

December 15, 2020

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the December 15, 2020 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 Tyler Herndon

ROLL CALL:

James Marker
Lawrence Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Tony Hobson
Melissa Robbins

ALSO ATTENDING:

Gina Smith- 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 - Absent
Rick Konopasek – Director of Public Works

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2020 as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims No. No Claims

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday, December 29, 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. The next Redevelopment Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. There will be a study session before the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and one will follow if necessary.

COMMUNICATIONS:

REPORTS:

- Public Works – No Report
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner – No Report, Council President Rick Ryfa asked about Permit Renewals for 2021, Building Commission Steve McDermott stated the new and renewals were sent out December 1, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Notice of WOW Acquisition. A Towns, right of way, changes to the original agreement, procedures, Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to accept this document and allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried. Council Member James Marker abstains. (Utility)
2. Second Reading for Salary Ordinance 2020-20. Second Reading, all employees received 2% increase. Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.
3. Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement- Council Member Tony Hobson stated at last meeting we talked about Community Crossings Grant where we would receive \$761,883.20, which is a 50% of our same amount, which would pave a variety of roads. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to enter in to this agreement, authorizing Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the agreement, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
4. First Amendment to the original Engagement Letter – Hammond Water Rate Increase Opposition, Council Member Larry Ballah stated this is adding to original agreement. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to accept and allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign on behalf of the Town, seconded by Council Member James Marker, This agreement made between the Attorneys as well as the other 5 Towns, (Highland, Dyer, Munster, Griffith and Whiting. Splitting the cost. Motion Carried.

Pending Items:


1. Sidewalk Replacement Program – We are working on the Financial and logistics.

Public Comment:


Chrissy Braun asked about updates with the consultant on the flooding, she stated she had an inch of water in her garage, Council President Rick Ryfa referred her to Rick Konopasek, so the engineer could contact her. Council President Rick Ryfa thanked her for bringing to their attention. There will be a survey going out soon.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13p.m.


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

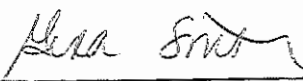

Rick Ryfa – President


James Marker


Melissa Robbins


Lawrence Ballah – Vice President


Tony Hobson


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer