

February 6, 2024

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the February 6, 2024, meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Trooper Joel Popp
Trooper Jimmy Cenescar
Trooper Zachary Fink
Chief Deputy Sheriff Ken Prook

ROLL CALL:

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

ALSO ATTENDING:

Gina Smith- Clerk Treasurer
Greg Mance – Chief of Police
Steve McDermott – Building Commissioner
Alfredo Estrada – 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 17, 2024, meeting, as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Various Funds year ending 2023 \$1,309,016.09, Current Claims: \$1,494,458.63: Council Member Jim Marker made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Town Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:00 pm. There will be a study session before the meeting at 6:30 pm, and one will follow if necessary.
2. There will be a Water Board meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, following the Town Council meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

REPORTS:

- Public Works – Few water breaks, repairing potholes, aware of issues on Main St. between Colfax and the Railroad Tracks, we have had extensive engineering, we submitted a project to the State for the Community Crossing Matching Grant.
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner – No Report
- Finance Report – No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Resolution 2024-1: Transfer Appropriations:** Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-1, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.
2. **Resolution 2024-2: 75% Reduction in Permit Fees for the Griffith Public School Corporation:** Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-2, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, all in favor, Motion Carried.
3. **2021 Checks Written off:** Council Member Jim Marker made a motion to authorize to write off those checks, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.
4. **Milestone Contractors: Extension of existing yearly Asphalt Paving Contract from 2023-2024:** Council Member Jim Marker made a motion approving the extension of the yearly asphalt contracting, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.
5. **Ordinance 2024-3: Amending Salary Ordinance:** Council Member Tony Hobson stated the amendment is to remove two positions, one was an unfilled position in the Clerk's office, the second position was the second Deputy Clerk. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to suspend the rules to vote on this Ordinance seconded by Council Member, Melissa Robbins, Roll Call taken, all in favor, rules suspended, Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-3, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

Pending Items: NONE

Public Comment:

Resident thanked the Council for the path that was paved by the High School

Louise Oman: Griffith Senior Center stated the Senior Center was not opened on Tuesday stated no more rentals heard no one wants to set that up, wants to sit down to discuss the groups that come to Senior Center

Gilbert Valdazzo: round about Ave H

Jim Adamitis: Fence, NIPSCO easement, aware of risk next meeting on the 20th will have an answer.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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


Rick Ryfa - President


James Marker


Lawrence Ballah - Vice President


Tony Hobson


Melissa Robbins


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer