

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 July 18, 2017.

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

The prayer was given by JT Doane.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes 5/16/17

Ed made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 3/0.

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS

Ohmer made a motion for the approval of the claims. Ed seconded. Motion carries 3/0.

OLD BUSINESS:

PROJECT UPDATES

DRINKING WATER PROJECT

Trena Carter, ARa, stated the Drinking Water Project that was funded with Community Development Block Grant funds and State Revolving Funds has been completed. We had our monitoring this last Wednesday. Some additional information was requested which was submitted on Friday. We are waiting on the monitoring letter and then we will be able to proceed to close out the CDBG portion. We are doing the labor monitoring standards for the SRF Water Tower Project. We will be included in the preconstruction conference.

TOWN HALL

Trena Carter stated we met with RQAW representatives and the members of the community on July 6th. We did receive a few updates a week ago. The next step is to disseminate them to the whole committee to review and get their comments on the additional information.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PLAN

Trena Carter stated we have the official second draft out for review; edits, comments and input from the committee. You should have chapter 7 which is the primary focus of interest. There is going to be an update on this report by Susan Thayer Fye later in this meeting. We are still on track for that. The goal is to have submitted next week as far as the plan. That puts us a month ahead of time which gives us leeway as far as getting all the final documents we need to prepare and get it closed out by October.

DOWNTOWN ENHANCEMENT GRANT

Trena stated we are still watching for the Downtown Enhancement grant to become available. That won't happen until September. You may be requested to put in some matching funds for that program.

HOPE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Trena stated it is my understanding that they have requested funds for the fire truck. We are getting close to having the equipment so they will have the funds to pay for it. Randy Wood added that they are starting to hand out the rejection letters and we have not received one so we are still in the running.

COPS GRANT

Trena stated Marshal Tallent worked diligently over the weekend with assistance from Town Manager, JT Doane and Diane provided the financial information. It was a very good, group effort to be sure that was submitted by Monday, July 10th. Matt added the COPS grant we have put in for and which we have applied for the past three years is to try to fund another full time officer. This year we changed it up a little bit. We have partnered with Flat Rock Haw Creek School Corporation on the grant to try to do a part-time school resource officer as well as a part-time road officer for the town. The school will have the officer two to three hours in the morning and two to three hours in the afternoon.

OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING REHAB APPLICATION

Trena stated the application was submitted last Friday. We will find out in October whether that has been funded or not. The State's Community Development Block Grant funds have been delayed because of the Federal Government's budgeting process.

WATER TOWER UPDATE

Steve Robertson, Strand Associates, stated I will give you a quick update. Construction is slated to start in October for the Water Tower Project. There will be a preconstruction meeting in mid-August that Dave, JT and Trena will be invited to. Everything is on track. The paperwork is being done and sent back in. We should be good to go.

GARBAGE AND RUBBISH UPDATES

JT Doane stated since this ordinance was passed back in March, we have tagged forty-two homes. We have two that are currently with Cindy. She is looking at additional options for homeowners that have not complied. They received the red tag and the ordinance. They had ten days to complete the work. They received a citation thereafter. I will have another one for her tomorrow as well. We have had a very successful rate of those who have complied and followed through with that ordinance.

EASTERN BARTHOLOMEW WATER RATE INCREASE REQUEST UPDATES

JT Doane stated on August 3rd David Clouse and I will attend the hearing in Indianapolis on this matter. To date there has been no other information received. Anyone is welcome to attend with us. The OUCC has indicated they will not have a decision on that day. It will most likely be sometime in the fall before any type of decision will be rendered on that matter.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

JT Doane stated we have brochures here at town hall for ASAP which is the alliance for substance abuse program here in Bartholomew County. It is a sensitive area. Again it is something that all communities

across our state, across our nation are facing. Town Marshal Tallent, Superintendent Price and I have met with the ASAP group and continued to be apprised of any details and any other agenda items on this topic as they start to form this task force. Governor Holcomb of course went public with this as well with his efforts to set up task force in different locations to help with this problem that our state faces.

TOWN PARK EVENTS (ORDINANCE 2017-10)

JT Doane reviewed the options for the town square park special events. The choices are either A & B, A, B & C or A, B, C & D. Letter A is requesting approval for park use from the council. Letter B is requiring a certificate of insurance. Letter C speaks of fostering collaboration communication amongst the organizations hosting events at the same time. Letter D states if the hosting organization does not approve the unrelated organization's event, that activity must cease immediately. The council discussed the options. **Ed made a motion accept A & B only. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 4/0.**

2017 COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT

JT Doane stated the grants were submitted on July 13th. We submitted two applications. There was a change to one of the applications. Washington Street from Harrison to Walnut was previously listed. There is some water main work that needs to be done within the next three years. There are some changes to the roads, however, the amount did not exceed what we previously discussed. The total grant amount submitted for application one and application two is \$282,006. Our portion is \$70,501.50. INDOT will pay 75% of the project. The town pays 25%. We should receive notification by the end of August.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PLAN

