

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 March 20, 2018.

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

The prayer was given by Jerry Bragg.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ed Johnson.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes 1/16/18, 2/26/18, 3/6/18

Jerry made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS

Clyde made a motion for the approval of the claims. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.

Diane stated a have a claim to be paid through SRF from Strand Associates for water tank rehab during the month of January in the amount of \$228.25. **Clyde made a motion for the approval of the Strand claim to be paid through SRF. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

OLD BUSINESS:

COUNTY ROAD 775 EAST ANNEXATION UPDATES

Tabled.

PROJECT UPDATES

NEW TOWN HALL

Trena Carter stated annually I will bring back the new town hall as far as where we are and how to move forward with that.

MAIN STREET

Trena Carter stated we are still in the process of selecting the best components to put in a purposed MRSP Project. Main Street Executive Director Susan Fye will be reporting on the progress.

COPS DOJ HIRING PROGRAM

Trena Carter stated I'm still watching for that. I expect that to come out in a couple of months. I will share that with Marshal Tallent and then we will work towards getting that application submitted. Ed clarified that a grant is being applied for to hire an extra police officer. Trena answered that is what we will be applying for when the new call for the projects comes out from the COPS DOJ hiring program. I am watching for that notice of funding opportunity to come available. Ed asked if they will fund that for three years. Trena confirmed. Trena explained it is a percentage and the percentage decreases over three years. Ohmer asked why do we need a fourth officer. Matt Tallent answered to allow the town to

work twenty-four hour coverage, seven days per week. Right now we have a gap that the sheriff's Department covers Hope. Nellie asked about dispatching. Matt clarified we dispatch until 10:00 p.m. then it is dispatched through the Sheriff's Department.

USDA POLICE VEHICLE

Trena Carter stated I did receive a message from USDA. They are encouraging the Town to submit their USDARD Community facilities application for a new police vehicle as soon as possible. Marshal Tallent and Clerk Treasurer Burton have been working on that. There were documents signed by Council President Johnson that was approved by the council at the last meeting.

OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING REHAB

Trena Carter stated we are still waiting for the State. Indiana Housing Community Development Authority is waiting on the Office of Community and Rural Affairs to secure their funding. As soon as they get that, we will have grant agreements and a resolution to bring before the council to sign.

WATER METERS UPDATE

Steve Robertson stated we are getting toward the end of the SRF loan that started with the water improvement project. SRF likes for you to spend all the money as long as it goes toward the water utility. I have Resolution 2018-04. This resolution gives Ed Johnson the ability to sign the paperwork since he was not the original president when the loan went through. We are amending the PER. That amendment allows the rest of the money to buy water meters as part of David's water meter replacement program. Steve read the resolution which states: Whereas, the Town of Hope, Indiana, (the "Participant") has plans for a drinking water infrastructure improvement project to meet State and Federal regulations, such as the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Participant intends to proceed with the construction of such projects: Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Council, the governing body of the Participant, that:

1. William E. Johnson be authorized to make application for a State Revolving Fund Loan ("SRF Loan") and provide the SRF Loan Program such information, data and documents pertaining to the loan process as may be required, and otherwise act as the authorized representative of the Participant; and
2. The Participant agrees to comply with State and Federal Requirements as they pertain to the SRF Loan Program; and
3. Two certified copies of this Resolution be prepared and submitted as part of the Participant's Preliminary Engineering Report.

Adopted and passed by the Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana, this 20th day of March, of 2018.

Ohmer made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-04. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Steve stated there is an addendum #2 for the Town of Hope's Preliminary Engineering Report-Drinking Water Improvements Study. It allows Strand to explain how you are going to spend the remaining money. Steve explained the choices are existing water meters-condition and needs. The conditions are the fact that a lot of them are over eighteen years old. Over the last four years the town has started a water meter replacement program. This has resulted in 335 meters being replaced which is about 40%. The need is as they get older, they slow down. New meters helps with accuracy. The new meters will be installed along Walnut, Market, Depot, Union and Robbins Streets. The cost of the meters will be \$45,900. Diane stated the balance in our SRF loan will be around \$10,000. As you probably noticed in

the claims the Water Fund has already paid for half the meters which is \$22,950. SRF will reimburse the balance of the loan. **Jerry made a motion to amend the Preliminary Engineering Report to allow the reimbursement for the meters. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Steve stated one of the requirements is that this has to be published in the closest local newspaper. It is scheduled to be in the paper tomorrow.

