

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 August 21, 2018.

A quorum was declared present based on the presence of the following council members: Ohmer Miller (President), Jerry Bragg (Vice-President), Clyde Compton, Ed Johnson 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 Ohmer Miller.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes 5/22

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

Minutes 6/19

Clyde made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 4/0. 1 abstain.

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS

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

OLD BUSINESS:

WATER RATE PHASE II (second reading)

Ed made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-02. Clyde seconded. Ed stated this is not our pleasure to raise this at this time. We are doing it only because Eastern Bartholomew has forced us into it. It's one of those things if you buy it, you have to pay for it. That is what we are doing. **Motion carries 5/0.**

PROJECT UPDATES

WASHINGTON STREET STORM WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Trena Carter stated we have sent out letters requesting Statements of Qualifications from engineering firms on August 7th. The Statements of Qualification are due on Sept 6 no later than noon. The Council needs to determine a Selection Committee to review the Statements of Qualifications and set up interviews. I will assist in setting up interviews but I cannot serve on the Selection Committee. Generally we have the Council President or their designate. I would recommend Utility Superintendent Clouse, Town Manager Doane and Clerk Treasurer Burton. Any of those would be eligible. We will need to hold a public hearing. My recommendation is to hold it at the Council meeting. I ask that you appoint me as the Public Hearing Officer and Environmental Review Officer. That will allow me to go through the environmental steps that we need to go through for that project. If I am designated as the Public Hearing Officer, I will also be able to prepare and publish the minutes. **Nellie made a motion to appoint Trena Carter as the Public Hearing Officer and Environmental Review Officer. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

HOPE MAIN STREET

Trena Carter stated we are still working on getting things delineated. We met with Joe Dodd. Susan will bring an update on that. I did find some things out which I will share with Susan and she will be able to disseminate to you at the next meeting regarding the project local match.

USDA

Trena Carter stated I spoke with Charlene Hale, USDA, last week. She said for Marshal Tallent to go ahead and order the police vehicle. The funds are in place with USDA. It will just be the local payment and grant payment that will pay for the car.

OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING REHAB PROJECT

Trena Carter stated I have two letters for the environmental that need to be sent to Indiana Housing Community Development Authority. They have subcontracted the historic review process to Green Tree. I have two letters for Ohmer to sign. That will begin the environment process for those properties, section 106 which is Historic Preservation process. Once we have those letters sent out, it will be approximately thirty-five to forty-five days to hear back from them. Then we will be bidding these projects out. The work is to be completed by Sept 23rd. We have to update the information as far as the financials every six months if we have not moved forward on construction. Once we have a contract, we are good. We have five homeowners. Two have provided all of the information. We are waiting on some additional information on three of the homeowners. We have asked that we have it by the end of this week.

2017 COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT (CCMG) PROJECT

Tony Akles, Strand Associates, stated basically everything is done. There is a stop sign that needs to be put back in place. Steve Robertson will check on that. There are two pay applications for retainage that need to be paid to O'Mara. I'm asking for approval conditionally once the stop sign is up. Ed voiced concern at Liberty Place where they have patched. Water is standing. Clyde voiced concern with patching on Hauser Drive. Clyde stated it looks awful. Tony will talk to Steve on these matters. Ohmer asked if there is a bond in place for warranty purposes. Tony confirmed. Tony will check to be sure. **Ed made a motion to table the retainage. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

GOSHEN MEADOWS SANITARY PROJECT

JT Doane stated the smoke test did take place. If you recall that is a project that I shared at the State of Town Address that needed to be done this year or have it earmarked to be done. We did the flow meter test shortly after the first of the year. That came back with excellent analysis that the project wasn't near as extensive. They did the smoke test on July 20th. They have about another half day of work to do to complete the testing. They are waiting for some dry weather for a period of time. The test should indicate to us where the issue is. Nellie asked for the results so far. Tony answered we have not found laterals like we thought we would. There is a couple of little manholes that flood when the creek is up. JT stated once that date is set we will get notices out with the new date as well to let the residents know. I will also notify our police and fire.

