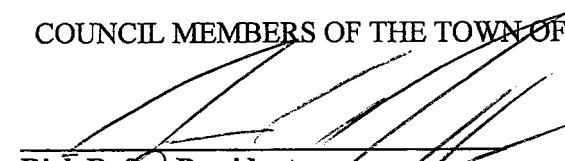
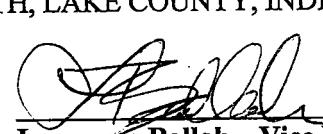


data and information. Chief Mance stated since the new ownership has come in they have really responded to any kind of need the police department has requested as far as policing the property and securing it, one of the issues with the property that they often have an issue with controlling who actually is on the lease and actually stays in the property, they have stepped up their ability to manage that and it has been a big improvement and by doing that is a big approach for the community so Chief wanted to thank them for their efforts.


**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

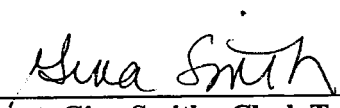
  
Rick Ryfa - President

  
Lawrence Ballah - Vice President

  
James Marker

  
Tony Hobson

  
Melissa Robbins

  
Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer

- 7. Ordinance 2021-60 Lease Financing 2021B Bond:** An Ordinance of The Town Council of the Town of Griffith, Indiana, Appropriating the Proceeds of Bonds of the Griffith Redevelopment Authority, including investment earnings thereon, and related matters (2021 B Sidewalk and Street Improvement Project) Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Roll Call taken Council Member James Marker Absent, majority, rules suspended, Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign Ordinance 2021-60, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.
- 8. Water Meter Bid Recommendation:** Public Works Director Andy Raab stated we had the public meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> to receive the bids, our public works department as well as NIES Engineering went through and reviewed all of the bids for price, quality, experience, references familiarity with product and installation user interface and capabilities. We recommend to go with Utility Supply as our supplier which they carry the Neptune meters and Neco as the labor, for those we are looking at about \$1,541,000.00 for the purchase of the meters and the labor for \$266,488.00 based off of that criteria that is our recommendation. Council President Rick Ryfa entertained a motion to accept the recommendation to proceed to contract, Council Member Tony Hobson so moved, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Council President Rick Ryfa stated keep in mind this is to replace all the towns water meters we have approximately 2400 meters that are working but the radio signal that signals out to the street to collect the data for the water readings have failed to the actual the Radiohead, once again reminding everyone to please call in your readings. This could be a while for they all get replaced, we do not want anyone to get surprised bills. Motion Carried.
- 9. Boyce-Quote for key device file format change and meter replacement module:** Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion that we proceed with this quote of \$1500.00 and allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the quote, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

#### **PENDING ITEMS:**

- 1. Sidewalk replacement Program:** Update this has started West of Broad Street, South of Wirth, progress was made until the weather changed
- 2. Airport Advisory Committee:** No Report
- 3. Hammond Water Works:** No Report

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Kim Adams, director of Operation Care Food Pantry, asking if the town would consider participating with their Christmas Toy Drive, place information at Town Hall and website. A new unwrapped toy. Serving Lake and Porter County. She also has a form for anyone that knows of a family. Council President Rick Ryfa asked the information be given to Michelle.

Gilbert Veldazo asked about the sidewalk program regarding maps, and aprons. Council President Rick Ryfa stated the majority of the older part of town, the cost to replace was far cheaper than to piece-meal. The aprons will be replaced as needed.

