

Minutes and proceedings of the meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana.

Be it remembered that the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana held a called meeting at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 5:30 p.m. on January 5, 2017.

A quorum was declared present based on the presence of the following council members: Clyde Compton (President), Jerry Bragg, Nellie Meek, Ed Johnson and Ohmer Miller. Clerk Treasurer, Diane Burton was also present.

The prayer was given by Jerry Bragg.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Clyde Compton.

OLD BUSINESS:

IPEP GRANT

JT Doane stated I sent you copies of the information related to the application and the grant agreement. The application was sent in the fall for this grant. David stated it's a trench safety box. IPEP set aside \$150,000 to do this grant program. They received so many good applications they increased it to \$300,000. They are paying for 80% of the trench box. Our portion is \$1945.20 which was approved at the October meeting. Tonight we need approval on the grant agreement. The agreement states if we sold the box in a three year period, we would have to reimburse them or purchase other qualified safety equipment with it. JT stated the grant awarded us \$7,780.80. IPEP stated in an email they appreciate the commitment to providing a safer work environment. The grant agreement has to be submitted by January 13th. **Ohmer Miller made motion to proceed with executing the grant agreement. Ed Johnson seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

NEW BUSINESS:

2017 INTRODUCTIONS

JT Doane shared photo footage of swearing in of Diane Burton, Ohmer Miller, Nellie Meek and Ed Johnson. Photos have been submitted to HSJ Online. He welcomed Ed and Nellie and welcomed back Ohmer and Diane.

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICERS' APPOINTMENT

Clyde Compton needs a motion for president of 2017. **Jerry made a motion to appoint Clyde.** He felt he has done an awesome and excellent job. **Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Clyde asked for a motion for vice-president. **Nellie made a motion to nominate Ed Johnson. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

TOWN MANAGER APPOINTMENT/SALARY

Clyde Compton needs a motion for JT to continue as Town Manager. **Ed made motion for JT Doane. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Clyde explained that they needed to set the salary for the Town Manager. Ohmer stated JT was hired on June 29th. I have seen progress and commend his actions. **Ohmer made a motion to increase JT's salary by \$3,000.00. Clyde seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTMENT/SALARY

JT Doane stated that David has done a commendable job and we are very blessed to have him and I recommend to reappoint David Clouse as Utilities Superintendent. **Ed made a motion to reappoint David Clouse. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** JT recommended a 2% raise on salary. David is currently at \$55,474.65 and a 2% increase will put him at \$56,584.14. **Ohmer made a motion to approve the recommended 2% salary increase. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

TOWN MARSHAL APPOINTMENT/SALARY

JT Doane stated our Town Marshal I also feel does a commendable job. In a similar manor I too recommend his reappointment as Town Marshal. **Nellie made a motion to keep Matt Tallent as Town Marshal. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** JT stated in terms of salary I recommend we increase the Town Marshal's salary by 2%. His current salary is \$55,474.65 and a 2% increase will put him at \$56,584.14. **Nellie made a motion to approve the recommended 2% salary increase. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

BUILDING & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENT/SALARY

JT Doane stated our Building & Zoning Administrator, Greg Potts, who was unable to be here this evening has done a commendable job. The communication with Greg even though I do not see him every day, through email and text we do communicate a lot about different properties. It is definitely my recommendation that Greg Potts be reappointed to that roll. **Ohmer made a motion to approve the recommendation. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** JT stated in terms of salary for Greg Potts it is my recommendation for a 2% increase. His current salary is \$5,836.64 and a 2% increase will put him at \$5,953.37. **Jerry made a motion to approve the recommended 2% salary increase. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS (ORDINANCE 2017-01)

JT Doane stated you have before you Ordinance 2017-01 which states our meetings will be changed to the third Tuesday of the month to start at 5:30 p.m. This will make our ordinance that we currently have to be clear and concise. **Ed made a motion to suspend the rules. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Ohmer made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-01. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

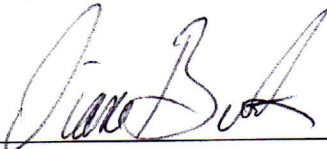
TOWN COUNCIL INFORMATION

Cindy Boll handed out Public Access Handbooks. Cindy stated happy 2017 everybody. JT and I talked a little bit several weeks ago about some new members coming on to the council which is great. I suggested that I pass out this Public Access Handbook to all of you but particularly the new members. I have found over the years in working with public groups that a lot of times you will get directly asked a question about well can I come to that meeting. Can I speak at the meeting? Can I get that record? Those kind of things. If you do get a question, the table of contents is so clear. If you ever have any questions, don't hesitate to call JT and he can always get ahold of me or whatever we need to do to answer it. If there is something in this coming year that you would like some more information on or a little education on, I will be more than happy to help provide that.

Clyde requested all the council members, department heads, town manager and clerk treasurer list their phone numbers and information to share with that group. JT offered to type it up and email it to everyone.

Ed Johnson stated the Fire Department got passed today for occupancy. Applause. Nellie thanked Ed for all he has done with the Fire Department to get that set up for us here in Hope. Nellie stated I appreciate all the work he has put in. I know it's been numerous hours that he has been there and a lot of time and effort.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.



Attest

