

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 7:00 p.m. on July 21, 2014.

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

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance by Paula Pollitt and a prayer by Jonathan Titus.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes 6/2

Jonathan made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Tim seconded. Motion carries 3/0.

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS

Tim made a motion for the approval of the claims. Jonathan seconded. Diane stated I want to be sure that you saw the correction to the claims. Vectren was entered for the incorrect amount of \$17.72. Check number 5572 was replaced with check number 5589 in the amount of \$17.00. **Motion carries 3/0.**

PROJECT REPORTS:

PLACE BASED INVESTMENT

Trena Carter, ARa, stated I checked with the State today and the grant agreement was fully executed. As far as I'm aware, you're still looking at after Heritage Days to begin implementing the project. It's my understanding we're doing the kick off for the ground breaking that weekend. Larry Simpson stated we have picked right before the parade to do the ground breaking and do it right in front of the bandstand. We need to confirm that the Lieutenant Governor will be here. We have already received a note from the governor that he cannot attend.

WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS PLANNING GRANT

Trena Carter, ARa, stated it is 50 to 55% complete. The field work is done. Now it is all in the hands of the engineer. Steve Robertson, Strand, stated we did some field work, trying to help narrow down. We know there is more than one leak. We have our finance guy looking at the financial aspect. There are going to be some recommendations as far as rate wise and some other things that the town needs to be aware of, the council has to look at before they can decide going forward. Some of that information goes favorably toward the way that OCRA looks at it. OCRA looks at the rate you are charging and you have to be in a specific range for them to score you favorably. As we get more information, we'll get that over to Trena. There will probably have to be a meeting to discuss that along the way. We're just going to be making recommendations, some thoughts based on our experience. We have a gentlemen who finance is strictly his job for our company. He is looking over information now to make some recommendations. We've met with Paula, Diane and Dave. We are getting the priorities all straightened out. Time wise we are in good shape. Tim asked when was the last time we did a rate study. Jonathan stated it was in 2007. Steve stated you're going to have other expenditures coming up besides what is going to be involved in this grant. We know there's more work than what the grant is going to cover.

We're going to need to paint the water tower. You're going to need to start thinking further ahead on how to get some money built up so you can go do the other work. Trena stated it will be a minimum of seven years before another grant can be applied for. You're looking at sustainability.

HOUSING REHAB

Trena Carter, ARa, stated there were six inspections conducted last week. There are five more scheduled for tomorrow and Wednesday of this week. It takes close to a month to get everything finalized as far as scope of work. It appears that we will have eleven ready to go for scope of work approval by the next meeting on the 18th. Once we get your approval it takes approximately a month to get bids. Your approval we'll allow us to move forward in the process.

OLD BUSINESS

Paula stated I've been told by a couple of town's people that were angry because they were told the council has signed a contract with Rumpke on trash pickup, that their water bills will be increasing because there will be trash pickup on their water bill. I want to let you know this is a rumor. We have signed nothing with anyone. We've been talking about city trash pickup for a long time. Whether we do it or not, we don't know but that is not true at this point.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

COMMUNITY CENTER

Paula read a thank you letter from the Community Center. On behalf of staff and participants of the Community Center Incorporated, we would like to thank you for your generosity for the 4th annual Smoke on the Square competition. Your support and contribution enables the Community Center of Hope to continue our many outreach programs and helps to make a difference in the lives of the children and families in our community. We look forward to working with you again next year. Save the date June 13, 2015. Sincerely, Andrea Wallace.

Chelsea Kendall stated as of June 16th I was named the Executive Director. The council congratulated Chelsea.

ATTORNEY

No report.

POLICE

*A Police Report has been given to the council prior to the meeting to review and kept on file at the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

Matt Tallent stated the only thing I have to add since I sent out the report the other day, out of the twenty-two vehicles that we had tagged as junked or abandoned over half have been fixed or removed already. Tim asked how often are you doing that. Matt answered two times a year. Tim asked how long do they have. Matt answered they have 30 days to fix or remove the vehicles after we tag them. Tim

suggested they be done quarterly. Jonathan agreed. Jonathan stated thank you for the efforts in regard to that already.

ANIMAL CONTROL

*An Animal Control Report has been given to the council prior to the meeting to review and kept on file at the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

Paula stated I sent Diane an email earlier asking when people pay their fines what happens to that money. Does it go into the General Fund or could it go back into animal control. Diane answered it does go into the General Fund. I don't think you can change that but I can call and find out. Tim said can we keep track of how much comes in for animal fines and use that towards budgeting for animal control next year. Diane answered you can budget whatever you feel you want to budget. So you could tie it to that if you wanted to. You can consider that in the budget. Jonathan asked about the ace Jenny has been using. Jenny answered it makes it a lot easier. It disorients them.

TOWN MANAGER

Mel stated overall I will be on the job two weeks tomorrow and the majority of my time has been spent setting up my office, getting the technology and data bases and some standard operating procedures in order and meeting all the wonderful people. I'm overwhelmed with how kind and generous everybody is and have said what can I do to help. Publicly I would have to thank Diane, Karen and Matt, Dave and Chuck because they have all just helped me so much. I'm going in a lot of directions. I'm already talking to Trena about one project. I've been talking to Social Media Marketing people. It's going all directions right now and it's all based again on your very wonderful Comprehensive Plan. I'm just trying to follow the objectives and go down the list. I had a wonderful group meet last Wednesday, Larry and DJ. We just needed to start processing because one of the things throughout the plan and in that first set of objections is about how can we beautify downtown. There are so many simple way with paint and flowers and we've got a very creative group. Local foods is the fastest growing segment in agriculture. It would really benefit this area if we started a Farmer's Market again. I've asked DJ to spearhead that. We learned over in Greensburg, we kind of collaborated with Batesville that if we did ours on Friday night and you do yours on Saturday morning. The vendors change out. It really made a difference. We were hoping that you would approve that we could use the west side of square because that's where you have all your traffic. I was thinking DJ could have the vendors in place at 2:30 and we could put some orange cones behind it and we talked about signs out away from the square. I would really like your approval because I really think Fridays from 3:00 to 6:00 because that's when people are driving by and that's the spot they would pull in. David said I think no later than 6:00. That side of the square is packed. Tim suggested the north half. Mel stated one of my goals is I want us to be collaborating and not duplicating efforts. That is one of the points of DJ handling it. The council agreed. Matt Galbraith added make sure your market manager gets with the Health Department so that any vendor who needs a license can know in advance what they need to do. The Health Department does have a farm market license. They can get a seasonal license.

UTILITIES, STREETS, PARKS

*A Utility Report has been given to the council prior to the meeting to review and kept on file at the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

Paula read a letter from Yellow Trail Museum which reads as follows: Dear Hope Utilities and David Clouse, Thank you for your help with the Old Fashioned Independence Day celebration. It was great knowing you had everything ready that we might need. The evening went extremely well. I didn't hear any complaints. Everyone seemed to be enjoying the excellent weather that evening. I was beginning to think we might never get rid of that crowd. You all do the behind the scenes work and never get credit for making our jobs easy so I want you to know how much we appreciate all you do to make our town the great place it is. I hope we left things looking ok for you. It was a little hard to be sure we had gotten all the trash picked up throughout the square at 11:00 p.m. We may have left some pieces of trash in the grass. If so, we want to apologize. That evening we sold out of the fish at the fish fry. All the other booths did well with their food offerings too. The music was great. The kid's loved the games and contests. We sold over one hundred ice cream floats at the museum. We had eleven apple pies in the pie baking contest, more than double the number from last year. We had a lot more kids in the bike/tricycle parade and everything seemed to go smoothly. It was the most pleasant time for all. Thank you for helping us have a successful evening on the square. We are already looking forward to next year. Thanks, Barb Johnson & Yellow Trail Museum Board.

