July 7, 2020 meeting to order at 7:02 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 Destin Legieza
- Sergeant Craig Johnson
- Police Officer Anthony Dia

ROLL CALL:

James Marker
Lawrence Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Tony Hobson
Melissa Robbins

ALSO ATTENDING:

Gina Smith- Clerk Treasurer
Greg Mance – Chief of Police - Absent
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 approve the minutes of the June 16, 2020 As presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims No 28698-29107 \$1,793,583.22, 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 Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 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 July 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Fetching Market request July 18, 2020 from 10:00 am to 4:00 p.m. The Town Council had preliminary approved and requested review by our Safety Board which approved. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

REPORTS:

- Public Works – Rick Konopasek gave a report on the Rail Road Crossing, south Broad St., slightly behind schedule, planning to be open by end of next week as long as the weather does not slow them down, also Community Crossing call out has been delayed by the state due to Covid 19. Will be addressed later.
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner – No Report
- Finance - No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Status Hearing for AP Gas Station: Council Member Jim Marker made a motion to postpone until July 21, 2020, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Storm Water Analysis, it has been about 10 years since the town did a comprehensive survey. The Town has had calls regarding flooding, the Council has reached out to Christopher Burke Engineering.

Resident Chris Jones spoke about the recent rainfall; he spoke about a project that was completed years ago. The alleys are higher than they used to be and water is coming into his garage, he asks why the tunnel project is not working. His block was flooded. The Green Alley Project was not a good thing as far as he was concerned.

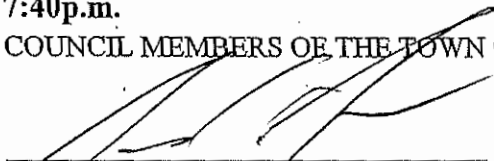
Resident, Jim Konopasek, spoke regarding face masks, he has seen people walking around without face masks, he stated the only city that did not contact his son regarding our plan for Covid-19 was Griffith through face book, and the Griffith Town Council does not have a face book page. He would like to see the town to plan ahead regarding this virus. He stated the virus is airborne and wants this taken serious.

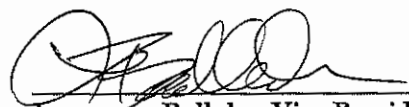
Resident spoke about an easement on Lake St., she is stating this is a public easement and for public use. The neighbors always used the easement; it is owned by another neighbor and considered private property. The best the town can determine is this should be settled between neighbors. The town will exhaust its means to see if there is any ownership. The Town Council cannot make those decisions on ownership.

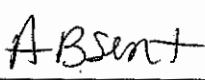
PUBLIC COMMENTS:

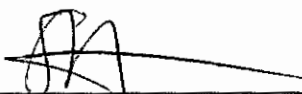
There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40p.m.

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

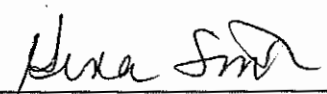

Rick Ryfa - President


Lawrence Ballah - Vice President


James Marker


Tony Hobson


Melissa Robbins


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer