

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 public hearing at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 5:30 p.m. on September 19, 2016.

CDBG PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

Trena Carter stated the town is applying for community development block grant funds through the Indiana Office of Community of Rural Affairs. The project is a downtown revitalization planning study. A part of the application is we have to hold two opportunities for public comment. We are applying for \$40,000 to conduct the study. A firm has been procured. Now we just need to complete the application. We anticipate the application to be submitted on September 30th or shortly thereafter. Trena opened the meeting for public comments. Brittany Young, Executive Director for Main Street of Hope, stated I just want to highlight some specific things that Main Street has been doing to improve the main street focus area and specifically the Hope town square. The mission statement of the Main Street of Hope is as follows: Main Street of Hope is a community organization dedicated to the revitalization of the Hope town square through historic preservation and beautification, promoting local businesses while attracting new businesses, creating housing opportunities and becoming a destination for tourism. Areas I would like to highlight on and I guess brag about a little bit is on our board of directors who volunteer their time and work with Main Street. Some of the things we have been working on is our addition of social media. Main Street of Hope is on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We are assessable to people over the internet. Social Media is a great way to inform and to include locals as well as encourage visitors to come and check us out. On Facebook alone we have over five hundred people who are constantly seeing what we post and by their shares it is going out to everyone on the internet which is a great way to utilize that. One specific focus that we have on our page is to promote and support local businesses. We started a promotion called a hashtag featured Friday where we would promote one business every Friday. We also share important events and things concerning the square. We applied to have Wi-Fi in the park through CCI. We believe in allowing locals to enjoy the beauty of the park and giving them internet access while working on things for work or homework. This will draw people to the Hope town square. Something that we have as an umbrella under Main Street is our Farmer's Market of Hope. This has been a huge focus for us these past few months. We decided to really vamp it up this year and try some new things. In addition to our vendors, we had live bands, we had a car cruise in. For our last one we definitely had an excellent turnout. It was the best of our entire season. Not only a record setting number of vendors, it was attended by many local people here in Hope and we had a lot people that were even from outside of our town and outside of our county. This is just one of the ways that we're working to make Hope an area for tourism. Hopefully people will want to spend their Friday nights with us at the Farmer's Market. So while we are still fairly new to the Indiana Main Street program, there are many things that we have planned for the future to revitalize and beautify Hope. Some ideas that have been tossed around are; potential restoration of façade for storefronts, new streetscapes such as sidewalks, reworking the street parking to calm traffic. There have been many great ideas tossed around, like I said, by those who simply volunteer their time, those who are on our board of directors. They are hoping to assist in the process of developing Hope so as a program that would benefit greatly from this downtown revitalization grant, we would have a lot of opportunities to do some pretty cool stuff and we are really looking forward to the future of what the Hope town square can really bring. Trena explained the description of the Main Street downtown area of focus would be

basically the square and a half block or a block off depending on the alley way and street way. Trena opened it up to public comment. Clyde asked for confirmation that it has to be turned in by the end of this month. Trena clarified it is a rolling cycle application. If we don't get it in by September 30, then it's Oct 31, Nov 30th, December 31st. The goal is to try to pull everything together, the application itself, into the Office of Community and Rural Affairs. If we are not able to get it done by then, we would move to the October 31st date. Trena stated the second public hearing will be after the plan is completed. The second public hearing will not be potentially until a year from now.

The public hearing adjourned at 5:38.

Be it remembered that the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana held a public hearing at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 5:45 p.m. on September 19, 2016.