Streets & Alleys

Jonathan asked were all the alleys sprayed. David confirmed. Paula asked do you have it on your schedule when the potholes are going to be filled. David answered no, not yet. I had 50% of my full time help since February so I've gotten behind on some things.

Parks & Miscellaneous

David stated I sent you all the offer that was made on the bobcat to trade from Miller Equipment. Paula asked I know that the one we have can't be traded out like we've done in the past. This new one is it going to be under the same kind of contract. David answered except for the warranties are still one year. Before it was a two year warranty and whenever we got close to two hundred hours we could swap it in. They changed it to a one year. The biggest increase on this is because of the tier four engine controls and our size is no longer made so we would have to either down a model or up a model. I really can't see going down. This one has a little more lift capacity. Four inches more height and mainly tier four engine. **Jonathan made a motion to go ahead and authorize David to make that transaction. Tim seconded. Motion carries 3/0.**

BUILDING & ZONING

Matt Galbraith stated this month was spent a lot of time in court. We've got a decision in our favor at 624 Walnut Street. The judge has set a deadline with a follow up hearing. We got a client's file that has to go into court a second time at 205 Robbins Street. 168 South Hauser Court, they're complaining that the grass hasn't been mowed yet this year so I'm going to let David look at that. I have another high weed complaint at 205 Market Street and there is some junk hidden in there. There's another one at Meadow Place that just came in the last few days. We'll get those investigated this week. David stated we were out changing meters the other day on Broad Street and a lady asked me about the 444 Seminary property. You said the guy mowing the yard can't do anything about the trees and brush. I'm wondering if our vegie ordinance, if we go in and cut it under that ordinance. Matt answered I don't know. We have an ordinance that says we need to take vegetation down. 444 Seminary Street, I can't remember the name of the company that's been hired by a big national bank that takes care of

repossessed property. All they do is mow the yard. They don't cut trees or anything. I know Cindy has it on her list. The national bank doesn't take care of it. We can't find a specific contact person there. They ignore our letters. Tim stated cut it and put a lien on it. Discussion. Paula asked David if they could do the tree or would they have to hire it out. David answered we can do it. We have to send a letter if you have the address. Matt confirmed.

HOH

Randy Sims stated we are planning the 47th Heritage Days. It is moving along. We hope it's a good year. I think we're getting close to being sold out. Larry Simpson stated food booths, our not for profits, we're maxed out on that space as well. We are hoping to hear back from the Columbus Area Visitor's Center. We sent in a marketing request for \$3,000. We're hoping that will get granted. We're going to work heavily on social this time. We're back on the radio. We did a survey last year. We had one hundred and forty responses. We are hoping to work with the chamber to do a survey where we can get three to five hundred responses. That will be very valuable for them as well as to us to make sure that we're spending the money wisely and reaching maximum crowds through our efforts. Different divisions under HOH are working with other organizations here in town on the upcoming state bicentennial celebration. That's very exciting. Hope has a lot of fame that most people aren't even aware with the Historical Society.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Diane Jakel stated we had thirty-three visitors. Most were in search of things to do in the area. One was a young couple who had just moved here and needed information so it was nice that we were there and had a computer available so they could sign up for their insurance and stuff while they were in town. We had thirty-four calls. They were pretty much Arts and Antiques but the few we did get for Heritage Days which I was invited to their meeting and so we are going to be working together on giving me information so I don't have to tell them to call somebody else. Our next date on the events calendar is going to be the Health Fair at the Hope United Methodist Church on August 9th. That's 11:00 to 2:30. They're going to serve lunch. After that we have the Arts and Antiques Fair on the Square on the 31st. Right now we have thirty-one vendor spaces reserved. We're doing ongoing recruiting. I have given out three applications this week. We are trying to get one more every week. We're working on a direct mailer so that we can utilize the chamber members. They can take advantage of a direct mailing at a smaller cost through the post office. We're working on getting stickers for our members. Basically we're launching our website within the next month which will then be linking to all the organizations in town. Making sure we're working with each other and promoting each other's businesses. David, from the Library, and I are talked and we're going to be promoting some kind of scavenger hunt on Talk Like a Pirate Day which is September 19th. I did go to the Decatur County Bicentennial meeting. It was a really nice meeting. One of the things I was excited about is they have a Barn Quilt Tour and we can actually link up through Decatur County and if we utilize that with our theme, we can get endorsement from the bicentennial committee then we'll actually be linked on their website. One of the key factors for the funding for the visitors money that everybody is trying to get is that a visitor of their radar is fifty miles away. We have to prove that we are bringing people in from more than fifty miles away. That's when it's going to be key for our marketing research. When people are here we're going to be doing survey monkey, we're going to have emails sent out, we going to be taking pictures, we're going to be doing a drawing. We going to get that market data so that when someone needs money next year, we're going