GRASS CLIPPINGS (CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 10: WEED CONTROL)

JT Doane stated if you see someone getting grass clippings out on the road, let me know. We have an Ordinance 2016-16 that states grass is not to be left in the road. It is a safety concern and it can go into the storm sewer and cause issues for our utilities. We initially give out warnings with a copy of the ordinance. It makes everything look cleaner. Ed mentioned the house on Walnut Street that has tall grass. JT answered that is set to be mowed. Nellie asked about the Robbins Street home. JT confirmed it will be mowed with the next mow date. Ohmer asked if we have looked at bringing in restitution workers for mowing. David answered no.

GARBAGE AND RUBBISH UPDATES (CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 15; GARBAGE AND RUBBISH)

JT Doane gave updates on the Garbage and Rubbish Red Tag Ordinance. We have two that Town Attorney Andrews has sent a letter to. JT stated I am working with one of those residents to give them some additional time to make some effort to get it cleaned up. The other of which is currently in a foreclosure status. If you see a home that meets that ordinance, let me know. I will personally look at the property.

BRUSH INITIATIVE

JT Doane stated the brush Initiative has been very well received. JT shared photos that were taken of the brush out at the lagoons. JT stated we have had about thirty homes that have been taken care of in the last three weeks. A lot of which I have personally gone out. David, Jeremy and Zach have helped as well. I have heard positive feedback from residents. I have reached out to the county about getting a work crew to come up and help with this effort as well. If you know of anyone that has brush, give me a call.

WASHINGTON STREET STORM UTILITY PROJECT

JT Doane stated we will be submitting for a grant for the storm utility portion this fall. We should hear in January if it is awarded. This is another infrastructure project that I shared at the State of the Town Address. This is a project that has been on the Town's agenda for quite some time.

PAULA A POLLITT MEMORIAL ANIMAL SHELTER FUND (FUND NO. 301)

JT Doane reminded everyone that there is an animal shelter fund set up for donations. Fund #301 was set up shortly after the animal shelter opened in January 2017. JT suggested letting animal lovers no about the fund. JT stated we had someone come by from Columbus a couple of weeks ago that knew Paula very well to make a donation to the animal shelter fund. JT reviewed the uses of the donations. Nellie asked if the animal shelter is supporting itself. Diane answered no. It is a budgeted item.

HOPE ELEMENTARY BACKPACK / SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

JT Doane stated we've had a lot of great activity going on in our community of efforts to help our students and our schools. JT gave an update on the backpack/school supply drive. The Night Owls Country Band that played at our last Farmer's Market In August approached me about doing a backpack/school supply drive at our Farmer's Market. JT showed pictures of the items being taken to the school. JT stated I appreciate the Night Owls Country Band wanting to do that and obviously the community embraces that to help out. The items were given to the Principal to be distributed at the Principal's discretion.

2018 COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT (CCMG)

JT Doane stated for the 2018 Community Crossing Matching Grants, these are grants that I will be submitting within the next month. I met with the Utility Superintendent Clouse and Clerk Treasurer Burton to go through these roads to see what roads we potentially want to focus on for this next round. This comes from House Bill 1001. In 2016 and 2017 both of our grants were awarded. So far we have been able to take advantage of over \$268,000 in grant funding to go towards road being paved. We have paved over 40% of our roads. Strand updated our Asset Management Plan. Based on the Asset Management Plan the following road are recommended to be paved:

DESIGNATION	FROM	TO	RATING	TREATMENT USED	ESTIMATED MILES	ESTIMATED COSTS
JACKSON	MAIN	HARRISON	4	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.07	\$55,815
WASHINGTON	MAIN	HARRISON	4	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.07	\$55,815
WASHINGTON	HARRISON	COMMUNITY CENTER	4	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.16	\$33,836
MILL	RACE	VINE	4	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.07	\$8,540
HIGH	AIKEN	UNION	4	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.19	\$22,224
LOCUST	RACE	MAIN	4	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.14	\$14,024
HARRISON	JACKSON	WASHINGTON	4	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.05	\$55,031
BROOKSIDE	SCHAEFER	SCHAEFER	5	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.16	\$24,995
CROSS	HARRISON	BRADLEY	5	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.15	\$18,711
WASHINGTON	WALNUT	AIKEN	5	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.42	\$66,411.00
ROBBINS	JACKSON	SOUTH	5	MILL AND OVERLAY	0.39	\$65,712
					TOTAL	\$421,114

Nellie questioned the rate difference on Mill Street from Race to Vine versus the cost of Jackson and Washington which looks like the same number of miles. Tony answered probably ramps. David added the width of the streets. Tony will check on it. Clyde questioned the paving of Washington with the storm sewer project. Trena answered they will be coordinated for the storm drainage to be completed and then the paving if both grants are awarded. The timing will be crucial. Tony added you can put in specs that the street cannot be paved until the storm sewer is finished. JT stated the total for the paving to complete the 4s and the 5s that were listed is \$421,114 for paving. The way that grant is set up is for a 75/25 match, that will put the Town's match at \$105,278.50. This amount breaks down as follows: MVH \$30,278.50, CCI \$25,000, CCD \$30,000, Edit \$20,000. **Clyde made a motion to approve the list of roads recommended and move forward with the grant application. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

EDIT REQUESTS

Clyde Compton presented the following Edit Requests:

Randy Sims, HOH, requested funds for Hope Heritage Days. The amount of the request is \$15,000. The request is for entertainment, sound and fireworks. Last year they asked for \$20,000. The vote was 4/0 with one abstain. **Motion carries 5/0.**

David Webster, HSJ Online, requested funds for website hosting, articles, Facebook boosts and CDs. The amount of the request is \$3,497. The vote was 4/1. **Motion carries 5/0.**

Jessica Barrett, Hope Volunteer Fire Department, requested funds for Hope Heritage Days Booth Space, Food and Supplies. The amount of the request is \$3,150. Clyde stated after a much spirited conversation, the Edit Committee did pass it 3/2 dropping the booth space. Clyde stated I think this is totally wrong. Heritage Days has been going on now for fifty-two years. All nonprofit have paid their booth space. They have bought their own supplies. We as a town do not supply them every single dime to run a booth space at Heritage Days. This to me is a slap in the face to all those years of people paying it. You are opening a Pandora's Box. I am definitely voting no. Ohmer stated I'm also on the Edit Committee and I didn't feel like it was a viable request for Edit funds based on the fact that it is a for profit. They look to make about \$10,000 on this group. I think this group has the resources that they can provide for this themselves. I was also not in favor of this. **Motion declined 1/4.**

MAIN STREET OF HOPE UPDATES

Susan Thayer Fye stated I would like to remind everyone that Hope clean-up day is September 15 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. I want to thank Matt and Tabatha Tallent for working on that. They County is providing a recycling trailer. I will be doing a press release on that in about a week. Susan gave an overview of the OCRA project for any new residents attending the meeting. Susan plans to apply for grant funding in the spring. Susan stated the Main Street Committee received funding from the Haw Creek Flatrock Endowment for historic plaques on buildings throughout the historic district in Hope. We are going three tours with either a brochure and phone app. A plaque will be put on every building whether it is historic or not if it is on the square. Susan asked permission from the Council to put a plaque on the Town Hall, the Shelter house, the Pump House, the Bandstand and where the Rural Mail Carriers Museum used to be. Susan stated we want all of the plaques to look alike. We have a total of around sixty-five buildings in the historic district which will be split into three different tours. Photos were shown of the potential plaques. The committee is leaning towards the oval plaque. There was discussion on where to put the marker for the Rural Carriers Museum should go. Randy Sims suggested incorporating it into the shelter house and reminded the Council that it needs to be climate controlled. No decision was made. **Clyde made a motion to put plaques on the buildings requested. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Ohmer requested that the Council be able to have some input on where the plaque was placed for the Rural Carriers Museum. Susan stated the building façade program that got voted in earlier this year, it got voted in late this season. I have had interest from three people but no applications. Some people might have been interested if the process had been different. Clyde asked about the status of the Opportunity Zone Application that Susan presented back in March. Susan answered that we were denied. Trena added they were several around the state applied and several were denied. They could only select so many. Clyde stated it mentions lower income which fits Hope. Can we apply again? Trena answered it was a one-time opportunity.