2017 COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANTS

JT Doane stated they are starting on the sidewalks. That will be the first portion of the project. JT reviewed the streets that are scheduled to be paved. The list is included below in the Town Report. The award for the grant is \$211,504.50.

GOSHEN MEADOWS SANITARY PROJECT

JT Doane stated Superintendent David Clouse and I along with Tony Ankles from Strand had an opportunity to go to Greenwood and see the project we plan to do in the future in action. The flow meter test is currently going on to determine the number of laterals we need to replace. Once we get more detail there, we will move on to the next step. Clyde asked haven't we got enough moisture to determine that. David answered we need heavy rain. David explained the process. Steve stated the reason we are looking at this step is access is very, very limited. There's fences, there's sheds, there's trees. This process is done between manholes. David stated lift station in Goshen Meadows in dry weather pumps one to two times per hour. After an inch of rain it is pumping at least five times per hour. The flow meter will give us more accurate data. JT stated doing the flow analysis test ideally will allow us to have a better plan. As you recall the price tag on the project. It is something that is likely to be in phases.

Ed asked if we have sewer and water available for the four lots that sold. David confirmed. David stated we can directionally drill under the road. There will be the normal tap fee. It's all up hill. It's doable.

Ken Patton asked what caused the laterals to leak. David answered they were not hooked up right to start with. David explained the problem.

GARBAGE AND RUBBISH UPDATES

JT Doane stated we have three that are with our attorney for legal action. They have not complied so we are working on that next step. Some appreciation has been shared from residents that they appreciate this effort.

TOWN OF HOPE UNITED WAY DAY

JT Doane stated I have a few more requests in. If you know of anyone in town that needs projects done, we will have United Way Day here in Hope to help. We want to first get a list of projects and then set a date. If you know of anyone who needs a home project done, get me a list.

ABANDONED CARS

Ed Johnson asked for an update on abandoned cars. Matt stated we tagged forty-eight vehicles that were deemed junked or abandoned. Most did what was needed to be in compliance. We found four that were not in compliance on our first tow. One was given back because she then had the proper

plates for the vehicle. Our next towing date is the 27th which we will be hitting Goshen Meadows. Right now there are three in Goshen Meadows that are not in compliance.

MAIN STREET OF HOPE UPDATES

Saint Patrick's Pooch Parade

Susan Thayer Fye stated let me give a summary of Saint Patrick's Pooch Parade. We had fifteen entries total. We had about thirty-five pets on the square. The extras came from the Bartholomew County Humane Society for adoption and also from the Columbus Animal Care. We charged \$5 for each registration. We collected \$260! We had people donate even though they didn't bring a dog. We had expenses of \$50 which leaves \$210 for the Paula A. Pollitt Animal Shelter. Jessica Barrett is stating that the following donations will be helpful: Dog toys, dog treats, dog food and of course cash. A good time was had by all. I think we will probably do it again based on the turnout.

Opportunity Zones

Susan gave the council handouts about opportunity zones. Susan stated part of the Trump Tax Law from December, the Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act provided the opportunity for State Governors to declare what is called opportunity zones. Susan reviewed the handout and summarized as follows: Must be for low-income census tracts to offer significant tax breaks to investors. Hope is not one. Main Street suggested I put in for this. Although I don't really need your vote, I am still going to ask for it. Susan explained if you keep building ten years and you are in one of these zones, you don't have to pay capital gain taxes. Restoring historic buildings count as well. This is a big economic selling point. I suggest we apply for it. I've got it filled out. It is due Friday. I can apply for this as a private citizen, I can apply for it as Main Street of Hope, I can apply for it as the Town of Hope. If we get approved for this, it is not just the Town of Hope. It is Hartsville, Clifford, Newbern, all the way up to the Shelby County line. It is a big census tract. Clyde asked Trena her opinion. Trena stated it's an economic development tool. They will select 25% of the eligible census tracts. Susan stated you can couple this with other kinds of tax breaks. You can do historic tax credit. You can do grants. It does not restrict anything else. **Clyde made a motion to apply as Town of Hope. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Vacant Lot