Millian (Bayshore) Park west Apartments shared some good news working on establishing the parameters-controlled access to our community. We are working closely with the building department and the Town of Griffith to improve access, investing approximately \$150-\$200 thousand the hope was to wrap up this year unfortunately had some hiccups on site were hoping to wrap up next year by leasing season, some exciting news. Once completed we will share and advertise on social media. We are working closely with the Griffith Police Department, implementing license plate radio cameras. One section as a main entrance with the guard shaft fully staffed. Phase two securing the remainder perimeter,

Nick Cozell (Bayshore) He wanted to add on to what Millian had stated, we will share all the

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Public Hearing Appropriation of Series 2021A Bond Proceeds:** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing for the 2021A Bond Proceeds Appropriations, He asked if there was anybody to speak for or against, there were none, Council President Rick Ryfa closed the Public Hearing.
2. **Public Hearing Appropriation of Series 2021B:** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing for the 2021B Bond Proceeds Appropriation. He asked if there was anybody to speak for or against, there were none, Council President Rick Ryfa closed the Public Hearing.
3. **Utility Rate Study:** Council Member Tony Hobson stated we had negotiated with Hammond with fair rates. 176% increase over a 10-year time span. We had Reedy Financial look over what this means to Griffith over the next 10 years. The recommendation is a total cumulative 28.2% rate increase. Mainly the adjustments are for the purchase of water from Hammond. The increase is broken down and recommended to come out in 3 phases. The first phase would be a 16% increase, the second 8 ½ %, and third would be a 4.4% increase. An average water bill of 4000 gallons per month the increase of phase 1 would be about \$28.00 a year or \$2.15 per month. This is an initial study but rates will need to increase over the next 10 years. Council President Rick Ryfa stated we have brought this up several times, the increase we are going to be paying Hammond Water Works is still significantly less than many of our neighbors are paying other utility water providers. We have looked at every option available
4. **Resolution 2021-56 Various Transfer (CCMG-Milestone Invoice)** Whereas there is a need to transfer monies from Various Funds to the Local Roads and Bridges Fund for the sole purpose of establishing the matching funds for the Local Roads and Bridges Grant DES#2002725 (LR&B), also known as the Community Crossings Matching Grant. This is for the road work we had completed in the summer of 2021. The matching grant of \$762,000.00, Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-56, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.
5. **Resolution 2021-57 Authorization for execution of INDOT Agreements:** Resolution of The Town Council of Griffith, Indiana concerning authorization for execution of INDOT Agreements. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to affirm and adopt Resolution 2021-57, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Council President Rick Ryfa stated this is simply allowing the Council President to sign documents related to the Community Crossing Grant Program. Since the inception of its Griffith has received about 4.1 million dollars in grants from the state of which we have matched in order to continue the progress of keeping our roads updated, and without having to borrow any money, using existing funds, Council President Rick Ryfa stated good job on everyone's part including the Public Works Department Head and Clerk Treasurer, Motion Carried.
6. **Ordinance 2021-59 Lease Financing 2021A Bond:** An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Griffith, Indiana, appropriating the proceeds of Bonds of the Griffith Redevelopment Authority, including investment earnings thereon, and related matters (2021A Sidewalk and Street Improvement Project) Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to allow Town Council President to sign Ordinance 2021-59, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried. Council President Rick Ryfa stated the particular one would need to suspend the rules, Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2021-59 to pass on the first reading, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Roll Call, Council Member James Marker absent, we have a majority, the rules are suspended. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion that we allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign Ordinance 2021-59, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.

**November 16, 2021**

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

Council President Rick Ryfa called the November 16, 2021 meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

Police Officer Tyler Timmins  
Senior Patrolman Sherman Otto Benys, Jr.  
Deputy Sheriff Lena Nicole Marshall  
Police Officer Paramhans Desai  
Police Officer Michael D. Chandler

### **ROLL CALL:**

James Marker - Absent  
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 November 2, 2021 as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

### **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

Claims # 36178-36403 \$953,818.94 Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. The next Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday, December 7, 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.
2. There will be a Water Board meeting on December 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Council President Rick Ryfa introduced Lake County Assessor Latonya Spearman.

- **Director of Public Works** – No Report
- **Police** – No Report Chief wanted to communicate the officers are doing a busing for beards this evening at Bridges Scoreboard, fundraising for St. Jude.
- **Fire** – No Report
- **Building Commissioner** – No Report
- **Finance Report** – No Report

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE**

**BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:**