NEW BUSINESS:

HOPE RIDE

Paul Ashbrook requested use of the park for the Hope Ride. He showed their poster for this year. Paul stated this is the 31st year for Hope Ride. I have had a very good relationship working with the town on this in supporting our causes. The Hope Ride is registered as a nonprofit. Paul listed some of the organizations that the Hope Ride supports. Paul explained that the organizations that receive the funds work at the event. Paul stated you would wonder why people come from seven states away for this ride. It's because of the people. It's because of the hospitality and our beautiful scenery. Paul stated we have

food, snacks, rest stops, lunch on the square, blues band and it ends with root beer floats. I just want to say thanks. Nellie stated I think it is fantastic how everybody comes together. You see all kinds of people out there working. I love seeing our Town doing that. Jerry added you do a wonderful job. **Nellie motion for use of the park. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Applause was given for Paul. Ed stated you have personally carried it on your back. You have been blessed with it.

HOPE HERITAGE DAYS

Randy Sims, Heritage of Hope President of the Festival and Bandstand Division, requested use of the park. Randy stated Heritage Days is in thirty-seven days. Randy requested certain streets to be closed. A schedule was given to the Council. Randy asked for approval for fireworks, a petting zoo, pony rides and an open fire for a vendor. Randy also asked to move the restrooms next to the Golden Nugget building. **Clyde made a motion to approve the request. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Ohmer reminded Randy to provide a certificate of insurance.

431 UNION STREET

Randy Sims stated last Monday night the Plan Commission met about a replat of lot 10, 11 and part of 12 on Union Street. Mr. Cave wants to build a new house there. He is requesting to take away lot lines. The Plan Commission approved 4/0 to send a favorable recommendation to the Council. **Clyde made a motion to approve the replat. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

SURPLUS 1999 TRUCK

David Clouse stated we received our 2019 Ford truck. I would like to ask that the 1999 truck and the 2003 snow plow be declared as surplus. We should receive the snow plow any day. We will advertise and receive sealed bids. **Ed made a motion to declare the truck and snow plow as surplus. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

2019 BUDGET REVIEW

Diane Burton stated it is time for our 2019 budget planning process. Tonight I just mainly wanted to get all of this information to you. Diane reviewed the information in the folders they were given. Diane stated the first tab in your folder is for Form 1 which is the detailed breakdown of the recommended budget amount for each appropriation. Form 2 lists the miscellaneous revenue. Form 3 you do not have yet because that is the Notice to Taxpayers. That is the advertisement which will be included in September and needs to be posted ten days prior to the public hearing. Form 4 is the Budget Adoption. That will be an ordinance which will be in October. Form 4A is the summary of the categories from Form 1. This shows you how much of the budget for each of the funds is for Personal Services, which is salaries and benefits, Supplies, Services and Charges and Capital Outlay. The last tab is Form 4B which kind of gives you the whole picture. It rolls together the revenue and the expenses and includes the last part of this part of this year and all of next year. So it really shows you where that fund is at.