Susan stated I'm currently working with the Community Center of the RFP request proposal for the vacant lot. If this happens to come through on the opportunity zones, they will be eligible for that. We are meeting with the Community Center Board of Directors tomorrow. As soon as we get it finished and the board approves it, I will send it out to everyone. I am researching how to do an economic development area. If you want to provide tax abatement for that lot, you can do it a variety of ways. You can do it for the entire square. Ohmer asked if the tax abatement will be a blanket or per case. Susan answered they would have to come before Town Council each case. This will just make it eligible. Ohmer stated we need to do that. Diane added the town has done that. Clyde asked Diane to check into how it has been done in the past. There was discussion on tax abatements.

Susan stated David Clouse looked at the public restrooms to see what we need to do to make them ADA accessible. Susan gave the council a quote for the restroom. This will be for a total gut job for both the men's and women's restroom. Susan went over the work that would need to be done. Susan voiced concern with the fact that they are not ADA compliant. Susan stated her estimate is \$25,000 to \$30,000

per restroom. \$5,000 per automatic hand-operated opener/closer. The additional costs for architectural services, engineering, environmental, administrative fees, and meeting qualifications of Davis Bacon is \$23,000. Trena added the \$23,000 is if you do grant funding. Susan stated the total is \$93,000. This can fit into the public facilities. We decided for this amount it's not worth it. Ohmer stated my opinion is we desperately need some renovation but \$100,000 is a lot of money to spend. Trena stated it will be a 10% match. I don't know how competitive it will be. Clyde asked the status of the old fire department. Chad answered we are in process of getting the building cleaned out. Clyde asked about selling it. Chad stated I'm not directly involved with the appraisal process that occurred. I can look into it. There was more discussion on grant opportunities and the process. Ken Patton asked if there is money budgeted for this project. There was more discussion on the process and requirements. Steve Robertson stated he doesn't think Susan's numbers are that far off. Steve stated he felt there was only room for one handicapped restroom. Joellen Sieright asked about the remodel when it is being looked at to build a new town hall. Ed stated this is something we need to keep on the table.

Downtown Enhancement Grant

Susan asked the Council to consider a Downtown Enhancement Grant alternative to that to vote on next time. Susan gave the council a handout of her proposal. Susan reviewed the proposal which will be a Building Façade program with a 50/50 match with Edit funds up to a maximum of \$1500 per project. Susan stated we have a Design Committee on Main Street who could run the program and take applications. I am suggesting the Town of Hope commits to \$10,000 over two years; \$5,000 this year and \$5,000 next year. Clyde stated I have two problems with this. The last time you requested \$1,000 for a grant for \$10,000. Now you are asking us to fund half of it. The other thing is this idea should be ran through Edit Committee. Nellie disagreed that it needed to go through the Edit Committee. Clyde argued that the Edit Committee funds Main Street to start with. I needs to be ran through the committee that is set up for it to be ran through. Susan stated she does not have a problem with that. Susan asked the Council if this is a project she should spend her time on. Ohmer asked have you perceived any interest in something like this. Susan confirmed. Susan stated we had five that had signed up for the DEG. It was a consensus of the council to present it to the Edit Committee.

Clean Up Day

Susan stated there is plans for a cleanup day in May.