to be able to really focus on what the numbers are that they need. That's key for us to get any funding from them. Diane asked me about a chamber budget. I did inquire about that and Chad said he would get it to me soon. As soon as I get it I will email it to the council. We approved advertising for the Hope Bike Ride, the Arts & Antiques Fair and the Heritage Days that were requested. The board thinks these are the core events that drive the community. We are getting rid of the second phone line in the office which we'll save us forty dollars a month. Mel Fox stated we have to do the Social Media Marketing and we have to have the analytics so we know what we're doing. I was talking to Andrew Duffey today. I even want to have an app for Hope. I told him to put the complete package together. If you look over in Larry's windows when you leave. One of the ideas we talked about, I brought him one of the barn quilt examples. It's only on ply wood. It's less than a hundred dollars. Diane stated I've talked to the Art Guild, they're on board with helping us do it. I've talked to somebody who actually teaches the class to do it. If we can get on that brochure and that website, that's just another way we get recognized. I think it's very colorful and it ties right in to heritage being the focus of what Hope's we are all about. Larry requested Diane Jekel get with him because the Historical Society and HOH has an instructor who's going to do a class on making barn quilts. If you're going from Greensburg to Hope and we're going from Hope to Columbus, we should all work together. Mel and Diane agreed. Paula asked if they have a survey for visitors to fill out. Diane answered that's part of it. We're going to be doing different things for the businesses so when they have events, the chamber can track it; How it impacted the businesses, how did they hear about us, find out what zip codes. We also going to be doing a drawing and get people to give us their zip code and stuff like that. I'm just researching it now. I was told about surveymonkey.com. It's all about just getting all the data we can get. Paula stated the reason I asked is several people, including myself, use the shelter for different things such as family reunion. I'm having one in August. We have people coming from northern Indiana, coming from southern Indiana that asked me to have it here again this year because of Hope. What I'm thinking is if someone reserves the shelter house, can a form be given to them to fill out. Diane said we could put something together and give it to you. Paula said her family loves Strawberry Fields, they love Swiss Maid, they love going to Cornet's and getting ice cream, the park and just the friendliness of the town of Hope. I think their opinions would help. Mel said but again when we do a complete social media strategy, we'll be able to do that with facebook. With the focused data we'll know if we're doing the marketing. Diane stated we want to know where we're advertising. If we're only doing one side, whose doing the other side. We're going to put up a map in there. We're going to do pin marks on who visits. We're also going to do strings that go to this is the Heritage Days people. We're working together. Larry Simpson stated we're actually doing that in the Heritage of Hope Information Center as part of our marketing proposal.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Bruce Neal stated we had seventeen total runs. Six were fire related. Eleven were ambulance related. I don't think we missed any ambulance runs. We were there to take care of everybody that called.