Tonight I would like to highlight some of the recommended changes. I didn't do a lot of changes. A large portion of it is paving which you have already approved earlier in the meeting. Before I do that I want to let you know some important dates. Everything is scheduled with the regular council meetings. Our Public Hearing will at 5:30 on September 18. Our Budget Adoption will be at 5:30 on October 16. The Budget Adoption does have to be in by the first of November. That gives us a little bit of time so if we

have some changes that we want to make, we could call a special meeting if you choose to do that. Diane reviewed the recommended changes for each of the funds which mainly consisted of room to allow increases in salaries, paving and set aside the funds for a new town hall which was approved earlier in the year. The increase for the General Fund is 3.5%. I am requesting the maximum levy. This will increase our annual revenue about \$10,000.

METER INSTALLATION AGREEMENT

Diane Burton stated the Meter Installation Agreement is between the Town of Hope and Andrew & Katie Bruner for a sewer tap in the amount of \$750. **Clyde made a motion to approve the Meter Installation Agreement. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

POLICE RADIOS

Matt Tallent stated back two years ago Bartholomew County and the state of Indiana went through and upgraded all their radio systems to P25 system. Back twelve years ago when we originally bought all of our radios, five of the radios that we purchased were not able to be upgraded to the P25 system. The reason I am bringing this forward now is because Kenwood is now starting a company to sell 800 mhz radios and they are willing to buy our radios back from us that don't work with the P25 system. The two quotes are as follows: OCI for five Motorola radios, mics and a charger in the amount of \$21,234.56. Kenwood for five Viking radios, mics and charger in the amount of \$6,820 after \$400 trade in. Matt requested approval to purchase five Viking radios, mics and chargers from the Public Safety Fund to upgrade the five radios that are no longer in service. There was discussion on the radios and the warranty. **Nellie made motion to approve the purchase of five Viking radios, mics and chargers. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Matt Tallent requested to form a Police Citizen Oversight Committee. Matt stated a Police Oversight Committee can benefit not only the complainants of written complaints but also the larger community, the police departments and even elected or appointed officials. Matt went over some of the benefits of a Police Oversight Committee. Matt stated I know several Law Enforcement Agencies do have Citizen Oversight Committees. I am asking for a three person committee; One Town Council Member, one citizen appointed by the Town Council and one citizen appointed by myself. What I would like to see the oversight committee do is review written complaints, review any use of force actions officers have to take and assist with adding or rewriting standard operating procedures for the police department. There was clarification that this will just be for the Police Department. Clyde asked what kind of power the committee will have. There was discussion on the process. Matt stated the committee will give a recommendation to the Council and I. **Ed made a motion to form a Police Community Oversight Committee. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Ohmer asked Nellie if she would like to be on committee. Nellie accepted.

POLICE VEHICLE

Matt asked for permission to move forward with the purchase of the police car. Matt stated we have the funding from the grant. I just want to confirm the purchase of a 2018 Ford Police Interceptor. **Ed made a motion to move forward with the purchase. Clyde seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

SUPERIOR LAYOUT

JT Doane stated I am pleased to announce that we are welcoming a new business to Hope at the Industrial Park. Beside Rusach, you will see Superior Layout in the very near future. It is a maintenance and fabrication business. They were formerly in Indianapolis. They will now call Hope their home for their business. They do anticipate some new job opportunities next year.

TOWN REPORT

JT Doane shared the excitement of the new truck that has been purchased for the Utility Department. They have not had a new truck since 2005.