Main Street Revitalization Plan

Susan stated the rest of my time is working on estimates for Main Street Revitalization Plan funding which is the big pot of funding that Trena and I have been talking about. She reviewed the list which includes lighting. Susan stated David Clouse and I are meeting with Duke Energy to get an estimate. Is that something you want me to pursue? The Council agreed. Susan continued with the list which includes permanent benches, cigarette butt containers, planters and trash receptacles. The Council agreed. Susan reviewed the plans for pathways. Susan stated I am currently working with Joe Dodd who actually did a study many years ago. He wants us to look at what he did as well. The Council agreed. Susan continued discussing wayfaring signage in and around the square. The Council agreed. Susan stated we're doing an historic walking tour. We're going to be applying for some private donations or funding. We're working with Columbus Visitor's Center on doing a pamphlet. We are going to try to roll out phase one on Heritage Days. We have found a phone app for historic walking tours. We want to do

pamphlets for those who are not tech savvy. We also want to do historic plaques on the buildings. Ken Patton stated anyone in town who has a historic building that would be on that tour, I'm sure they would be willing to pay \$60 or \$70 bucks and pay for the plaque themselves. Clyde stated this Main Street situation has been going on well over a year and nothing concrete has ever been done. There has not been any funding. There hasn't been anything. I have not heard you (Trena) in the last few months make any kind of statement. Are we wasting our time and money doing this? Trena answered no. Trena stated I go to the Main Street Meetings as well. What we are talking about is the potential to actually apply for a Main Street Revitalization Grant. We're looking at potentially looking at round two. The proposal will be due October 5th. The application is due November 30th. If we have all the numbers and everything ready to go, I think it will enhance the square. I think it will enhance the Main Street area. I'm not talking to those points because Susan is. I don't feel like I need to duplicate some of what she is saying. It's a slow process. These components put together will make a great project.

2018 BUDGET ORDER

Diane Burton stated I just want to let the Council know that our budget was approved. It is now certified for the amounts that were submitted in October. It has to be approved by the Department of Local Government Finance. One thing that was different this year and my first experience of this, we did have an excess levy of \$4,679. That was actually from 2016. It wasn't really anything on our end. We received more on our Form 22 than our certified levy. They couldn't tell me specifically what it was from. It could have been appeals. It could be a lot of different things. We basically have to pay that back. We will just have to put it in the Excess Levy Fund and then we can turn around and put it right back into our General Fund.

NEW BUSINESS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRIBUTION (CEDIT) 2 YEAR PLAN (RESOLUTION 2018-03)

Diane Burton stated this is our CEDIT or EDIT but the name has changed with the county. Basically every two years we have to submit a plan in order to receive those funds. Diane read Resolution No. 2018-02 which states:

A resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Hope Indiana for the submission to the auditor of Bartholomew County, Indiana a plan for the distribution of the Economic Development Distribution revenues. Whereas, IC 6-3.5-7-15 states that a governmental entity must have a capital improvement plan in place in order to receive Economic Development Distribution funds; and Whereas, the Town Council is interested in economic development to benefit the citizens of Hope; and Whereas, the Town Council having created and appointed members of an Economic Development Board and stated the purpose of said board by action of Town Council passing Resolution 2010-1; Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana for the purpose of using Economic Development Distribution funds.

1. The Town Council of Hope plans to use the Economic Development Distribution receipts over the next two (2) years for the Economic Development of the Town of Hope and the support of the Arts, Festivals, Children, and Youth Recreational Events and the overall improvements of the Quality of Life of the citizens of the Town of Hope, Indiana.

Clyde made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-02. Jerry seconded. Nellie stated the State says it can be used for other things other than what is on this resolution. Trena stated there are a lot of things you can use it for, any general purpose of government. You can designate what you are going to use it for as the Town. Nellie stated I would rather have it open to be able to use it for anything that we want to use it for. Ed stated it lists "Improve the Quality of Life" that is what that is. Nellie disagreed. Diane added our budget is in place for 2018. That was decided back in September, October. I will verify this but I would think that you could change this but we do have to have this resolution in place in order to receive the funds. If you decide when we do the budget process for 2019 that you want to change that, I don't think that would be a problem. They just made it broader. I think we have decided that economic development is a needed area for sure. Trena added a lot of communities are still using it for economic development because they don't have a lot of funds available to do economic development. This is a pretty broad definition of economic development. Diane stated we have a lot of plans in place that will need that type of funding. **Motion carries 5/0.**

TRANSFER OF FUNDS (Resolution 2018-03)

Diane Burton stating this transfer is to get some money in place for some engineering for the Community Crossing Matching Grant. Back at budget time we really didn't have all these figures in place. Resolution 2018-03 reads as follows: Be it ordained by the Council of the Town of Hope that the following transfer of funds be made: From 202001431 Local Roads & Streets, Street curbs sidewalks \$20,000 to 202001315 Local Roads & Streets, Professional Services \$20,000. **Ohmer made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-03. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Jake Miller, Miller Insurance, stated I have Randy Teltoe with us tonight. He is with Burnham & Flower. Ed stated there is some discussion before you start. Clyde made the remark that it all should be bid. There was plans made for someone else to bid on this. At this time there is no sharing of figures. Clyde stated the discussion to open this up for bidding, and that wasn't just this insurance that is all of insurance, was done at our November meeting. It was the consensus of the council that all insurance needs to be bid. All of sudden because I had forgotten about it until I find out Miller and Miller will not give our Clerk Treasurer the reports for other agents to bid this. I don't think number one that that is a fair way to do it. I don't know what you are trying to do tonight but if you trying to bid this without allow other companies to have access to that information that you will not give us. Jake stated there was never a formal request to Miller Insurance for loss runs. Clyde answered March 8th and March 14th there was. Clyde stated a listing of assets was asked for on the 14th. Jake stated I have never received any email correspondence for a request of loss runs through Miller Insurance's email. Clyde stated I also have here from the Insurance Commissioner that goes over what responsible insurance companies should be doing when they get a request for the loss runs. Randy Teltoe added you should receive it within thirty days. Clyde stated keep in mind our policy expired on March 13th. Jake corrected March 17th. Jake stated when I requested in the November meeting, I sent emails back and forth with the Clerk Treasurer requesting to bid that health insurance. I was told by the Clerk Treasurer at that time that I had to have a board consensus vote to be able to quote that specific insurance. I would hope that our board would be consistent. That there need to be a request made to the board in a public meeting and a board approval to be able to quote that insurance. Diane stated Jake did ask me if he could go ahead and quote it. I contacted State Board of Accounts because I had never had that request before. They

said the Council would have to approve that so that is why he approached the council. It was that same meeting then that the council stated that all of our insurance should be quoted. So it wasn't specifically him. It was just that was what opened the door for health to be quoted and also it expanded from that. Ed stated I did tell them to go ahead and bind so we have liability insurance for the town. Jake stated Miller as a company has the ability to quote it with other companies. We have a partnership with Mr. Teltoe and his agency. If you would like it quoted in the future, we have that ability. I would appreciate the courtesy since we have been handling it and know the account, would appreciate the ability to quote that out with other companies if that is what you would like. We have done that in the past. Their price was way more competitive than other companies. They have treated us very well and have done a good job at maintaining cost and keeping our premiums in check. Clyde stated if you are asking if we would be okay with you quoting it, you turning over the information that you have requested to do that you have not done so that other companies can quote it, then I see no problem with that. That is only fair. Jake answered we have this. That is a process. We can't turn around and get the paperwork within five days or ten days. It is a thirty day process. Randy stated I forgot to bring it but I have it in my email right now. Jake stated in the future I would request that any emails involving Miller Insurance be sent to the work email. Diane stated I am just used to Ohmer handling it. He could have passed it to you. Clyde stated there is also a listing of assets value requested also. Nellie asked the term of the currently policy. Randy Teltoe answered you are bound for the year but you can cancel it anytime you want to. There is no penalty to get out of it. It is very usual for this to be done midterm. It is usually done at the anniversary. I can help them go to other markets to get competitive quotes. I have no problem with you getting bids. That is the responsible thing to do. You don't have to bring in an outside agency to do this if you don't want to. Clyde stated this is being paid for by tax payers' money. We were voted in here to do the best we can for the Town. It's nothing against anybody. It's just the sequence seems strange to me. But if you are agreeable to what we have said, I think once we see that information and get it to the other sources and get a quote together if we have to have a session to do it, we will. I would prefer it stay here in town, locally if possible. Our job is to spend the tax payer's money reasonably in the best way we can. Randy stated I understand that. You do need to set up some ground rules. What's the bidding process and have your specs out there. Clyde stated we can just take our current policy and work off of that. Jake answered you can but what you might run into is different insurance companies might not offer the exact same coverage. There are going to be variations per company and some things. Randy asked when they are wanting the bids. Clyde answered within the next thirty days. It was a consensus of the Council to have it at our next meeting, April 17th. Randy suggested opening the sealed bids at the April meeting, take them under advisement and make a list of questions then follow up with a Working Session. The council agreed. Randy stated I would suggest you not give Agents of Record out for different companies. I don't think that is fair. Randy stated we do have this bound. The premium will need to be paid. Clyde stated to contact Diane.