2017 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Diane Burton stated this is our 2017 budget public hearing. Last month the council did receive from me Form 1. That stated the expenses that I am proposing. There are a couple changes to that I want to first go over. Local Roads and Streets Fund was decreased \$17,900 due to a project that we did this year that I had budgeted to use the funds next year so it was reduced for the paving of Schaefer Drive. I also increased the travel appropriation in the General Fund \$500. I changed that appropriation to read travel and meals to allow JT to use that appropriation for potential businesses or other economic development related situations to be able to treat them to lunch. We could also make that appropriation from EDIT if you prefer but I did just implement it into the General with a little bit of increase for that. The council agreed to keep it with the General Fund. Diane also asked if the council is also in agreement to use that appropriation for the purpose in 2016. Right now that appropriation has \$500 in it and none of it has been spent. The council agreed. Diane stated the only other change was adding in the property tax cap impact to our General Fund and our CCD. The General Fund is \$7,357 and the CCD is \$504 are the estimated property tax cap impacts. You did get a red folder from me that has the whole budget process basically. Form 1, as I just mentioned, is the budget expenses, Form 2 is the estimated revenue, Form 3 is the notice to taxpayers which has already went out, Form 4 will be blank because that will be our actual adoption ordinance which will be next month, Form 4A is just a recap of the categories so it breaks it down to Personal Services, Supplies, Services and charges, Capital Outlay and Property Tax Cap if applicable, the Form 4B is the budget estimate. It kind of takes everything and pulls it all together. It's going to show the expenditures for the rest of this year as well as all of next year and if applicable the tax impact. Sometimes Form 4B will show a negative operating balance. That is because there are times where we will budget to use funds this year and if I feel we are not going to use them this year, then I will also budget to use them next year. I would like to purpose the following budget estimates for the funds: Rainy Day \$29,450, General Fund \$557,116, Local Road and Streets \$65,835, Motor Vehicle Highway \$157,200, Cumulative Capital Improvements \$63,500, Cumulative Capital Development \$69,872, Economic Development Income Tax \$249,300, Riverboat \$35,000. Diane asked if there were any questions from the public or council. Ohmer asked how we get our Riverboat money. Diane stated I believe Shelbyville. Jonathan added primarily. We get a little bit of the other too. It's based on distance. It's a stream of revenue that is already in place. Diane stated our budget adoption meeting will be October 17th.

The public hearing adjourned at 5:53.

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 5:53 p.m. on September 19, 2016.

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

The prayer was given by Jonathan Titus.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes 7/18/16

Greg made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Jonathan seconded. Motion carries 4/0. 1 Abstain.

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS

Diane stated there is a correction to the claims. Last month the paving that Robertson did for Hauser Drive and Schaefer was all paid from Local Roads and Streets. After talking to David about Hauser Drive being part of the Storm Water project, we felt it was better to pay that out of Storm Water and save the money in Local Roads and Streets for future paving. You will see in the claims a check payable to Local Roads and Streets for \$25,000 which will be transferred from Storm Water.

Jonathan made a motion for the approval of the claims. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.

Diane stated I have a claim for Strand to be paid from our SRF loan. It is for July service. The total amount is \$23,853.03. Of that, contract administration is \$7,539.00 and Professional Personnel is \$16,314.03. **Greg made a motion to approve the Strand claim. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

OLD BUSINESS:

PROJECT UPDATES

Town Hall

Trena Carter stated we have now entered into a contract at the last meeting. A majority of you have received a questionnaire that has been sent to you from RQAW. If you can get those questionnaires completed and submitted back to Ms. Meza. I believe that Mr. Doane asked for extension of time for an additional week. They are due the 26th. This will help the people that are completing the study to determine need, what the space needs are, etc.

Main Street Downtown Revitalization Plan

Trena stated I do have an action item that I am going to present, Resolution No. 2016-06. This is a resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Hope Indiana authorizing the submittal of a CDBG Planning Grant Application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs and addressing related matters. This resolution allows the Town Council President of the Town of Hope to prepare and basically

submit an application. It will allow him to sign the application documents as well as committing the requisite \$5,100 in the form of cash from the Town of Hope EDIT fund. I have two copies for action. **Jonathan made a motion that we approve Resolution 2016-06. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Hope Volunteer Fire Department

Trena stated the Hope Volunteer Fire Department has a big announcement. Chad Emmitt stated last year with Trena's help we applied through FEMA two applications for the Assistant Fire Fighter Grant. The first application was for fifteen or sixteen SCBAs. We were turned down for that grant. The second application was for a vehicle acquisition for a fire engine. We have been awarded that grant. Trena stated congratulations! Applause. Trena added we are going to be working together to go back in to apply for personal protective equipment as well.

COPS Grant

Matt Tallent stated he has not heard anything on the police grant. Trena added the application was resubmitted in August.

Ohmer asked the fire department when they will be in the new building. Chad stated to contact Randy Wood. He was unsure.

WATER PROJECT UPDATE

Steve Robertson, Strand Associates, stated the water project is probably 85 to 90% complete. There are still some items. There is some work out at the 600 North connection. We are waiting for a valve. Eastern Bartholomew has some work to do out there before we can get back on it. The town is being supplied adequately through the Miller's Merry Manor connection. They are in the process of doing restoration work. There are two areas asphalt wise. One on Washington Street and one area on Walnut Street that the paving crew will be coming back to do some repair work on because it was not acceptable. It will probably end of October before the parts will come in for 600 North but they are still within their time frame of original contract.

