

Council President Rick Ryfa stated we will not conclude this meeting just yet but we will have a series of three meetings for the Griffith Water Board, Griffith Finance Committee, and Griffith Board of Public Works.

1. Griffith Water Board Meeting called to order at 7:22 pm. For the January 2022 meeting. Roll Call, all members present. Election of officer's nominations. Member Tony Hobson nominated Rick Ryfa for President, Larry Ballah for Vice President, Melissa Robbins for secretary, Tony Hobson and James Marker for members. Rick Ryfa asked for any other nominations, none, nominations closed. All in favor, Motion Carried. No other business, we will be scheduling a meeting in the near future to discuss the impact of the significant increase from the water wholesale price from Hammond and we will be receiving a rate report from one of our financial consultants with the recommendations for increases. With no other business President Rick Ryfa adjourned the meeting at 7:23.
2. Griffith Finance Committee Meeting called to order at 7:23 pm Without objection to call that all members are present. The election of the 2022 officers. Tony Hobson nominated Rick Ryfa President, Larry Ballah Vice President, Melissa Robbins secretary, Jim Marker and Tony Hobson members. Rick Ryfa asked for any other nominations, none, all in favor of the nominations, Motion Carried. No other business, meeting adjourned at 7:24
3. Griffith Board of Public Works Meeting called to order at 7:24 pm, Without objection to call that all members are present. The election of the 2022 officers. Tony Hobson nominated Rick Ryfa President, Larry Ballah Vice President, Melissa Robbins Secretary, Tony Hobson and Jim Marker Hobson Members. Rick Ryfa asked for any other nominations, none, all in favor. Motion Carried. No other business. Meeting adjourned at 7:25.

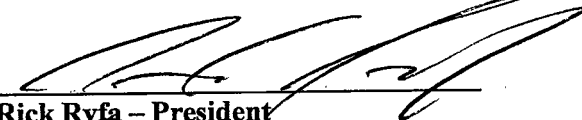
At this time, we will reconvene the Griffith Town Council Meeting at 7:25.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gilbert asked about the mention of Erie Lackawanna Trail, are you going to reconfigure it? Is that only on the Broad Street area or the whole trail. Council President Rick Ryfa stated we are going to repave the entire trail from border to border this year and the reconstruction or rebuilding would be in that particular area in the 100 Block of South Broad Street, it is a mess back there, a retaining wall that is falling down and other stuff. The thoughts are we will have it all cleaned up and essentially have a pathway to get to the back of the businesses that would lead to downtown Griffith. A place to park your bikes and eat lunch.


There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

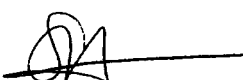
COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA



Rick Ryfa – President


James Marker


Melissa Robbins


Lawrence Ballah – Vice President


Tony Hobson


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer

from and after its passage and adoption by the Council. Basically, this is the funding mechanism for the proposed Town Hall/ Police Department improvements. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-04, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.

7. **Resolution 2022-05 Temporary partial suspension-Ch. 86 Zoning:** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Griffith authorizing the Temporary partial suspension of the provisions of Chapter 86 Zoning, Article XXIV, businesses requiring a special use exception variance, section 86-352, that requires businesses that perform medical tests obtain a special use exception. Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Griffith recognizes that a health emergency exists as a result of the Worldwide Covid Pandemic and in order to protect the citizens of the Town and the general population Covid testing sites need to be immediately established; The Town Council of the Town of Griffith that the portion of the Chapter 86 Zoning, Article XXIV, businesses requiring a Special Use Exception Variance, Section 86-352, that requires businesses that perform medical tests to obtain a Special Use Exception Variance shall be suspended for a period of one year from the date of the passage of this Resolution. Council Member James Marker made a motion authorizing Resolution 2022-05 to go in effect today, January 18, 2022, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Council Member James Marker stated this is a result of a Covid testing lab that approached the Plan Commission that would like to open on the corner of 45th and Cline Avenue. Council President Rick Ryfa stated we have been looking to addressing this, we have had another testing lab pop up on the North side of Town. Our Ordinance actually put a moratorium on medical facilities unless they were approved by the Town Council, so this will suspend that portion of the Ordinance, this does not stop the requirement that businesses need a business license and register with the Town. Motion Carried.
8. **Advertisement to Bid- Erie Lackawanna Trail-Broad St. Trailhead and alley improvements:** Work bids are solicited for site improvements for the Erie Lackawanna Trail Broad Street Trail head and alley improvements in Griffith. Construction work will include: parking lot removal and expansion; alley surface removal and reconfiguration; trail removal and reconfiguration; retaining wall removal and reconfiguration; sidewalk removal, replacement, and reconfiguration; grading and excavation; and stormwater improvements. Sealed bids will be received by the Town of Griffith at the Clerk-Treasurers office located in Griffith Town Hall, 111 North Broad Street, Griffith IN 46319 until 4:00 pm on February 15, 2022. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to allow this advertisement for bidders, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Council President Rick Ryfa stated this goes back to almost a decade ago an old dispute we had with one of the owner of the properties in the 100 Block of South Broad Street, town prior to the dispute, part of it included us receiving some property in exchange for doing some development or some improvements on the parking lots and back of the buildings, so this will achieve that as well enhancing the bike trail, we will create a trailhead which will include the seating area for people to come off the bike path and will make it very inviting to those businesses located down there and we anticipate that it will help generate some decent economic impact for not just that part of the downtown but for other parts of downtown as well. The construction we are looking at hopefully this Spring once public bids go out, hopefully no supply issues as we are seeing in other areas, Motion Carried.

