

August 2, 2022

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the August 2, 2022, meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Police Officer Daniel Vasquez
Police Officer Anthony Patrick Mazurkiewicz
Deputy Sheriff Matthew Yates
Deputy Sheriff Lorenzo Bustos
Police Officer Noah Shahnava

ROLL CALL:

James Marker
Lawrence Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Tony Hobson Absent
Melissa Robbins Absent

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 Absent
Andy Raab – Director of Public Works Absent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2022, as presented, seconded by Council Member Jim Marker, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims \$907,549.70 (Various funds) 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, August 16, 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.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. **Marian Bike Pilgrimage** – September 10, 2022, traveling bicycles around town, 15 – 20 minutes.
2. **Symphony in the Park** – Saturday, August 6th at 7:30 pm., Broad Street at Pine and Oak St. will be closed at 5:30 pm. For handicap parking.

REPORTS:

- **Director of 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. **St. Mary Fireworks Permit Request:** 49th annual Western Days. This request has been approved by the Safety Committee, Council Member Jim Marker made a motion authorizing and permitting St. Mary is to have their fireworks display on August 21, 2022, at approximately 9:00 pm, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.
2. **Public Hearing for CDBG Funds:** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing at 7:07 pm, there were no comments from the public, Council Member Larry Ballah read the opening remarks for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant Program), funding for year 2022 in the amount of \$73,632.00. Council President Rick Ryfa read the Affirmative Action Program Implementing Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Council Member Larry Ballah read the Section 3 Understanding Policy. Council President Rick Ryfa stated the proposed plan for the Town will be 2-3 handicap accessible restrooms. Proposed layout out would be at Central Park, the new area.
3. **Resolution 2022-31** Authorizing the Town Council President to submit a project proposal for CDBG Funds: Authorizing and directing the Town Council President of the Town of Griffith to submit a project proposal for Community Development Block Grant Funds for Federal Fiscal years 2022, Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-31, seconded by Council Member Jim Marker, Motion Carried. Council President Rick Ryfa asked for any comments from the audience there were none, at 7:16 Council President Rick Ryfa closed the Public Hearing.

PENDING ITEMS:

1. **Sidewalk replacement program:** Council President introduced Jeff Briggs, representative from Milestone Contractors, Jeff gave an update, construction update we are about thirty-two miles into the project, going well. Using a blended seed, 20% annual, 80% perennial, weeds need to be cut down, we will be back this fall to re-seed, will be going thru every area. Requesting residents to water.
 - a. Construction Update:
 - b. Restoration:
2. **PD/Town Hall Construction:** Still working on the excessive cost and supply chain
3. **Water meter replacement program:** Zone 1 is complete, and one at the end but was resolved end of day Tuesday.

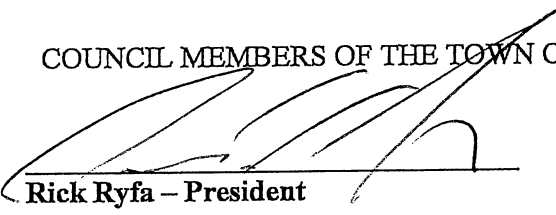
Public Comment:


Don McCarter asked about the status of the Airport, has not heard if a decision has been made if the Town is going to purchase. Rick Ryfa stated the Aviation Committee did not give a recommendation one way or the other, they felt the Council would be best to decide, there were issues financially if the Town were to purchase it, future liability. That is where we stand right now, if the Town were to purchase, we would own it forever, there could be liabilities up to half a million each year. Other entities may be interested.

Resident: A.C. discussed sidewalk issues he is having, concrete removed and not replaced properly Will meet with Public Works

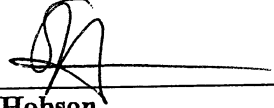
There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.


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

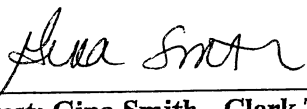

Rick Ryfa – President


Lawrence Ballah – Vice President


James Marker


Tony Hobson


Melissa Robbins


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer