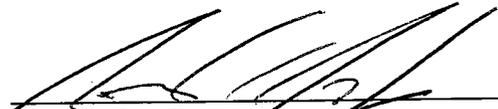


an extensive program to communicate with each homeowner, anywhere from two weeks, signage, website, door hangers, we do not want anyone locked in their driveway. We will be updating 24-48-hour notice. We will communicate as best as we can.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56p.m.

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

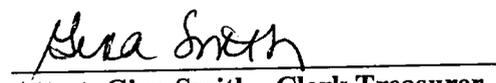

Rick Ryfa – President


Lawrence Ballah – Vice President


James Marker


Tony Hobson


Melissa Robbins


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer

Pending Items:

- 1. Sidewalk Replacement Program:** Discussed
- 2. Airport Advisory Committee:** Anticipating early next week there will be some notices sent out to the members in order to schedule their first meeting, Mr. George Jerome is the chairman and will be working with Michelle Velez.
- 3. Hammond Water Works Agreement:** We are still negotiating with Hammond to fight to get the final settlement, we know what the rates are going to be, they are going to be raised almost double the first year and probably finish around \$1.90-\$1.95. Looking at around \$1.50 per 1000 gallons increase over the next 10 years. We are working with our firms reviewing a rate analysis trying to minimize any rate increases to all of our residents.

Public Comment:

Bob McGuinness: Correct meeting notes from March 2, 2021. Refuse 3month / 6-month State of Indiana, asking to put in writing an Ordinance where the fee should be \$11,000.00.

Bill Marvel: The lighting analysis and part, when you cross Broad St on the Friday night festival that we have, when you cross Broad Street in front of the tank there is no much light, I am sure I am not the first guy to bring this up, but its dark there, the street light helps at Pine Street and when you combine the fact that the church a lot of parties back there, with all the work being done around the Park, the lighting should be looked at.

John Watkin: Asking for re-cap of Bob McGuinness issue, Council Rick Ryfa explained Mr. McGuinness purchased a mobile home park outside of town limits in Calumet Township, the septic tank failed and the state was not happy about it, the state had contacted the Town of Griffith, in no uncertain terms asking us to accept them into our sanitary system, we had agreed to do so with that the previous public works director had a list of fees and that has been a part of the debate since Mr. McGuinness feels our ordinance states that our fees are much less than what he was presented, we had agreed to work with him and meet somewhere in the middle if we cannot come to a resolution on what the fee should be so that is where we stand right now, we hope to get this resolved.

Council Member James Marker introduced Miss Boninger. She is here doing a report for government.

Mark Trykowski: Stated he had emailed in regards to Shipwreck, the music is more and more frequent. He had called in to the police, I have asked them to turn the music down, there are 30 homes near, Council President Rick Ryfa stated he had forwarded his email to the Police Dept. he believed Det. Martin had reached out to him, asked which direction he lives, Ave H. Mr. Trykowski stated the music is blasting, when the officer went out he confirmed. Council President Rick Ryfa asked the Chief about this, Chief stated they are looking at it. These issues seem simple but they actually aren't. Council President Rick Ryfa stated we would reach out to the owners; the band sets up the sound stage.

Tim Diamond asked about the sidewalk program, any opportunity for residents driveway replaced, Council President Rick Ryfa stated we would have loved to do that, it would have been a logistical nightmare, the 2 year project could turn into a 10 year project, we talked to the contractors and engineers for a way to figure out to work directly with the homeowners but it would just slow up the project so much for them to include in this work, he suggested contact whoever gets the work awarded to ahead of time to see if they would be interested in pouring the drive. It would be easier for us if the driveway was ripped out and re poured once we award. We will try and have that information if the winning contractor is open for that. We are working on

path into our downtown which will be a benefit to our businesses. We will also be paving the bike trail from border to border. Hope to start by end of year. Some nice face lifts for the town. Council President Rick Ryfa asked for any questions or comments there were no remonstrators, Council President Rick Ryfa closed the Public Hearing.