Ryan Mackos stated the pay application that was approved last month, it turns out that there was an error on the application that we caught before submitting it to the funding agencies. Since the error on the application was actually higher, we spoke with Cindy and decided we needed to bring it back to the council with the new amount. The amount that was approved initially was \$100,007.40. The actual amount that is owed is \$107,000.40, a difference of \$6,993.00. It is work that they have completed. The math was just wrong on the cover sheet. **Greg made motion to approve the amount of \$107,000.40. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Ray Mackos stated pay application #7 was for the work that was completed in August. The amount due is \$335,650.20. **Jonathan made motion to approve pay application #7. Greg seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

SEWER LINING PROJECT

Ryan Mackos stated we received the contract documents from Insituform, fully executed. They were given to Clyde and Diane prior to the meeting. We are going to be having a preconstruction meeting for

the project later on this week. They have gotten us a preliminary schedule at this point. Looks like they start showing up on sight in early October. Clyde stated that came in considerably lower than estimated too, didn't it. Ryan confirmed. Ryan stated with the alternative it's approximately \$111,000 versus \$140,000.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (03C01-1405-PL-2222)

Cindy Boll stated our next agenda item is concerning a settlement agreement for a cause number that is listed on your agenda. I am happy to report we have reached settlement on this matter. The claim has been approved in the claims that you had this evening. What I'm here asking for tonight is a motion specifically authorizing the settle and also authorizing Mr. Compton to take any action that might be necessary whether it be by signature or some other thing that might come up to affect that settlement. **Ohmer made a motion to authorize the settlement and authorize Clyde Compton to take any needed action on the settlement. Jonathan seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

154 ELM STREET

Cindy Boll stated I'm glad to report that on October 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. we are going to be accepting bids on 154 Elm Street. The legal notice had to be published twice. Since this is relatively a new thing for the town to do, I'm going to come out at least at the tail end of that time and see what is going on. I just want to keep you in the loop on that. Greg asked for additional information on the process. Cindy answered it will not be sealed but it will be public record. We will ask it to be in writing and signed. Clyde added we had two realtors give us estimates on the property. We took the highest one of those and divided it. That is what we are seeking. We can turn down any bids that we want to. Greg questioned the financial verification process. There was more discussion on the process. JT clarified if we reach a bid that is acceptable, before we would actually officially for the record say we have sold the property we would obviously make sure that the funding is available. Then we would make the determination if we want to open up perhaps for additional bidding or move to the process where we potentially list the property. Ohmer asked if there is a down payment. Cindy answered no. The estimates that were given by the realtors were basically around \$5,000. Another alternative kind of a counter situation; if we don't receive a bid of at least 90% of that and we have to publish again, to take a lower amount than that. The government doesn't make it easy. JT stated he wanted to thank Cindy for all her work and professionalism.

ABANDON VEHICLE ORDINANCE (2nd Reading)

JT Doane stated at our last town council meeting I presented an abandoned vehicle ordinance amendment. After going through that ordinance, there were some areas that we could make more clear and concise. It came to you for first reading at the last council meeting. It is my recommendation that we proceed forward with that amended ordinance. **Jonathan made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-11. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

INDOT COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT

JT Doane stated we submitted two grants back on July 29th of 2016. In the month of August we received notification Indiana Department of Transportation that both grants that we submitted were accepted. Indiana Department of Transportation came here and presented us with a certificate. On September 12th our honorable Clerk Treasurer Burton and I attended an IDOT Meeting in Seymour where they

provided information on formalities going forward with this process. We will be proceeding forward with the process to get quotes on paving for the two applications that we submitted. As a summary, our award was for \$57,332. This is a Community Crossing Matching Grant. JT shared all the roads that will be paved as part of this project. JT stated I will also note again as noted at the August Town Council Meeting, in 2017 this grant will be available in addition to 2018. They did provide us an update on when to at least anticipate possible funding being available and the application process opening. It should be around this time next year. Clyde asked if the letters have been sent out yet to get quotes. JT answered no, not yet. We have a list of preferred contacts to do the paving. Because of the amount, we are able to quote this. Therefore, we will send out letters to these, get a quote and then obviously we will present that before the council before we make any types of decisions. Jonathan questioned who provided the list of preferred contacts. JT answered the list was provided by David Clouse, Utility Superintendent. I've also had conversation with Strand and will be as well to engage any thoughts from them on moving forward. Greg asked if the plans are to get this started this fall. JT answered the way the grant application is set up given the fact that INDOT understood that this process opened so late in the year, there is a potential that this could be done early next year as well. On our application we had a target date to start as early as November of 2016 with an end date of June of 2017.