PENDING ITEMS:

1. **Sidewalk replacement Program:** No Report
2. **Airport Advisory Committee:** No Report
3. **Hammond Water Works:** Still working the Hammond Water Works true up
4. **PD/Town Hall Construction:** Interviewing stage to be soon for the architect

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Griffith Sanitary Board Appointments:** Council Member James Marker made a motion to accept Jim Hennes, George Jerome and Rick Ryfa, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.
2. **Griffith Storm Water Board Appointments:** Council Member James Marker made a motion to accept Jim Hennes, Jeff Bridges and George Jerome, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.
3. **Check write-offs 2019:** Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve the 2019 checks be written off the books, following procedure by the State Board of Accounts, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.
4. **Ordinance 2022-02 Additional Appropriations: Transfer of Funds-** Whereas, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money that was appropriated in the annual budget: now therefore: Section 1, be it resolved by the Town of Griffith, Lake County, Indiana that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of funds named for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same: We have five accounts: American Rescue Plan, 2021 Go Bond/Central Park, Sidewalk Bond A, Sidewalk Bond B, Police Pension/General, Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-2, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Council President Rick Ryfa stated we would need to suspend the rules, Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Roll Call, all in favor, Council Member Larry Ballah made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-02, seconded by Council Member James Marker, Motion Carried.
5. **Resolution 2022-03 Temporary Loan:** A Resolution approving a temporary loan from varies water funds to the Bond Temporary Transfer Fund, transferring from Water Deposit, Water Capital, Sewer Deposit, Sewer Capital to the Bond Fund, we receive our tax money after the Bond payments are due, Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion that we approve Resolution 2022-03, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
6. **Resolution 2022-04 Approving various matters-Town Hall and Public Safety:** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Griffith, Indiana, approving various matters in connection with proposed Town Hall and Public Safety improvements in the Town. Therefore, be it resolved by the Town of Griffith, Indiana, The Town Council hereby determines that there exists a need for the project. The Council hereby accepts the Certified Petition on behalf of the Town. The Council hereby approves the formation of the Building Corporation and appoints Laura Gaby, Jason Nolasco and Nancy Stout to act as the Directors of the Building Corporation and serve a term of one year or until a successor is appointed and qualified. The President of the Council is hereby authorized to approve the form of Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Building Corporation on behalf of the Town, the Council hereby determines on behalf of the Town that the Town shall finance the project by entering into a lease with the Building Corporation, having such terms consistent with the preliminary approval Resolution as the parties thereto shall determine following a public hearing by the Council. The Council hereby approves the issuance by the Building Corporation of bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, to be issued by the Building Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$11,755,000.00 and having terms consistent with those set forth in the Preliminary Approval Resolution. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect

January 18, 2022

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the January 18, 2022 meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Police Officer II Fernando Arroyos
Police Officer Diane Gonzales

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 January 4, 2022 as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims # 36949 - 37229 \$3,282,375.85 Council Member James Marker made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 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. Griffith Storm Water Board meeting, Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 1:15 pm at the Griffith Town Hall.
3. Griffith Sanitary Board meeting, Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 1:30 pm at the Griffith Town Hall.
4. Redevelopment Commission meeting, Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 6:30 pm, there will be a study session before the meeting at 6: 15.
5. Town Council Study Session, Tuesday, January 25, 2022, after the Redevelopment Commission meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

- **Director of Public Works** – Delay in shipment of the water meters which will delay the start of installation.
- **Police** – No Report
- **Fire** – No Report
- **Building Commissioner** – No Report
- **Finance Report** – No Report