- 11. Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement Resolution 2021-28 – 2021A Sidewalk and Street Improvement Project:** Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-28, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.
- 12. Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement Resolution No 2021-29 – 2021B Sidewalk and Street Improvement Project:** Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-29, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.
- 13. Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement Resolution No. 2021-30-2021 Town Hall/Public Safety Facilities Renovation/Expansion Project:** Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to pass and adopt Resolution 2021-30, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
- 14. Ordinance 2021-21 – Providing funds to pay for certain park projects and incidental expenses:** Council Member James Marker made a motion stated the first reading of Ordinance 2021-21, bond for the Parks not to exceed \$3,760,000,000.00. Council Member James Marker made a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-21, second reading, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.
- 15. Golf Course Solar Project Agreement:** Council President Rick Ryfa introduces Mr. Bruce Breeden from Telamon, he is an expert in solar farms, they install many throughout the Midwest and different areas. We have a proposal to look at to put a small solar farm on the golf course. There are some things we need to deal with, wetland which means we can never really build on. Council President Rick Ryfa asked Bruce if he wanted to give a short summary of the projected project proposal is and the savings the town would receive. Bruce stated the solar project would go along Cline Ave, just east of Cline as far North as we are allowed to. The Army Corps of engineers and the Federal Government allow solar panels be placed in a flood plain but no one can build anything the flooded way, we will be working with Christopher who is the engineering firm to locate where the panels would go, anticipated cost is \$1.7 million over the 35 years life of the solar panels that will save the community \$14.2 million dollars. Council President Rick Ryfa stated to show how the savings would be he believes the laws or the requirements are we would need within a thousand feet of the solar panels in order to recoup the costs. Currently we are paying Nipsco about \$280,000.00 to operate our sanitary facility up there with all the electricity and anything else associated with that. In actually 5 years it would pay for itself, no nipsco bills and significant savings and that would be reflected into the sanitary rates within 5 years. Council Member Larry Ballah stated in line with this presentation, we have an agreement from Telamon Enterprises LLC, to provide professional services for this project. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion that we submit this to our town attorney and town engineer for review before we vote, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, we will engage Chris Burke to review the contracts and will bring up at the next meeting, Motion Carried.
- 16. Lighting Analysis Agreement:** An agreement with Telamon Enterprise Ventures, LLC not to exceed \$7,500.00 to perform the analysis, Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to enter into an agreement, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Council President Rick Ryfa stated this will look at all the municipal buildings the lighting as well as the signalization, we are looking at significant savings, Motion Carried.

President Rick Ryfa to sign the agreement, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.

6. **CCMG 2021-1 Authorize to Advertise for Bids:** Advertise to bid for the Road Resurfacing Projects. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign this agreement, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, these projects will be available for review until 2:30 p.m. local time on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, Motion Carried.
7. **Public Hearing: Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement Resolution 2021-28 2021A Sidewalk and Street Improvement Project:** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the public hearing, asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against, there were no remonstrator, Council President Rick Ryfa closed the public hearing.
8. **Public Hearing: Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement Resolution No. 2021-29 – 2021B Sidewalk and Street Improvement Project:** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing, asked if anyone to speak for or against, seeing no remonstrators the Public Hearing is closed.
9. **Public Hearing: Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement Resolution No. 2021-30 – 2021 Town Hall/Public Safety Facilities Renovation/Expansion Project.** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the public hearing for anyone to speak for or against. Resident asked what is this for, Council President Rick Ryfa stated this would be a basically building a new town hall, police station, some improvements to the fire stations, at least the Central Station. The buildings have some issues with hvac, the Police Department has overgrown their space. The best thing we could do is build a new building, police on one side town hall on the other, meeting rooms. Resident asked where, Council President Rick Ryfa stated it would be here at the current location. We have an issue with parking. Council Member Larry Ballah, stated the new building is projected to take up the back section, it will also include the new building two story building with dedicated parking for the police department and dedicated parking for the town employees and parking up front after the current building is demolished will be accessible off of Broad Street and will contain approximately 50 parking spaces. Resident asked about how much and when? Council President Rick Ryfa construction next year and cost hoping less than \$10 million, we are going to do it right and not over spend, Council President Rick Ryfa asked if there were any other questions, there were no remonstrators Council President Rick Ryfa closed the Public Hearing.
10. **Public Hearing: Ordinance 2021-21 Providing funds to pay for certain Park projects and incidental expenses :** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing, Council President Rick Ryfa stated this would be for multitude of projects that we are looking at doing the Parks Department simply doesn't have the capital budgets they do not have one and never had one so when improvements are made then typically we would have to go through a borrowing process and then pay it off and then start other improvements down the road, this will include quite a few improvements at central park, the first one we will see is on the North end of the park there will be a decorative fence put up with many openings so it won't be closing off the park along with around 80 to 80 by 40ish patio with a small pavilion on it, making it handicap accessible as well with some sidewalks inside the park to coincide with other improvements that will be coming, the other will be a project on the 100 block of South Broad Street along the bike trail, this goes in part to satisfy a lawsuit, a settlement agreement for the lawsuit from probably a decade plus ago the Town had agreed to make improvements to the parking lot back there in exchange to have the suit dropped and we also acquired several of the lots back there as well putting a big trail head and possibly a patio with seating for 50-80 people, not exact numbers yet but it will invite everybody off the bike