HOPE SIGNS

JT Doane stated I just want to make a public comment and gratitude on behalf of the town to Randy Paetzel and his family. They agreed to maintain our Hope sign on the south town entrance. It looks absolutely incredible. They were able to get this done in a short timeframe prior to the events we have in September. I want to give a special thanks to Randy Paetzel and his family for all their work and efforts. I also want to give a public thanks and appreciation to Jonna Shephard, who is with us this evening, for her work in getting the Hope sign on the north side cleaned up for us. Barry Anderson and Linda Cleland who have looked at ways to enhance that sign with some mums.

NEW BUSINESS:

PAULA POLLITT ANIMAL SHELTER

JT Doane stated I am very pleased to announce tonight that during the last several months predating my arrival and within the last couple of months, we've worked very diligently to research and look at what direction we want to proceed with the new animal shelter. Paula Pollitt was a long time public servant for us and in addition to that she was also was an advent animal lover. With that I am presenting this to the council that we officially name the new animal shelter "The Town of Hope Paula Pollitt Animal Shelter". The second portion we looked at different structures and different ways we could devise a structure that will allow for the pets that we retrieve. We had a few different locations. I actually sought three bids of this so we can get an idea of pricing and what we were looking at so we could have further discussion on that. Another possibility was that we leave it where it currently is which is at our utilities office. The best option which I am recommending and I feel is the ideal option for us is our old well house on Jackson Street just pass the bridge. The building itself is obsolete to us. The purpose it once served, it is no longer being used for that. It is currently a building that there to which it has water, it has electric, it has a drain already built in. With some cosmetic changes to make it an animal shelter, that will definitely be our best option. JT pointed out that this building has not been used for quite some time and we have been investing in this building. JT recommended to the council that we proceed forward on

that. JT has not received the exact figures to make these changes. JT requested the council to approve an amount not to exceed the lowest amount that we received when we bided to put it out at the lagoons. That amount was \$24,195. We will be looking at a considerable amount less. JT stated I am making two recommendations. One is that we proceed forward with a motion and your blessing to name the animal shelter "The Town of Hope Paula Pollitt Animal Shelter" and the second recommendation will be that we proceed forward with the recommendation to look at the old well house as our location and that we do not exceed the \$24,195. We would also like to set up a Paula Pollitt Animal Shelter fund. We will have to go through a procedure for that which we will present at your October Town Council Meeting. This will be to accept donations that will go towards the shelter or supplies. Annessa Thayer asked if she can ask a question. Clyde answered let him finish first. JT stated with that being said again with the two recommendations; one that we proceed forward with "The Town of Hope Paula Pollitt Animal Shelter" and two that we proceed forward with the old well house and with the understanding of not to exceed \$24,195. **Ohmer made a motion to approve both recommendations. Jonathan seconded.** Annessa asked am I not allowed to ask a question before you take a vote. Clyde answered no. **Motion carries 5/0.**

AMEND CIVIL DEFENSE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

JT Doane stated honorable council members before you is article 4 of Civil Defense Emergency Preparedness Ordinance 2016-12. This is an amendment to this ordinance. The way the ordinance read before was in case of an emergency here in the community that our town council president would be contacted to make the determination whether we declare an emergency and proceed forward with the appropriate measures and procedures. The amendment before you has an additional contact. It still has the Town Council President as the first point of contact. In the circumstance that they would not be able to be reached, that I, as your Town Manager, would be the contact to make that determination obviously along with discussion of other town officials. It's my recommendation with the importance of this ordinance that we potentially proceed forward with going ahead and signing this amendment just in case we would have an emergency within the next month. **Jonathan made a motion to suspend the rules on first reading on Ordinance 2016-12. Greg seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Jonathan made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-12. Greg seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

