

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 called meeting at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 5:30 p.m. on June 1, 2015.

A quorum was declared present based on the presence of the following council members: Paula Pollitt (President), Jonathan Titus (Vice-President), Clyde Compton and Jerry Bragg. Clerk Treasurer, Diane Burton was also present.

Absent: Greg Sims

Purpose of meeting: Working Session

The meeting was called to order by Paula Pollitt.

GRANT PROPOSAL

Matt Tallent stated the US government has opened up a grant that allows for agencies to apply for a grant to hire another officer for their department or more than one officer if they get more than one grant. It pays for the full time officer for 3 years. After that the agency will pay for the officer. If I read it right, you can apply after then 3 years again. I would like permission from the council to work with Trena to apply for this grant and look at hiring a 4th officer for the town. I think it's time we have round the clock coverage. Most of our break ins and stuff like that are happening after we go off duty. If need be, I can bring you statistics from Central Dispatch. The deadline is the 19th of this month. The council agreed. Matt announced Derek Hughes has accepted the offer for full time employment with the Hope Police Department. Matt will have him attend the next council meeting to introduce him.

MARSHAL'S SALARY

Mel Fox stated Matt Tallent brings great value to the position of Town Marshal. He has served 18 years in the HPD. Matt joined HPD as a reserve in March of 1997 and became a full time officer in 2003. For the past 2 years, Matt served most capably as interim Town Marshal. Based on the following performance criteria:

- Extensive trainings
- Very well educated on law enforcement regulations and police
- He has institutional memory of local ordinances and HPD history which is a great asset in any organization
- He takes initiative and is an excellent problem solver
- He is forward thinking as you just saw from the grant and also Rick & he purchasing and training the K9 dogs will help fight the heroin epidemic that is escalating
- knowledgeable and most capable of implementing conflict resolution techniques
- Well-respected in our community
- Positive attitude and a spirit of collaboration
- Most importantly he places his life on the line in service for the good citizens of Hope.

I want to highly recommend the Marshal Tallent receive a salary equal to David Clouse \$54,386.91 effect May 18th.
Jerry made a motion to accept Mel's recommendation. Clyde seconded. Motion carries 4/0.

HVFD

Paula read a prepared Memorandum of Understanding as a proposal between the Town of Hope and Volunteer Fire Department. The proposal reads:

Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Hope, Indiana and the Hope Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Whereas, the Town of Hope, Indiana ("Town") is located in Bartholomew County and needs continuing fire protection for the Town and its citizens; and

Whereas, the Hope Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. ("HVFD") is an Indiana corporation, and has been providing fire protection for the Town of Hope; and

Whereas, issues have arisen that have precluded the Town and the HVFD from entering into a contract for the provision of fire services for 2015, and no payments have been made to HVFD by the Town for 2015; and

Whereas, the Town desires to make some payments to the HVFD so that HVFD can continue to provide fire protection services to the Town.

Now therefore, be it agreed by the parties hereto that this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is to establish the type, amount and duration of the payments to be made to the HVFD as follows:

1. The Town or the HVFD may terminate this arrangement at any time upon 30 days written notice to the other party.
2. The Town will consider payment of the following 2015 operating expenses:
 - a. Utilities for the Harrison Street location only
 - b. Building expenses for the Harrison Street location only
 - c. Insurance expenses for the Harrison Street location only
 - d. Supplies
 - e. Fire Equipment
 - f. Fuel
 - g. Training for fire fighters
 - h. Clothing/fuel allowances for fire fighters
 - i. Repair of vehicles
 - j. Office equipment expenses for the Harrison Street location only
 - k. Fire Prevention and Promotion
 - l. Taxes and fees associated with the Harrison Street property only.
3. The Town will not make payments for the following:
 - a. Any legal fees of the HVFD
 - b. Any expenses associated with the new building
 - c. Any outstanding loans or mortgages of the HVFD
 - d. Any CPA expenses of the HVFD
 - e. Any expenses associated with the ambulance service.
4. The HVFD shall turn vendor claims in to the Clerk-Treasurer on the Wednesday preceding each Town Council meeting. Said meetings currently occur on the third Monday of each month, unless otherwise scheduled by the Clerk-Treasurer.
5. All claims must be recommended for payment by the Clerk-Treasurer and must be approved by the Town Council.
6. The Clerk-Treasurer shall pay claims directly to the vendor.
7. The Town will pay up to \$17,250 quarterly, to a maximum of \$69,000 for 2015. Payments of approved claims shall be made in March, June, September and December.
8. The claims will be paid from the Fire Department Contract Appropriation #101004311.
9. The parties agree that the Fire Fighters Advisory Council shall remain intact and continue to meet.

Paula stated this is what we are proposing for the Fire Department. Paula asked if they want to take this back to their group to discuss. Bruce Neal answered we meet Thursday night. Bruce asked when it would be approved.

Paula answered our next council meeting is in 2 weeks on the 15th. Bruce asked if it covers bills from January. Randy stated they don't have any bills back that far but had some that were close to a month overdue. Paula stated the MOU needs to be in place first. Randy Woods asked if it would be retroactive to the first quarter. The council agreed. Bruce asked if there is money left at the end of the year does it remain in their account or go back to the General Fund. The council agreed it will go back to the General Fund. Randy stated I think you are going to see that we are going to exceed that amount with the expenses we have on our trucks, tests, physicals for the fire fighters, new turn out gear every 5 years according to the NFPA standards. That's why we struggle from year to year and why we come and ask for more. Paula asked if they have insurance on their fire trucks. Randy confirmed. Paula asked if the fire truck recently wrecked was going to get fixed. Bruce answered we've had 2 organizations come and look at it. We've got like \$135,000 on that vehicle. That's not enough money to cover it. Paula asked what they do with the money the township gives them. Randy answered it goes toward the same things. The township gives the fire department about \$40,000 according to Bruce. Mel corrected \$42,664 and they have been give them \$8,520 for the ambulance. Last year they got \$102,934 including our income plus they received \$17,250 not shown on their document. Mel asked Diane when she met with the Clerk Treasurer of New Whiteland with a population of 5,000 people, what did they say their fire department budget was. Diane answered about \$110,000. New Whiteland owns their fire department. Randy stated they probably apply for grants. We have applied for grants and have been told that the town of Hope gets federal grants, 4 or 5 a year therefore they can't get one. Mel said Trena stated that is not correct. Paula said it would be a good time to get Trena involved and have her look at that again. She's our grant writer and she said she would be more than happy to help you guys. We've talked about this several times and no one wants to contact her. Paula said we will give you their contact information again. Mel asked where Clifford got their grant. They did not know. Paula said if you can look at that and get back with us before June 15th. We can take action on it if there is action to be taken at the June 15th meeting. Jonathan asked if community members have any comments. No comments. Clyde clarified there was a maximum they would get a quarter due to Randy's comment earlier that their expenses exceed what the town gives them. Randy stated he understood but this will show that the money they get does not suffice what we need. Jonathan stated that will be good for you guys to be able to prove that to us. Randy agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Attest




