

**January 19, 2021**

## **TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Council President Rick Ryfa called the January 19, 2021 meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:**

Officer Brian David Sicknick  
Master Corporal Brian Roy LaVigne  
Agent Luis A. Marrero-Diaz  
Agent Luis X. Salaman-Conde  
Agent Eliezer Hernandez-Cartagena  
Police Officer Brandon Stalker

### **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  
Keith Martin – Griffith PD

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 as presented, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.

### **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

Claims No. 31627-31870 in the amount of \$1,919,448.75 Council Member Jim Marker made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. The next Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, 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.

### **COMMUNICATIONS: NONE**

### **REPORTS:**

- Public Works – No Report
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner - No Report
- Finance Report – No Report

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE**

## **BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Findings of Facts- Triple Libra Tattoo: Application of Alicia Rosignolon Behalf of TripleLibra Tattoos, LLC, Council Member Larry Ballah read the Board of Zoning Appeals Report, there was a favorable recommendation from the Board of Zoning, Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to approve seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.
2. Ordinance No. 2021-3 Salary Amendment, Council Member Melissa Robbins read the Ordinance Amendment, Adding Intermit Director for Public Works, Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to suspend the Rules, Roll call, 5 in favor, rules suspended. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to adopt Salary Ordinance 2021-3, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried. With the Retirement of Public Works Director Rick Konopasek, we will need to name an Intermit until we hire a new Public Works Director. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to name Tricia Kistler as Intermit Director for Public Works, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.
3. Resolution 2021-4 Approving a temporary loan from varies funds to the Bond Temporary Transfer – Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-4, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
4. Ordinance 2021-5 Amending Town Code Sections 74-301 & 74-302, Entitled “Parking Prohibited at all Times” and Town Code Section 74-302 Entitled “Limited Parking on Certain Streets” and Repealing All Town Code Sections and Ordinances, Or Parts Thereof, In Conflict Herewith. Keith Martin stated the Police Department has been working with Park West. Park west has implemented parking restrictions. Council Member James Marker read the First Reading, subject to Second Reading.
5. Request from Griffith Police to conduct a crown sourcing fundraiser to benefit the construction of a new roof for the Griffith Animal Shelter, Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve this request seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.
6. CCMG Supplemental Agreement: A laundry list of streets to be repaired. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve and to allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the agreement, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
7. Town Wide Water Modeling Agreement: A Modeling Study, Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to authorize Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the agreement, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.
8. Redar Road & Turnberry Subdivision Water Main Extension & ROW/Easement Acquisition Agreement: Council Member James Marker made a motion to authorize Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the agreement, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. Motion Carried.

9. Meals on Wheels-Spinning Spokes Feeding Folks 2021 Letter for Fee Waiver on June 6, 2021: We have a request to allow for a summer bicycle event, in light of the potential continued coronavirus pandemic, this year's participants may start from any location and plan a route that goes through Griffith's Central Park, where they would like to have a Supply and Gear stop with refreshments and T-shirts. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to accept this request, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.
10. Republic Contract: We have been negotiating with Republic, we are pleased to announce we have come to an agreement. We have done what we feel has been good for our Town, with the increase with re-cycling, there will be in an increase of \$1.32, for a 3 year contract. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to authorize Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the contract, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion Carried.
11. Council Member James Marker made a comment: Thanking Council President Rick Ryfa for working hard on this contract.

#### Pending Items:

1. **Sidewalk Replacement Program:** Jake Dammarell, from Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc. gave an update, worst to moderate, 92 miles of sidewalks, 80-85% needing replaced. ADA ramps up to compliant. Completing the Town \$24-\$25 Million. Some areas 40 plus years old. Tree removal and Aprons that need to be taken care of. The Town will be looking in to Bond funding. Residents looking for their drive way replaced can contract. Any feedback from residents is welcome. This is our town and we all have input.

#### Public Comment:

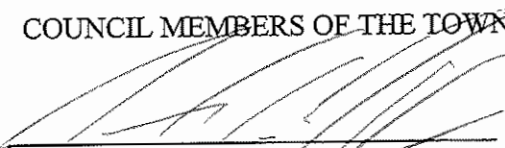
Alisha from Triple Tattoo requested a ribbon cutting.


Council President Rick Ryfa congratulated Rick Konopasek on his retirement, 15 years as Public Works Director.

Rick Konopasek thanked the Town Council and residents for their trust.

**There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37p.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