

December 6, 2022

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the December 6, 2022, meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Police Officer Brandon Tsai
Marine Interdiction Agent Michel O. Maceda
Deputy Sheriff Christopher Taylor

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 November 15, 2022, minutes, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Various Funds \$900,001.04, Council Member Jim Marker made a motion to approve as read, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday, December 13, 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. There will be a Town Council meeting on December 20, 2022, at 7:00 pm., this will allow for the first reading of the Sanitary rate increase.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

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:

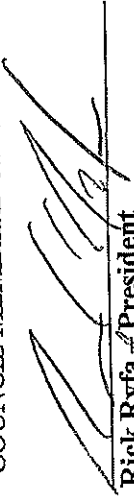
UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

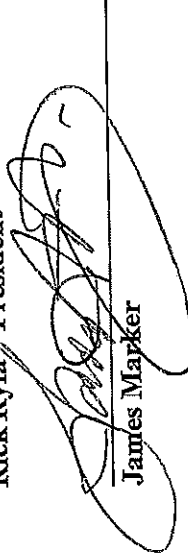
1. Ordinance 2022-42 2023 Salary Ordinance 1st reading: This is a four percent increase for all employees, eight percent increase for Officers, Council Member Melissa Robbins stated this is the first reading, no action required.
2. Change Order No. 2(Final) Gariup Construction Company: The final change order for Central Park Phase I, total amount is \$3,416.49, Council Member Jim Marker made a motion that we pay this change order for Central Park Phase I, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Motion carried.
3. General Service Agreement Stormwater Quality Management Plan: Butler, Fairman & Seufert is pleased to submit the proposal to the Town of Griffith providing service to prepare the storm water quality management plan to meet the NPDES MS4 General permit requirements with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) their proposal fee is \$19,500.00. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion that we allow both our Director of Public Works Andy Raab and our Town Council President Rick Ryfa to sign this agreement, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, Motion Carried.
4. Lead & Copper Drinking Water Inventory: From Butler Fairman & Seufert, all public drinking water systems (PDWS) must complete and maintain a location-based inventory of Lead & Copper service lines per the requirements of the United States EPA and State of Indiana. The inventory must be completed by October 16, 2024. The PDWS must also notify all those persons served by a Lead/Galvanized/Copper service and “Unknown” services within 30 days of completing the inventory. The goal is to have zero Unknown’s in the inventory. The Town of Griffith PDWS currently has approximately 5,800 water services. BF&S can provide Engineering assistance to complete this effort. BF&S proposes to assist the Town in the development of a Lead Copper Service Inventory for a lump sum fee of \$55,000.00 in accordance with Federal and State requirements under the terms of our existing General Services Agreement. Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion that we allow Public Works Director Mr. Raab and Town Council Mr. Ryfa approve this agreement, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, Motion Carried.
5. Public Hearing – Petition to vacate an alley at Cline and Columbia: Continuation from the last meeting, Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 pm, asked if anyone was here to speak in regards: Jeff Swan consulting business, helping a client from Patriot Gaming, submitted paperwork to vacate alley. Would like to put up new building on the corner, stated alley is never used. Council President Rick Ryfa asked if there was anyone else to speak for or against the petition, there were none, Meeting closed at 7:26pm. Council Member Jim Marker made a motion that we refer this to our engineers for review, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, Council President Rick Ryfa stated we will address this at the next Town Council Meeting, Motion Carried.
6. Temporary Tax Anticipation Loan \$700,000.00: The Town has yet to receive the second installment of our tax draw money and has left us short for the end of the year. We are proposing a loan of \$700,000.00 that will get us through to the end of the year, repayment when we receive the installment. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion that we allow our Clerk Treasurer to seek that agreement with a local Bank and be able to sign the appropriate documents, seconded by Council Member Jim Marker, Motion Carried.
7. Findings of Fact: From the Board of Zoning Appeals: Application of Midwest Motors, LLC for a variance of use to operate a used car dealership at 510 E. Ridge Road, Griffith Indiana in a B3 Zoning District. Public hearing was held on November 21, 2022. They are seeking a variance to allow auto sales; public hearing was held,

This meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

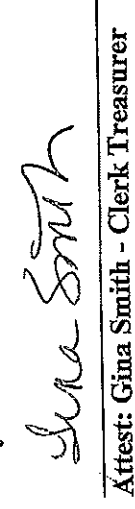
COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA


Rick Ryfa / President


Lawrence Ballah – Vice President


James Marker


Tony Hobson


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer

Melissa Robbins