Randy Teltoe questioned the restrooms that was discussed earlier. Randy stated ADA is a federal law. Randy questioned events. David answered we have ADA porta johns.

EDIT REQUESTS

Clyde Compton stated the Edit request recommendations: The first one is from Yellow Trail Museum requested by Barb Johnson for the Old Fashioned Independence Day in the amount of \$4,500. The request is for fireworks and the band. Approved 5/0. **Motion carries 4/0. 1 abstain.**

Farmer's Market of Hope requested by JT Doane in the amount of \$2,000. Clyde stated after considerable discussion we determined the Farmer's Market started out fairly slow. Anything new is going to start out slow. They have added a few things down the road. They added some things to draw more people. We thought they were running on three wheels. We challenged them to put the fourth wheel on by adding \$500 to their request to come up with another draw. Approved 2/0. 3 abstained. **Motion carries 5/0.**

Actor's Studio of Hope requested by Pete Law to attend acting school in the amount of \$3,250. Clyde stated after much discussion, the committee felt it didn't fit the criteria. Declined 4/0. 1 abstained. The council agreed. **Motion declined 5/0.**

PARK REQUEST – YELLOW TRAIL MUSEUM

Barb Johnson, Yellow Trail Museum, stated I would like to request the use of the town square for two upcoming events. The Old Fashioned Independence Day celebration will be held on June 29th. We will need use of the bandstand, the shelter house as well as tables and chairs. We'll have most of the square filled with food booths, games and activities. We plan to hold the bike parade as we have in the past. We will need to have some parking spaces blocked on the north side of the square. The spaces that touch the square itself. Usually in the evening the Police Department blocks off the whole north side of square so we have seating room for the fireworks. We will be using Jason Yantiss from Waldron for fireworks as we have in the past. The Yellow Trail will take care of getting approval from the County Commissioners to use the county road to set off the fireworks. The event will be from 5:00 p.m. until after the fireworks.

Barb stated Christmas of Yesteryear will be on November 16th. We would like to ask if the Baptist Church can have their live nativity in the square. The event is from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. In the past we have had carriage rides. We are looking at a possible change in carriage rides because our provider of carriages and horses are no longer in business. We are not sure how that will work out. It shouldn't cause any traffic problems or any blocking of traffic. **Clyde made motion to approve both events. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 4/0. 1 abstain.**

PARK REQUEST – MILLER'S MERRY MANOR EASTER EGG HUNT

JT Doane stated Miller's Merry Manor was unable to be here this evening. They asked me to request use of the park for them for their traditional Easter Egg Hunt. They will have face painting and cookies. The event will be on Saturday, March 31 at 11:00 a.m. Their Certificate of Insurance with the Town of Hope listed as an additional insured has been submitted. Clyde asked if it will be for the patients at Miller's Merry Manor. JT clarified it will be for the children and the ones that can get out can come and watch. Diane Jekel added it is volunteers from Miller's. **Ohmer made a motion to approve the event. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