PETS - ANNESSA THAYER

Annessa Thayer stated I think it's great that you guys are building an animal shelter but it's sad that it got pushed because I posted a video of animal control doing abuse. It got 5,000 hits. That's what pushed the issue. You guys wouldn't take that question before you voted. Animal control posted on their website, I'm not saying we don't have an issue of an overabundance of animals, but the way Hope Animal Control and Hope Police Department is handling it is out of control. Four years ago when Jenny Real did animal control, we had a trap and release program. I took one hundred twenty-seven cats with my own money, trapped them, released them, ear tipped them, found most of them homes. I have four cats that are feral. They trapped them, I caught them, I paid to get them back. Animal Control has on their website that they trap them, that they keep them in the kennel, and they take them to the shelter which is not what they do. They dump them at farms. Annessa showed a picture of a cat that animal control caught on June 9th and found it a home on June 11th which is a violation of Bartholomew County code. I talked to Sheriff Matt Myers. He says it's also theft because according to Bartholomew County code we have to keep it for five days before it can be claimed. She dumped it two days later or found it a

home. That is theft. She also did Brandy Brown's cat like that. Unfortunately Brandy couldn't be here because her daughter is sick. So when she takes these cats to farms and adopts them which I hear you have all the adoption paperwork, she is violating all the licensing codes which must be provided with adequate food and water and shelter. She is not giving them the rabies vaccinations. She is not verifying that they are fixed or vaccinated. I'm just fed up. Everyone is. I'm just mad now. She stole my dog. I filed a complaint. She uses the vehicle for personal usage. I filed a complaint to JT. He didn't do anything. I filed a complaint to Matt. He didn't do anything. So I am bringing it to you guys. To get them out of Hope, she is violating how many Bartholomew County ordinances. Multiple ones. Jonathan stated that's a pretty serious charge, Annessa, claiming that she has stolen. Annessa stated I'm just telling you I took the information to Matt Myer and he is the one that told me it was theft on two cases. I had a meeting with him last week. It shows right there on the papers that she posted on Facebook. Caught a cat on June 9th and we adopted the cat on June 11th. I printed it off where she posted it. I printed off the Bartholomew County ordinance. A cat of unknown ownership has to be kept for five days for someone to claim it. She did not keep it for five days. Brandy Brown's cat, she dumped within twenty-four hours. Brandy Brown called animal control when she got off work and according to Brandy said animal control told her that she went back out to the farm and she couldn't catch it and that there was nothing she could do. She wouldn't give the location because it would jeopardize the other cats. Brandy is open to be interviewed but her daughter is sick. There is a company, alleycats.org, when you relocate cats, you are supposed to confine them for two to four weeks before you dump them. I'm sorry, she uses the term adopts them out. Chris Thayer used to be a farm that they used and his only consent was sure bring them out the coyotes will eat them. He never signed a consent. Natalie Wilson dumped cats there all the time. He never signed anything to have cats dumped there and they dumped cats there all the time. I even talked to him last night. They have not taken cats there for a year and a half. They started bringing skunks there. I asked him to come. I asked him if I can send someone out to interview you. He said sure. Send them out. The coyotes will eat them too. The day after animal control stole my dog, I came in here and they were having an emergency animal control meeting. Ms. Boll I am sorry to throw you under the bus but when you started talking I recognized your voice because I have it under recording. Matt was talking about putting animal control on salary. She said no 70% desks hours to be salary. She said in quotes, I have it on recording, "god forbid you don't tell anybody she works twenty hours a week because that only averages out to two something an hour". Is that correct Ms. Boll. There was no reply. She drives the personal vehicle to the school every day. Takes her bus route. Drives the animal control vehicle back home. I've been to probably twenty-five farms knocking on people's doors asking them is animal control dropping cats here. No. Okay I'll go to another. I got tip that she was at Estes so I went to Estes. Why was animal control here? Gary said she was here because she had an issue with Rex. I asked who is Rex. She had an issue with Rex, his son, on the bus. Why is Animal Control's van here for an issue with the bus? Well she is a bus driver. That's when I found out she is a bus driver. I'm not paying for gas for your other job. Clyde asked if it has been five minutes. Annessa stated Diane went over. Clyde answered she is a public official. Annessa asked just because you don't want to hear what I have to say. Clyde answered I've heard it and I've heard it enough. You keep going over the same subject over and over. She's driving the van. Okay. So what. Now finish up and sit down. Annessa stated I stand here all night if I want. Clyde answered no you won't. I will have you taken out of here. Annessa answered I don't have to sit down. I will stand here the rest of the night. Diane requested copies of the documents that were passed around.