JT reviewed his Town Report as follows:

- Hope Wellness Pharmacy: Further discussion in terms of NP Clinic and Home visit option;
- INDOT Community Crossing Matching Grant (CCMG): further analysis in terms of 2018 CCMG grants; plan presented to Town Council at August Town Council meeting;
- Accepted invitation to serve on panel and presentation for the Fall October Accelerate Indiana Municipalities Ideas Summit!!!!
- IMMA Meeting Scheduled for July 27; in attendance via conference call;
- Shared in excitement with Utilities Superintendent Clouse and went for ride in new utility truck!!! Provided picture of same to Town Council;
- Business Meeting: July 25th with M-Hart Express; provide contact information and willingness to assist with business outreach effort;
- Washington Street Storm Utility Project: submit grant in Fall of 2018; project for spring 2019; provided ARA Administrator carter with listing of engineering firms from Town Council;
- Meeting and formal announcement: Superior Layout your total source for Maintenance & Fabrication; previously located in Indianapolis; business coming to Industrial Park; meeting on July 23rd; follow up meeting on July 28th with Utilities Superintendent Clouse and owner to discuss utilities and driveway questions; further detail as building is completed; anticipated job opportunities for 2019;
- Grass letters: 41 letters sent to date;
- Garbage and Junk Red Tag Ordinance: additional homes red tagged; discussion with resident regarding Wintworth's home that received red tag on Schaefer; upon personal visit to property requested red tag notice; visit with Mr. Baxter; follow up call from with Mr. Baxter regarding property and requesting additional week for clean up; additional property on meadow place with Town Attorney Andrews;
- WCSI radio show: next radio show Thursday, September 6, 8:30 am; attended August 2nd radio show to discuss August Farmer's Market, town projects; also attended by Mrs. Carol Ashbrook to discuss hope ride;
- Goshen Meadow Sanitary Project: Smoke Test set for Friday, July 20th completed; additional ½ day needed for analysis; plan to complete next dry portion for most accurate reading;
- Follow-up and discussion made with ARA regarding homes to receive work from the homeowner occupied rehab grant; will meet and discuss with residents once work completed;
- Attended August County Council Meeting to request any effort/assistance from County towards school resource officer;

- Received notification from Hauser High School of students for 2018/2019 Student Enrichment Committee;
- Attendance, presentation & organization efforts at August Farmer's Market; assist with vendor set up and tear down
- Visit to property for prospective Red Tag Violation on Schafer and Elm street;
- Discussions with resident regarding property and Brush Initiative;
- Per invitation attended Miller's Merry manor ceremony to announce renovation at Facility on July 20th; received tour; spoke of outreach effort;
- Meeting with Utilities Superintendent Clouse and Clerk Treasurer Burton to discuss amendment to include employee on call pay during holiday week; further detail for July Town Council Meeting;
- Per request of Clerk Treasurer Burton, attended exit interview for SBOA audit; also in attendance Council President Miller and Council Member Meek;
- Town Manager Doane initiated plan and into action for alumni and others soccer game vs. Hauser Jets; funds raised to purchase class of 2018 commemorative tree selected by student enrichment committee; approval from Hauser High School and hope elementary of same; Town Manager Doane also competed in game; School Board President Walters and former Council Member Titus assisted with announcements, commentating and scoreboard for game;
- Class of 2018 commemorative tree picked up on Wednesday, August 1st !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!; Utilities Department planted;
- Attended budget review meeting with department of Local Government Finance on August 3rd;
- Brush detail: to date approximately 30 homes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Town Manager Doane personally and in some instances given size of brush pile assistance from utilities; effort well received; received words of excitement and gratitude, as well as a couple cards received at town hall!!!!!! Town Manager Doane also completed trimming for a resident, Ms. Biggs whom had weeds growing where the brush pile was located!!!!!!!!!!!! Received an extended gratitude from many residents, specifically Ms. Law and Ms. Hedrick;
- Per request of Mrs. Budd and Mrs. Long, discussion outreach efforts/assistance with SFH; meeting with Mrs. Stephanie Long and Mrs. Whitney Budd; arranged radio date for July 19th; in attendance for SFH Root Beer float on July 22nd;