Susan Thayer Fye, Main Street Executive Director, stated all of you should have a revised Chapter 7 which is basically a summary of recommendations for the Downtown Revitalization Plan. It also summarizes some funding opportunities. Susan highlighted information in the report and addressed some concerns that town council members have had. Susan explained that this is not the final report but the finalized report will not have any content changes. The plan does need to be voted on tonight to move to the funding phase. Susan explained that when this is complete and it goes to funding, you do not have to do all of it. You can choose to do nothing. Susan stated we have an amazing group of volunteers and about half of the audience is Main Street tonight. Main Street is a bottom up operation that's started and promoted by volunteers. We are looking for an OCRA grant we are going to be applying for in the amount of \$400,000. I believe the maximum is \$500,000. We may also be looking at another potential grant for façade of buildings in the downtown which is a historic district. Susan stated one possibility is to establish a Tree Board. The consultants came up with some suggestions to use and avoid. We may have additional opportunities for funding if a Tree Board is formed. Susan suggested a council member be a liaison on the Tree Board if formed and recommended Ohmer Miller. Susan also suggested a Main Street liaison and recommended Nellie Meek. The council discussed the plan and some options. Trena explained the process of the planning grant. Once the planning grant is closed out, we determine what we are going to apply for. Clyde questioned using funding for the streets. Trena reviewed the different potential options. **Ohmer made a motion to approve the plan. Ed seconded. Motion carries 4/0.** A copy of this plan is available to view and is kept on file at the Clerk Treasurer's office.

NEW BUSINESS:

ARTS & ANTIQUES FAIR

Brad Robertson, Hope Chamber Vice-President, asked for permission for use of the square for their annual Arts and Antiques Festival on August 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Brad stated we would like to put up signs inside the square facing SR 9 the day of and possible before the festival to advertise. The chamber will be selling food inside the shelter house. The vendors will be set up inside of the square. Diane confirmed they are on the schedule. Clyde stated they will need to provide a certificate of insurance. David added you need to haul off your own trash. **Ed made a motion to approve the park request. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 4/0.**

HOPE HERITAGE DAYS

Michael Dean, Heritage of Hope Festival of Band Stand Division, asked for an exception for some activities listed in Ordinance 2016-09. Michael stated I'm not sure if all these will be done this year, but I want to go ahead and get approval. Michael requested approval for open fires for cooking pots, pony rides, fireworks and fire arms in some form. A copy of the road closings was given to the council and discussed. **Ed made a motion to approve the park request, road closings and ordinance exceptions. Nellie seconded.** Michael stated we appreciate the support of town in everything we are doing. It has been fifty years. It has evolved over the years. We do supply a large portion or in some cases all of the operating budget for area nonprofits. Nellie thanked Michael Dean for keeping Hope Heritage Days going. Ohmer Miller stated Heritage of Hope does a service for the community that needs to be done. I appreciate everything you do and the hard work and effort you put out. Michael Dean clarified that this is not for Heritage of Hope. This is for Hope Heritage Days. This is the Festival of Band Stand Division ran by Randy Sims, Chuck Caldwell, Mary Bragg and Michele Clark. Michael reviewed all the divisions of Heritage of Hope. **Motion carries 4/0.**

EDIT REQUESTS

Hope Heritage Days: Unanimously approved by Edit Committee. Request for \$21,000 for advertising and entertainment. The Edit Committee approved an additional \$1,000 for their 50th anniversary for a contest for nonprofit vendors that emphasizes the history of the town. **Motion carries 4/0.**

HSJ Online: Unanimously approved by Edit Committee. Request for \$2,848 for 1up! Website, Facebook Boosts and LION Summit. The Edit Committee approved \$3,000 to allow some additional dollars for the Local Internet Online News (LION) Summit travel expenses. Clyde complimented HSJ Online on the number of hits which has tripled. **Motion carries 4/0.**

RANDOM DRUG TEST POLICY AMENDMENT (ORDINANCE 2017-14)

JT Doane stated before you is a Random Drug Testing Policy amendment. There was a typo with the previous ordinance only allowing an hour response time. The amendment allows them twenty-four hours to respond. It is my recommendation to suspend the rules. Nellie asked about the process and who implements our random drug testing. JT answered that we use Prompt Med. There is a random selection with some alternates if needed. **Ed made a motion to approve ordinance 2017-14. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 4/0.**