REPORTS:

- Public Works- The pavement Project that was already approved for Ave H. has started, plans to be completed by July 4th, Water treatment, continue to work on water meters, pre-bid potential meeting water extension, starting to look at utilizing an automotive system. Council President Rick Ryfa spoke of the funds that will be coming in approximately \$3.2 to \$3.3 million from the ARP, funds are limited for what they can be used for, can be used for water and water extension. Reminded residents to call in their readings.
- Police – Police Canine passed away, diagnosed with cancer. The family has suffered great loss.
- Fire – Chief Schoon thanked Don Hill for his 26 years of service.
- Building Commissioner – No Report
- Finance Report – No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **EMS Board Appointment:** Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to authorize Council President Rick Ryfa to appoint Rob Bubala to the EMS board, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.
2. **Property/Casualty /Worker's Compensation Insurance Renewals:** Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to authorize the Clerk Treasurer or The Town Council President to enter into agreement with this Insurance Renewal, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
3. **Ordinance 2021-25** Council Member James Marker read the second reading: An Ordinance amending Town code Chapter 14 Buildings and building regulations, Article I in general, section 14-2 entitled Building Department and Section 14-3 entitled Building Commissioner; office duties, repealing all Ordinances and Town code sections, or Parts thereof, in conflict herewith, and all matters related hereto, Council Member James Marker made a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-25 second reading, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.
4. **Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for Central Park Design:** Agreement with Butler Fairman & Seufert, Inc. the original agreement being amended from \$26,600.00 to \$34,000.00, the fees for electrical and lighting design were not in the original agreement, 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.
5. **CCMG 2021-1 Design/Bid/Inspection and 2021-2 Estimating/application assistance Agreement and Update to Asset Management Plan:** An agreement between the Town of Griffith and Butler Fairman & Seufert Inc. 2021 Community Crossings Matching Grant Program Assistance, Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to authorize Council

June 15, 2021

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the June 15, 2021 meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Detective Ryan Park
Detective Jamie Huntley-Park

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
Andy Raab – Director of Public Works

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021 as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims # 33582-33800 \$872,910.65 Council Member James 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 tentatively set for Tuesday, July 6, 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. Depending on other meetings.
2. The Re-Development meeting is being moved to June 29, 2021, there will be a study session at 6:00 p.m. and meeting at 6:30 p.m.
3. The Town Council will schedule a special meeting on June 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. We will be opening the Bids for the Sidewalk Project.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Council President Rick Ryfa stated we are in the process of Refunding the Bonds that were issued in 2014, from the Road Repaving, Interest rates have been historical low. Council Member Tony Hobson stated originally, we were hoping of savings between \$300,000. - \$400,000. The gross savings is closer to \$560,838.25, just refinancing the bonds was over ½ million in savings. Council President Rick Ryfa stated we do not have a whole lot of others out there but we looked at the beneficial of lower rates. We will look at the numbers as we go along.
2. Council President Rick Ryfa stated as we move to Reports he introduced Andy Raab as our new Public Works Director.