CLERK TREASURER

Diane stated I have a couple of resolutions. The first one is to amend the Edit Fund two year plan. It's resolution number 2014-05. Diane read the resolution which reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2013-05 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 COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCOME TAX 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 CEDIT 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 The Town Council passing Resolution 2010-1 and

WHEREAS, the Town Council adopted Resolution 2013-05 on December 16, 2013 and

WHEREAS, the Town Council now wishes to amend Paragraph 1 of Resolution 2013-05.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana hereby amends Paragraph 1 of Resolution 2013-05 so that it now reads as follows:

1. The Town Council of Hope plans to use the CEDIT 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, the overall improvements of the Quality of Life of the citizens of the Town of Hope, Indiana, and for the years 2014 and 2015 to provide for the salary, equipment and supplies for the Town Manager of the Town of Hope.

APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOPE, INDIANA this 21st day of July 2014.

Tim made a motion to approve resolution number 2014-05. Jonathan seconded. Motion carries 3/0.

Diane stated the next one is for a transfer of funds. Diane read Resolution 2014-06. Transfer of Funds. WHEREAS, it has been determined that more money is needed than is currently available in certain appropriations:

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the following transfers are hereby authorized:

From number 437001001 EDIT Fund Projects \$24,500.00 to 437001111 Town Manager \$22,500.00 and to 437001121 Fica/Medicare \$2,000.00.

Dated this 21st day of July 2014.

Diane stated this is to get the Town Manager's salary in place. **Jonathan made a motion to approve Resolution 2014-06. Tim seconded. Motion carries 3/0.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EDIT COMMITTEE

Tim stated the Edit Committee did meet. We met with Michael Dean from Heritage of Hope. He presented a very good budget. They are requesting \$14,500 to cover the stage, advertisement and entertainment. As the Edit Committee we bring it to you as a proposal to approve. **Motion carries 3/0.**

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Randy Sims asked David before they pave SR 9 what can we do about drain at Clouse's that floods all the time. David answered I'll dig into it and see what I can find. I know the state worked on it. They dug into it in probably 2004. The town has worked on it a couple of times before. I have never tackled it. I will though. Discussion. Randy stated it would be nice to get that fixed before they pave it. David stated it's probably too late if we have to do any digging. As far as I know they are going to be cutting through pretty quick.

Diane Jakel asked in regards to some of the building on the square that are just being used for storage, we would like to see those cleaned up. We want to start bringing in new business and that's really a deterrent. Mel stated right now I have a short term goal based on the plan. We're going to try to do some things before Heritage Days. Just to see a difference. After that, I want to see how that goes, who does what. That collaborating. I have an idea after that about how we move forward. Hopefully before that we can do something. There is a grander scheme I have in mind after we get through that. I just wanted to do something short term with a group and we got a good group working. We'll try to do that. That's a longer picture. At the next meeting I'll have a short term plan of what we've talked about before Heritage Days. Then we'll have something more ongoing and long term for the next year.

Larry Simpson asked for the Historical Society the driveway there was removed, the entrance off of Aiken Street, so either water, utility, some kind of lines could go through there. They restored it to the original condition. But there is all the asphalt and piping that they dug up and dumped in the entrance of that property. Is that the Historical Society or the landlord's job to remove that. That's not how the fire department's contractor found it. Ed Stone stated I believe you will find out that the contractor has talked to Mr. Patten and its being taking care of. Mr. Baker stated nothing was taken care of. Ed clarified it is being taken care of. Paula asked if he knows when it will be done. Ed stated I do not know. He is on vacation this week. Chuck Baker said I was present during that conversation and nothing was resolved. Paula stated I'll follow up with Bruce and get back with you Mr. Baker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paula stated August 4th is our next Working Session. Here at 5:30. The public is more than welcome to attend. We will be discussing some things with the Comprehensive Plan. Our next council meeting is August 18th at 7:00.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

David B...

Attest

Paula P...

Paula P...

Paula P...