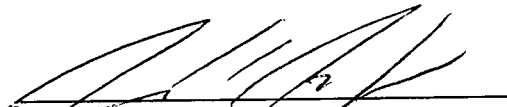



initiated to investigate anything we are using paints, cleaning liquids. Rather than wait until we are given a situation where we have to inform our grandchildren that they may have a potential risk, we should act earlier. This is my suggestion, I can come up with handouts for the town if you would accept. With respect to mosquitos rather than flying insects. George asked how many people here have bug lights? Steve stated he does; the bug lights are killing bugs. They are sold primarily to control mosquitos, they are absolutely useless in controlling mosquitos, mosquitos are not drawn to lights. You are killing bugs that are essentially harmless that serves as food for other animals. If you would like to talk to me after the meeting that would be fine. Council President Rick Ryfa stated he appreciated the comments and would like to see the handouts. This issue came up a several years ago and the company assured us that the chemicals would not harm human or animal life. We have tried several methods to control mosquitos in the park, all organic. Couple of years ago we had the park sprayed with garlic and it actually helped for the weekend.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

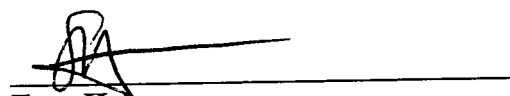
COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

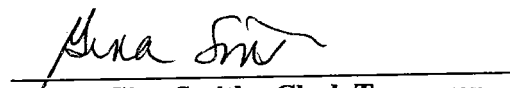

Rick Ryfa – President


James Marker


Melissa Robbins


Lawrence Ballah – Vice President


Tony Hobson


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer

- 7. Advertisement for bids-Central Park:** Council Member Tony Hobson stated we have an advertisement to bid Central Park Phase One Town of Griffith Indiana, sealed proposals will be received by the Town of Griffith at Griffith Town Hall until 4:00 pm, September 20, 2021, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud on September 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting, any bids received later than the above time will be returned unopened. The description of the work is work for which proposals are to be received is for construction of design improvements of Central Park. Improvements include formal entrance with archway at the corner of Pine and Broad Streets, new auxiliary pavilion and patio space, ADA acceptable ramp, ornamental fencing with brick columns earthwork electrical expansions and site lighting. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion that we allow Town Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the advertisement to bid, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

PENDING ITEMS:

1. **Sidewalk replacement Program:** Still working on the sidewalk replacement program, we met with our engineers and attorneys prior to this meeting to discuss. The bids that we received they are a little bit higher than we had anticipated we believe we have found a path to move forward, looks like the unit pricing is going to be in line with what we need. Hopefully getting an award for the contract in the next several weeks. We will update.
2. **Airport Advisory Committee:** The committee has been formed, they have met once and the chairman, George Jerome, will update the Council on the results. Council Member James Marker added their second meeting is Thursday, August 19th at 6:00 p.m.

Other business:

There is one notice, there is a survey going out, check your water bills, there will be a link to go to access the survey for the Parks Department, or if you go to the Park website and navigate it through the Town website. Please take the survey and let us know your thoughts on the questions they have asked.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

George: Question with respect to the money on the 176, asked if that was a federal disbursement or is that state policy? Council President stated he believed the money came from the feds to the state then to the county and then it's going to end up in our town.

George: Stated Mr. Raab has been very kind of giving him information regarding the material that is being used for mosquito control, he is very glad to see that they are using dti as the larger side, but feels it may not being distributed quite generally enough, it is the most effective way of controlling mosquitos much better than spraying the air, the problem is it's not without problems it along the sides that are being used especially this one has very small number of negatives associated with it. His own personal preference would be, because people get too upset if the mosquito population gets too large it's probably the better way to go, right now I looked at the material in your other material. It has 2 materials in it that are in his opinion questionable. The one material Prometric is used primarily to kill ticks and fleas, wondering if this is the best material that can be used? The problem is the mosquito control agencies have one purpose and that is to continue to provide this service and of course this service isn't for free so they are going to keep pushing this stuff, so he is wondering if this is the best thing for us to use, the oxide is much more troublesome. It affects the detoxification capability of all living things it attacks part of actually the insect capability of detoxifying the mosquito side the insecticide. Unfortunately, there are probably people that are sensitive to that. The problem may be some time down the road, the worst case he could point to now is glyphosate really doesn't cause much problem with the people that are using it or the first generation, the real problem comes in to the grandchildren, do we want to wait until studies come in the future and suddenly show that any of the materials that we are using now affect our grandchildren, he doesn't feel that is a good idea. We need to be more proactive and understand the long-term effects of these that we are using. Possible long-term problem, information should be gathered to look at anything that the town intends to use for whatever purpose, what the potential long-term effects can be. Possibly a research program should be

pursuant to Plan An attached hereto and marked Exhibit A by reference and in compliance with Section 603© of the ARP as follows: The use of the funds: The Town will use the funds to cover costs incurred by the Town on or before December 31, 2024 to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the coronavirus disease 2019 Covid 19 or its negative economic impacts including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality; to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID – 19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the Town who are performing such essential work or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work; for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of the Town due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the Town prior to the emergency; or to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. It is the intended use of funds received related to Ordinance 2021-38 to install new water meters town wide. The Town had to cease its prior ongoing radio head replacement program during the COVID pandemic with an inability to enter homes safely. During that period of time, almost half of the radio heads have failed and fallen out of warranty, making it cost-prohibitive to continue the prior program and much more efficient to replace the entire meters now. The left-over funds will be used on improvements for the Griffith Sanitary District. These may include measures to reduce inflow and infiltration during rain events, starting a sump pump disconnect and program to disconnect sump pumps currently connected to sanitary lines and improvements at the Griffith Sanitary Station that would allow for an increase inflow capacity. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-38, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Council President Rick Ryfa stated in plain English, what this is going to do as we all know our water meters, radio heads have been failing, they are not communicating so we continue to ask residents to call in their readings, we do not want anyone getting hit with a big water bill, this will allow us to pay for the total cost of the meters, expected to be between 2 and 3 million dollars. The money that we will be receiving through the government, approximately 3.6 million, we will use that to directly offset any expenses. We felt this was the best way to put these dollars directly into the pockets of every home or business in our town. At some point we would have to complete via some type of revenue bond or surcharge on the water bills. This will be a savings of several hundred dollars to each home/business. Motion Carried.