PARK REQUEST – CAMON LODGE CAR SHOW

Ron Ellis, Camon Lodge, stated I would like to request to have a car show on the square. We will be using the bandstand because we will be having a band. We would also like to use the shelter house because we wish to sell sandwiches and drinks like last year. Ed clarified that a new Certificate of Insurance will

need to be filed. Ron stated last year's funds were used to supplement a charity that we have at the lodge. We put the money from the car show with some other money that we had and we donated \$1300 to buy groceries for thirty families that are in need. The event will be on May 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The east side of the square will need to be blocked for the cars. **Ohmer made motion to approve the event. Nellie seconded.** Ohmer added Masonic Lodge, Shiners, etc. generates \$3 million dollars per day to help. I applaud Camon Lodge for their effort. Clyde stated I believe the Masonic is the biggest contributor to charities in the world. **Motion carries 5/0.**

UTILITIES TRUCK

JT Doane stated David is going to speak to you about a utility truck. We will be replacing 1999 truck. We did discuss this with Clerk Treasurer and it was included in the budget. David stated I am requesting a 2018 Ford F450 from Renner Motors. The price is \$35,866.57. David reviewed the quote and what the price included. The total price is \$52,578.57. Ohmer asked if we have the money. Diane confirmed. Ohmer asked what will be done with the old truck. David answered it will be advertised for sale. Clyde asked if it worked. David confirmed. David stated it is not reliable. **Clyde made a motion to approve the purchase. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

ALLEY SOUTH OF SEMINARY

JT Doane stated before you is a copy of two maps. We have a resident who requested for the council to consider vacating an alley. David Clouse, Council President Ed Johnson and I visited the site. Ed Johnson stated this is an older map. They have added another bay on their garage. They are within about four feet of the property line on the opposite side. They are in a dedicated alley. By all rights we could probably ask him to take that back to the property line. I'm personally not in favor of granting the disposal of the alley. By law if you had to get back in there to do something, you could actually tear his garage down. There are utilities back in that area. The back end of it ends up on the railroad right away. If they do something with that right away, we have no way to get to the utilities. David stated the railroad right away was sold to Jeff Whittington and 1215 Seminary. They bought the right away. Whittington sold his right away to Wes Dickey. Wes died. When the property sold, it ended up not getting recorded. It's a no man's land. We mowed it last year. Diane added I haven't really been involved in this except he initially came in and spoke to me before I passed him on. It was my understanding that when he built the garage there was some confusion on the approval. He didn't just do it. He had already started. David stated he had gotten the permit and had it staked out for a long time. Matt Galbraith came and told him that the sewer main was right at the edge of the building so it was late in the game. He already had the permit so he built the garage. The garage is right at the edge of the sewer line. What he is wanting to do now is add on to the north. **Clyde made a motion to decline it. Ohmer seconded. Motion declined 5/0.**

TOWN REPORT

JT Doane reviewed the Town Manager Reports which reads as follows:

- Hope Wellness Pharmacy: Nurse Practitioner currently reviewing funding options for operations costs;
- Attended February Main Street meeting; further discussion therein pertaining to revitalization;