CLARK TRUCK EQUIPMENT (Utilities)

David Clouse requested approval to purchase a Tailgate Salt Spreader and a Reese Style Hitch for the 2008 Ford truck. The salt spreader quote is for \$1,643 to be paid out of the Local Roads & Streets Fund. The hitch quote is \$580 to be paid out of the Waste Water Fund. **Greg made a motion to approve the quote. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Jonathan asked if there is a time table for that. David replied just before it snows.

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD

JT Doane stated before you is information I submitted that I received from Hope Community Church. They weren't aware they had a water leak going on for a period of time. Therefore, when they were able to find the water leak and have it fixed, obviously their water bill had reached a substantial amount, \$2982.52. They contacted the utility office and the sewer portion was removed which left a balance of \$1,974.38. Their insurance did step in and paid a certain amount to go toward this loss to which the church received some funding for that. They also had expenses of paying for South Central and Ross Construction to come out to fix the problem. We did some analysis based on the amount of gallons they used during this time and what the town would have invested directly from our budget, the water we purchase from Eastern Bartholomew, towards that. It was substantially less than that amount. I spoke with members of the church and indicated to them that I would present this to you, the council, this evening and make a recommendation that we do look to potentially assist the church in some way. The council discussed our cost and previous similar situations and how they were handled. The council agreed on the need to be consistent. The council discussed coming up with an ordinance with some guidelines to make consistent decisions in the future. **Jonathan made a motion that we authorize David and Debbie to work with the church on a fair solution over a reasonable time table. Greg seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Jonathan made of motion that we authorize JT, David and Clyde to consider looking at future potential water leak problems to be prepared and perhaps set up a threshold amount based on the size of customer. Greg seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

HOPE STUDENT ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

JT Doane stated we need to engage our youth more. Our youth are a valuable resource to our community. We need to have our youth more engaged and involve in our local government affairs. Also to engage some insightful perspective from their youthful eyes and their youthful minds. It also gives them something to be very proud of, that they can embrace their community more and the community embraces them and embraces their thoughts. I met with our dean of students and presented this idea to them. She was planning on being here this evening but she had something come up today with her family. Her presence here was to say she is completely endorsing this and very diligently helping to piece this together. When I went to her and presented this idea, just as I articulated, she immediately went and talked with other teachers and got select students that they felt would be more beneficial to this committee. I went out to the school on September 14th and was pleasantly surprised to have about ten students in the auditorium. I met with them and discussed what this committee will be about in addition to gaining and embracing thoughts they have from their youthful eyes, for them to be a part and to know what is going on in our town. I want them to be more involved and more engaged in our community. Ideally they will be the future of Hope down the road. Ideally we want them to go off to college or go off to their profession as the case may be and we want them to come back to our community and raise their families here and carry on that tradition. I feel very strongly that by engaging

them, we will accomplish this. After my presentation, they all signed up. We are going to meet once a month out at the school. It consists of sophomores, juniors and seniors. The seniors that are a part of it, I'm going to engage them about something they would like to leave in the community for the class of 2017, or 18, or 19 going forward. This is something I very much see as long term. I think it is very vital to our community. The members are: Pete Trotter, Connor Wilson, Taylor Henderson, Ali Hoover, Gwen Shoaf, Dietrich Smith, Dylan Smith, Kortney Wallace, Annie Ashbrook and Hailey Lange. It is my recommendation to you to allow this committee to proceed forward and by way of motion that you will approve for the committee to be formed. **Jonathan made motion to approve the committee. Ohmer seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