STUDENTS FUND OF HOPE

JT stated as you recall the Students Fund of Hope was created by Whitney Bud and Stephanie Long. They had a Root Beer Float event here in town on the 22nd. It was very well received. They raised I believe around \$6,000. JT asked on behalf of the Students Fund of Hope for the use of the park on September 14 at 8:00 p.m. on the Hope square to show a movie. The screen will be in front of the bandstand. This event will go toward their cause, the Students Fund of Hope. I will be sure they are aware of the need of a Certificate of Insurance. **Nellie made a motion to approve movie night on the square. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Ed questioned a new manufactured home. JT confirmed. JT stated there was another resident that came in. Right now we have two new homes on Jackson Street. We have Mr. Cave's home going up on Union. We had an individual come by and submitted her plans to Greg Potts. This particular home will be on a

foundation. He did research it to make sure it did comply with the ordinance. That will be four new roof tops for the Town of Hope.

Chelsea Warner stated as of Monday we are now officially a State licensed facility all across the board. Applause.

JT gave an update on the tornado siren. JT stated I had a call a few weeks ago from the county. They do a test and it comes up on a report. The Hope siren was not coming up on the report. I called a company that works on that. They came out and serviced it. It had been struck by lightning. It is going through insurance. They sent me the invoice for it this week which is about \$16,000 for replacement parts and labor. Matt stated the proto call in the event we have a tornado warning or watch. Matt stated Fire and police are going to go out street to street running our sirens and making announcements over the PA that we are under either a watch or warning.

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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pastor Ed Cottrell stated I have spent the last forty-three years of my life in fire and EMS and that includes driving the Riley truck for Riley hospital. I have seen some things that you do not want to see. I have heard from several aspects throughout the Town that Hauser has received funding to take care of a Resource Officer at that facility and that officer could in times when the school is not in session be utilized here in the Town of Hope. I have heard this has been forwarded to the County for approval. I am wondering why we did not think about doing that and why it was not brought forward to even be considered. Nellie stated on my part I feel like the County has a lot more resources and they have a larger pull. It won't be just anyone like a reserve. It will be someone who is trained. Pastor Ed asked about the budget. Ed stated if I understand correctly it will be some but minimal. I thought we could utilize that individual here in the Town of Hope since Hauser is a part of Hope, Indiana. I wondered why we wouldn't consider that. Clyde stated I was totally against the county doing it from the get go. I think Hope children should be protected by Hope police. Pastor Ed talked about fires and protecting our children. Pastor Ed stated with the way things are going right now in our Nation, to have a Resource Officer that would be a part of this town would say something to Hauser that we are here to protect you kids and by not considering it tells kids we don't care about you and the kids need us. Nellie stated I don't believe that to be the case. Pastor Ed replied I said that's the message that might be perceived. Nellie stated we are part of the County. We are Bartholomew County. If we had the Resource Officer here, when they are not at the school, we would be responsible for paying them. Nellie brought up a past conversation the Council had about Town liability if a Hope Police Officer uniform is worn. Clyde stated that was not a unanimous consensus. Ed Johnson stated this is a Flat Rock Haw Creek Township School. Hope is a part of Flat Rock Haw Creek Township. It is nothing against Matt or the Town police staff. They do have resources that we don't have. Ed voiced concern about staffing and the lack of backup if something happens to that Resource Officer. Clyde disagreed. Clyde stated our police officers are just as equipped as any of the County police are. Clyde voiced concern about the distance of the resources being fourteen miles away. If something happens out here, what's those resources going to

do. How many people can get killed with an automatic rifle in the time it takes for those resources get out here. There was discussion on the training a Reserve Officer receives. Reserve Officer's do not have to go through police academy. All other training is the same. Pastor Ed added they have to meet State minimums. Ohmer stated the County is looking at four locations; Rock Creek, Taylorsville, Mount Healthy and Hauser. Based on that, there will be four officers. There will be a group of officers to draw from. Matt stated they are only asking for two. Ohmer replied I realize they are only asking for two right now but that is going to develop into four. There was discussion on coverage for the schools.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



Attest