5. **Ordinance No. 2021-39 Rezoning Certain Real Estate:** Council Member Larry Ballah stated this item coming to us from the Griffith Plan Commission on August 16th of this year the Plan Commission held a public hearing on the petition of 709 East Elm Street LLC to rezone the property at 709 E Elm Street from an R2 Single-Family residence to an R Single to Four -Family zoning. This issue is on that lot 709 E Elm Street there is a 3-unit apartment building that has been there since the dawn of time, the current owners were attempting to sell and their financial people realized that the building was not in the right zoning so in order not to tear that building down they are making a favorable recommendation that the zoning be changed from an R2 to an R3. Council Member Larry made a motion that we accept the recommendation of the Plan Commission and rezone that piece of property, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.
6. **Ordinance No. 2021-40 Designating Certain Real Estate:** Council Member Larry Ballah stated this also comes from the Plan Commission in regards to a piece of property that was never zoned part of the rail road tracks on the South side of Main Street. The Plan Commission on April 16th had a public hearing on the petition from the property owner to create a B3 zoning district. The Plan commission has given a favorable recommendation to the Town Council to grant this particular zoning of the property. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion that the Town Council accept the recommendation and grant the B3 zoning for that piece of property, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried.

REPORTS:

- Public Works- No Report
- Police – Chief Mance wanted to notify the public that we do have a hiring process that has been started. It is for both academies certified and non-academic certified, if anyone knows someone who has an interest in law enforcement that process is now open on our website download the application. We also have a workshop scheduled September 18th, at the Franklin Center to show prospective candidates on how to better perform.
- Fire – Chief Schoon stated we are finally having our 100-year celebration on Sunday August 22nd, from noon to 2 at Central Park wanted to remind that our 100th birthday celebration will be August 22, 2021 at Central Park, noon to 3:00 pm.
- Building Commissioner – No Report
- Finance Report – No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: Resident asked if he needed to register for the garage sale. Council President Rick Ryfa said he would encourage to call Town Hall and look at the website for the location of where your garage sale may be.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **2021-1 Road Resurfacing Project: Letter from Butler, Fairman & Seufert, INC.** We have reviewed the construction bids for the 2021-1 Road Resurfacing Project on July 20, 2021 and found Milestone Contractors to be the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder with an actual low bid of \$389,576.71, which is less than the engineer's estimate. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion that we accept their recommendation and allow our Town Council President to sign said project, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Council President Rick Ryfa asked which were the main roads in this one, Andy Raab stated Oak Street. Motion Carried.
2. **Community Acknowledge Form for a Gary – Griffith FEMA LOMR application:** Council Member James Marker stated it's an application it is free there is no judiciary expense whatsoever, Council Member James Marker made a motion that we authorize Town Council President Rick Ryfa to sign off, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.
3. **Notice of Award – Milestone CCMG-Oak Street:** Council Member Tony Hobson stated in reference to Number 1, we have a notice of award to Milestone for the community crossing grant of Oak Street, the contract price awarded is \$389,576.71. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to authorize Council President Rick Ryfa to sign this award, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
4. **Ordinance No. 2021-38 Establishing a "176 Fund – ARP Coronavirus local fiscal recovery fund"** Council Member Melissa Robbins stated an Ordinance establishing a 176 Fund – ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, and all matters related thereto, whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Griffith, Lake County, Indiana (hereinafter referred to as "town Council") has received a request from the Financial Consultants in coordination with the office of the Clerk-Treasurer for the Town of Griffith to establish a fund entitled "176 Fund-ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund" (hereinafter referred to as the "176Fund"), Now, therefore, be it ordained by the Town Council of The Town of Griffith, Lake County, Indiana that all funds allocated to the Town from the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund under this "176 Fund" shall be used by the Town

August 17, 2021

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the August 17, 2021 meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Police Officer Brian Pierce, Jr.
Deputy Sheriff Brandon Shirley
Police Officer Ella G. Franch
Deputy Sheriff Ryan J. Proxmire

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 August 3, 2021 as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims # 34680-34927 \$912,671.60 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 on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. There will be a study session before the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and one will follow if necessary. Council President Rick Ryfa stated there may be some conflicts so please check the website for the Sept. 7th meeting in case the meeting gets cancelled, the next one after that would be September 21st. Also, we would like to wish former Town Council Member and current Safety Board Member and Plan Commission Member Mr. Stan Dobosz a very happy birthday, he had celebrated his birthday earlier this week. He turned 89 years young, Stan has been with the town for many years and we would like to present him with a certificate of recognition, hoping to do this at the September 21st meeting. He has been on many committees and we will let everyone know.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Request from Imagine Griffith by popular demand hosting a Fall Town Wide Garage Sale on September 18-19. They are asking that the permits be waived for this event. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve and to waive the permit fees, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.