JT went through some highlights of his report. JT stated I spoke about the two grants. I spoke about the meeting of 2017. At our last town council meeting I spoke about the OSSl Cad system to which we were working diligently to be included in that. I am very pleased to announce on August 22nd that agreement was signed. I was at a Commissioner's Meeting on August 22nd. We also received a very public appreciation and gratitude from Commissioner Larry Kleinhenz. He was very appreciative that I reached out and set up the working session that we had to discuss this CAD system. He was very pleased that it was going forth. That the town of Hope, that our Town Marshal's office will be included on that system. The Hope Chamber was a group that was kind of reaching a point of dissolve. I stepped in and approached some of the current members and indicated to them that I did not want to see it dissolve. I feel it is something that is very vital for the community. We need to have a plan. We need to generate the membership we have. We need to reach out to new members. So I am very fortunate and pleased to announce that the Hope Chamber will be proceeding forward. With that energy and that approach at a meeting I was unable to attend, I was nominated as president of the chamber. At a subsequent meeting when that was presented to me I deemed it an honor and privilege so I accepted that nomination. Our Vice-President will be Jake Miller. Our Treasurer will be Tracy Wallace, Ohmer Miller will be serving with us. JT also asked for a couple student representatives to be on the board. Hailey Lange volunteered to be the senior representative. He has requested a junior representative as well. The junior will then move up as the senior representative the following year. JT stated we celebrated with Brenda Tallent for 30 years of service to the town. You will see that celebration on social media. We got her a plaque, a dozen roses and graciously showed our appreciation thanking her for her years of service. Like Mrs. Carter, I too want to applaud our fire department for seeking out that grant and all their work and efforts toward that and receiving that. I will note that on October 6th, that first Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m. I will be present at the WCSl 1010 for our regular monthly radio show for Hope. I want to applaud our fire department and our law enforcement for the event they put on September 9th in remembering 9-11. I was able to attend that. They gave a lecture on fire safety and a lecture on gun safety. The children had an opportunity to see their vehicles and speak with them. For the Community Clean-Up I applaud our Executive Director, Brittany Young and Mrs. Tabatha Tallent for all their efforts on Community Clean-Up Day. Over 80 vehicles came through the utilities office. We had about three dumpsters filled and sixty-one tires collected. I would like to acknowledge David Clouse. JT asked everyone to look at the screen where a photo of David Clouse was displayed receiving an award. David was selected as the IWEA Collections System Professional of the Year. David was nominated from Strand and Associates. JT read the nomination letter which was followed by applause. Cake was served after the meeting to celebrate David's award.

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

JoEllen Seright stated I think you did a lousy job with the Thayer girl. I think you need to look into it. She had lots of good information. I think you blew her off. I didn't like that. Especially when you told her shut up and sit down. That is not your place. Clyde replied I run this meeting and her time was up. I'm not arguing about what she said or anything else. JoEllen stated that's not the way you sounded. Clyde replied I appreciate your comment. JoEllen stated I think you need to think about what she said and she had proof and you guys blew her off. That's ridiculous.

Chad Emmitt stated on behalf of the fire department I want to thank the Town Manager, JT Doane, for helping Saturday with the pancake breakfast for the Hope Ride.

Ed Johnson stated I would like to comment about JT. Everyplace I have been lately, this man shows up. The other thing I would like for you to know, the Public Service 9-11 day, JT was there. I was there with the fire departments. Saturday at our Fish Fry at Hartsville I had two little kids walk up and say I saw you at the daycare. I don't know whether I'm that ugly or that good looking. It's kind of nice to have that recognition.

Bill Lentz, Bartholomew County Council, stated I don't have a prepared statement. I would like to update you on what is going on with the council now. The bottom line with all of our discussions is we did three things; we balanced the budget, we gave all the employees a 2% raise and we did not raise taxes. In fact the property taxes will go down a little bit. There is a lot of conversation in the paper about adding the LOIT tax, the new Public Safety Tax. Basically what we got right now, we are a CAGIT County. If you remember 1% of you pay in your income taxes are deducted from your check goes to the CAGIT part of it. Then in 2008 we adopted the EDIT. The name of it is going to change next year. That is 2.5%. The proposal was to add another 2.5% for the Public Safety in the county which really goes to everything. They just call it public safety. We decided not to do that because that would hurt the tax payers too much. We made the budget work without that. Hope would have got a little bit from that but it would have been smaller than what you are getting from the EDIT. EDIT is based on population so that helped the cities and towns. The City of Columbus would have got about 70% of the public safety. We just didn't feel that was viable. There are a lot of avenues out there like short term bonds versus raising taxes. The last point I was going to share. The Legislature created what they call a LIT tax so there is no EDIT not CEDIT no CAGIT. It's all thrown together at 1.25% of your income. What we want to do for years going forward, we would change that percentage of that LIT tax and not add additional taxes. You won't be getting money called EDIT or CEDIT but you will still be getting the same money. The county council now has to appropriate it to all the cities and towns what percent goes to Economic Development, what percent goes to public safety. I just wanted to share that information. That is the short version.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Jackie Burd

Attest

Clyde Campbell

Paula B. B. B.
Paula B. B. B.
Paula B. B. B.