TOWN MARSHAL'S OFFICE PHONE LINE

JT Doane stated we had a situation a couple of weeks ago on a Friday where we had some difficulties. The system went down therefore no one was able to get through to dispatch or town hall. The only way they were able to get through was on the 911 number. I had a discussion with our Town Marshal that if this happens again that we have some safety precautions in place. One suggestion was to have a landline so that they still can get through to the town hall and to the police department. Clerk Treasurer Burton and I looked at the potential appropriation this will come out of which will be the phone appropriation from the General Fund. We still have 83.69% available in this appropriation for our 2017 budget. I am seeking permission from the council to proceed forward with getting pricing from AT & T to see the cost. Matt added a couple years ago we switched to all fiber optic phones. We have no hard wired lines through AT & T anymore. When the internet goes down we lose phone service. Our backup if our internet goes down is Central Dispatch. The problem this time is that CCI's fiber optic went out so there was no transfer. We went an entire day without a phone system. Clyde asked how the number will be given to the public. Matt answered through Facebook. **Nellie made a motion to proceed with checking pricing for a landline phone. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 4/0.**

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

JT Doane stated as many of you are aware our Animal Control Officer, Lisa Hughes is moving down South. We do not currently have an animal control officer. Town Marshal Tallent and his staff have been taking the calls. We do look to get that posted in the near future. Many, many times the former Animal Control Officer would come to both of us. It got to where she was contacting me 90% of the time because Matt would be out on a call. The job description states this job reports to the Town Marshal. I am asking for a motion to modify and have our Animal Control Officer report to the Town Manager. Ed asked if applicants have been received. JT answered we have had a few. We will continue to be looking and taking applications. The council discussed who should supervise animal control. It was a consensus of the council that it should stay as it is and the Town Marshal shall remain the supervisor of the Animal Control Officer.

TOWN REPORT

- Hope Pharmacy & Wellness Center: continue to market and publicize for pharmacy; referenced on radio show; Mr. Burris plans on attending in future to discuss the services;
- Received our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); other details to follow and time frame; plan due August 31, 2017; Downtown Revitalization Plan to be presented to town council at June and July town council meetings; ARA planning on submitting further on 07/26/17 and further analysis towards grants;
- Washington Street Project; Met with Strand. Strand is doing an analysis of cost on the Washington Street from Harrison to Walnut.
- INDOT Community Crossing Matching Grant (CCMG): 2017 CCMG grants submitted; priority 1 and priority 2 designation; total cost of projects: \$282,006.00 with 25% town match of \$70,501.50; notification received by end of August 2017;
- Water Tower Fall Paint: Start date of September 5th; strand to provide contracts received from contractor at June Meeting.; Verizon notified accordingly of fall paint;

FALL PAINT: Task	Anticipated Date of Completion
Design Services	February 17, 2017
Bidding Advertisement	February 20, 2017
Bid Opening	March 15, 2017
Notice to Proceed	September 5, 2017
Substantial Completion	December 5, 2017
Final Completion	December 30, 2017

- WCSI Radio Show: next meeting, Thursday, 8/3, 8:30 am;
- 775 East; Council President and I had a discussion with the Commissioners. I along with Clerk Treasurer Burton also met with Strand to look at some additional costs and analysis of that.
- Meeting on scheduled July 19th with Prosperity; Group that has recently been developing properties in Columbus; also was cordially invited to attend regional meeting on July 20th in Bloomington.
- I want to take a moment and give a testament to those who are here tonight for the different events and different plans that are going on. We are a smaller community so it takes a lot of effort. Applause.

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.

Nellie apologized for being late.

Barb Johnson invited everyone in the room to join the Yellow Trail Museum Board and the new receptionist at the Visitor Information Center on Thursday evening between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. for our official grand opening at the Yellow Trail Museum. Ed Johnson added the Ike Wasson/Merril Clouse exhibit is now electrified.

Clyde Compton stated he wanted to add a little bit to what JT said. Listening to all of these reports I find it amazing that a town of 2100 people can be so advanced as we are. You should be proud of yourself.

Randy Wood, Fire chief, stated I want to give you an update on what is going on with the Fire Department. We are going down the 25th, next week, to finalize the purchase of the fire truck. We have received the grant money. It has been paid for. We should be getting the fire truck about the 2nd or 3rd week of August. We plan to have our open house and dedicate the fire truck and the fire station at the same time. Our fire house is going to be dedicated to Merrill Clouse. Applause. Randy gave a review of fundraisers they are participating in which include: The Bike Ride, Hope Heritage Days and parking cars at the Simmons Winery Corn Maze. I just attended a leadership course. It's a four year course. The training this year is on how to deal with difficult situations. I'm getting ready to go through a school in Indianapolis on Hazardous Incident Communications leader. I will let you know the date for the open house. Ohmer asked what the plans are for the old building. Randy stated it has been appraised. We are

waiting on the appraiser. We do plan to sell it. Ohmer also asked about the property. Randy stated we have had them appraised separately and we have had them appraised together. Ohmer stated thank you for your commitment to the town.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.



Attest