- INDOT Community Crossing Matching Grant (CCMG): 2017 CCMG Grants submitted; priority 1 and priority 2 designation; total cost of projects: \$211,504.50; both Grants awarded!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Paving anticipate for May 2018; meeting held 2/19 with O'Mara and strand to review plan/layout on the sidewalk areas for ADA compliance; also in attendance Utilities Superintendent Clouse and Clerk Treasurer Burton;
- Attended IMMA Southern Regional Meeting in Nashville on Friday 3/9; IMMA conference and workshops set in April 2018 in Lawrenceburg; fall AIM Idea Summit set for October in French Lick.
- Garbage and Junk Red Tag Ordinance: 2 additional properties to be red tagged week of 3/12; followed up with Cindy Boll on 3 properties lack of compliance;
- WCSI radio show: next radio show Thursday, April 5, 8:30 am; attended March 1 radio show;
- Plan and Analysis for Goshen Meadow Sanitary Project: Utilities Superintendent Clouse and I attended sanitary project site with strand in Greenwood, in on February 27; reviewed project detail;
- Further discussion with buyer of property on Jackson; any further information shared will be shared accordingly; surveyor for project was going to reach out to Building & Zoning Administrator Potts;
- Attended March EDIT Committee meeting to present edit request for Farmer's Market;
- Invited to attended luncheon/meeting by Mayor Lienhoop regarding a meeting on topic of preserving historic places;
- Meeting with new OCRA Representative for area; reviewing of grant calendar;
- Assisted resident with complaint regarding toter remaining at street; sent certified mail letter and copy of Ordinance; Town Manager Doane also had meeting with Utilities Clerk Debbie Hatton and same information will be put on utility bill; 24 hour before on toter and 24 hour after on toter;
- Visit with Utilities Superintendent Clouse to request from resident whether Town would consider vacating alley; requesting mapping information for Town Council; will be shared at March Town Council meeting for decision;
- Followed up from initial report filed by Utilities Superintendent Clouse regarding SR9/Mill Street; INDOT did not respond accordingly, so Town Manager Doane also reached out regarding hole near storm sewer and grave concerns for safety; INDOT phoned, gave date and arrived in town to complete project;
- Town Manager Doane shared information shared accordingly regarding bridge over Little Haw Creek and Clifty Creek per INDOT construction plan; will also be shared at March Town Council meeting;

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ABOUT SUBMITTED REPORTS

*A Police, Animal Control, Utilities and Town Manager's report has been given to the council prior to the meeting to review and kept on file at the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

Clyde commented to David on his statement in his report which stated Perry's Body Shop replaced an interior trim piece on the 2005 Chevrolet Truck that I broke catching myself from falling on ice. Clyde asked if the town had to pay for that. David confirmed.

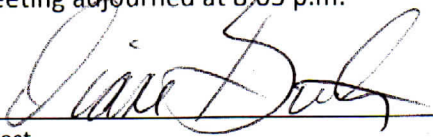
Ed asked David if he has had any luck with Duke looking into some more lights. David stated on Friday I will be talking to their engineer. Ed confirmed the one on Schaefer. David replied that one is REMC and Duke. David will discuss with the Duke engineer. Ed asked David to check into Hauser Drive as well.

Pastor Ed Cottrell stated I would like to report that the Methodist Church in coordination with the Baptist Church put on this past Sunday a meal for our first responders. We did get a lot of response from local businesses. The meal was completely funded by businesses around the square. We are going to make it an annual event but not during spring break. Those that were able to come did not leave hungry.

Clyde asked about the status on the generator. JT answered we plan on first having a public hearing. The county has set aside funding for a Public Safety Fund. Some of those funds can be used for a generator. This came up when Hope was without power for a while. The generator had some issues so it is time to look for a new generator. At the next meeting the plan is to have a public hearing first on the town using that fund from the county as a Public Safety Fund. Later in that meeting we will have a plan for a possible new generator to present to the council.

Ohmer stated the materials we are given at the council meeting, I think that needs to be put on the website so people can see that material and perhaps develop a distribution list as well for people that would be interested in having that material emailed to them. John Clark confirmed Columbus puts everything out before their meeting. Shelbyville does too. It is public record. Ohmer stated also I would like to see the Town of Hope join the Chamber of Commerce. Diane asked if that will be for the town. We used to be a member but I don't remember if it was just the Council President. I haven't received anything from the chamber. Jake stated the cost is \$100 per year per membership. It is one membership. The companies have a representative who will receive the email correspondence. That person is usually the person that comes to any events and will get a free ticket. Our board meetings are open for anyone to come to. Ohmer stated two people on the council are board members now. **Ohmer made a motion to approve the membership.** The council decided they wanted to think about it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



Attest

Nellie Mae
C. Smith

Raymond
C. Smith