

Minutes and proceedings of the meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana.

Be it remembered that the Town Council of the Town of Hope, Indiana held a called meeting at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 5:30 p.m. on July 9, 2019.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT APPLICATION

Steve Robertson, Strand, stated the Governor announced another round of the Community Crossing Matching Grant. The applications are due by August 2nd. Hope still falls in the 75/25% category. Your evaluations are still good from the 2018 project. I emailed you that list. The first section of the list is from the second part of the 2018 application that was not approved. An application needs to be completed. You have to have an ITap account. Steve is unsure of how long it takes to complete the application. Engineering fees are not allowed to be a part of the application. Steve stated if the Council would want to move forward with this, Strand would be willing to be hired on an hourly basis to fill out the application and to see that it gets submitted. The Council needs to decide which streets. Between the water line project and the other Community Crossings we have taken care of all the streets rated as ones, twos, threes and fours. Now we are down to the fives and sixes. The Town has made great strides. Ohmer stated we need to take advantage of this some way or another. David Clouse asked how much match do we have available. Diane answered I spoke with Steve this afternoon and what we talked about was completing all the fives. We have already budgeted for the \$175,830, our portion is \$43,957.25, this year. That is the application that was not approved. That was budgeted to come from CCD \$30,000 and Edit \$13,957.25. If we add the rest of the fives, that would be an additional \$61,359. Our portion of that is about \$15,000. I know that is definitely doable. We can increase the CCD portion \$5,000, take \$10,000 from MVH and take the engineering fees from Local Roads & Streets which Steve estimated to be around \$5,000. Steve clarified that does not include observation once it goes to construction. That is just getting it through the bidding process. If the project is under \$150,000, you can quote it. You don't have to go through the bidding process. Steve cautioned the Council that numbers on the list were put together two years ago. There could be a possibility that this estimated cost may have gone up a percent or two. If we are selected to do this work, the figures will be updated. Nellie asked for David's opinion on the roads. There was discussion on the streets. Diane asked Steve if he recommends splitting it into two applications like we have in the past. Steve answered from what we have been told if you do one big application, you are rolling the dice. It's all or nothing. There was discussion on whether or not to do two applications and how to split them up. Diane suggested dropping Robbins down to make the applications more even. Steve stated I don't believe there are any sidewalks on these streets. If there are, we have to bring them up to ADA standards. David corrected that there are a few sidewalks. Steve reviewed the ADA requirements. Ohmer asked what the additional

cost will be for the curb ramps. Steve stated he would need to look at them. He estimated somewhere between \$1,000 to \$2,000 per sidewalk. There was discussion on the sidewalks. David questioned the rating of Aiken Street. Steve will follow up on the Aiken Street rating and have it reevaluated. Nellie asked for the cost in filling out the application for Hope. Steve estimated \$1,000 or less. It's an hourly charge. The Council decided to drop Robbins down to the next grouping to make the applications more even. Aiken Street may be added depending on the rating. **Jerry made a motion to allow Strand to assist Ohmer with the two applications divided as discussed with the cost not to exceed \$2,000. Nellie seconded.** Steve stated the general agreement can cover this contract to assist Ohmer. I will email everyone the results on Aiken Street to see if it needs to be added. It was a consensus to not add it if it is rated above a 5. Steve will also communicate on amounts of curb ramps and the costs. The application deadline August 2nd. **Motion carries 5/0.**

STORM WATER PROJECT

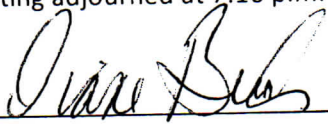
Clyde stated I have another issue with the email that I received. The issue was with an email that Ohmer responded to on July 3rd. The rest of the Council did not receive it until two days later. Clyde questioned Ohmer giving Steve permission to proceed with additional costs. Clyde stated if you did, that is against the law. You do not have the right to spend tax payer's money by yourself. It states in the State Statute that if you okay a claim before it is ran by the members of the governmental board and voted on as a majority, the fiscal officer can be immediately deleted from his office. I'm not saying this doesn't need to happen. Then at the end Steve says can I authorize for the work to be done. We had this same discussion last year. If I recall, he Okayed \$25,000 that we didn't know anything about. We said then you can't do that. You cannot spend tax payer's money. We have not got one thing from Strand on both projects on how their proceeding. We need to do it by the law. One of the days we are going to get burnt. David asked what the contingency amount is on this project. Steve answered the Town allocated \$295,000 including engineering. Twenty percent is the industry standard as far as cost overruns. David questioned if this would then be covered since that contract was voted on by the Council. Clyde stated no. Every contract change of work order has to be approved. Nellie asked what the process is for State projects. Steve explained the process. Steve stated you have to look at when do you need an answer on this. Sometimes you don't have time to wait. Also, by contract, the contractor is allowed to ask for an extension and or damages if the lack of an answer in a timely fashion causes him delay. I will do whatever the majority of the Council votes. I will text each one of you but you have to understand he is already getting a little weary. If you remember at last month's Council Meeting I gave all of you a heads up that when you dig underground, you don't know what you are going to find. We have another problem that came up today. When you opened the bids, Tony Akles told you don't get in a hurry to spend that money because there is a good chance you are going to go over that amount. I did discuss this with David to make sure these are necessary. Steve explained the issue that amounts to \$4500. Steve also explained the problem they ran into today on the last structure on the west side by Norman's Funeral Home. Steve stated there is a pay item in the contract for water main relocation. We anticipated that the water main on the west side would be in conflict. What we didn't anticipate is that it is a special kind of pipe. It takes a Specialty Contractor to cut out a section of that pipe. The cost is looking to be somewhere around \$12,000 in addition to relocating. Ohmer asked whenever we shut those guys down while we are waiting to make a decision, what does it cost for delaying help. Steve answered \$800 to \$1,000 an hour. Steve stated I have been working for Strand for 28 years. This is the first time that I have ever had to go and get permission ahead of time to spend money that has to be spent. David confirmed


it has to happen. David stated we have done at least ten projects since I've been here, thirteen years, we have never had to have a meeting to okay things that have to be done. On the day to day basis he has always acted upon the best interest of the Town. That is why they have him here. Clyde stated I'm not arguing the fact that this has to be done. I'm not arguing about the \$4500 or even the \$12,000. Clyde voiced frustration that not all of the Council Members are being communicated to. Steve recommended giving him permission tonight with a limit including David's approval. Nellie requested Steve to text the Council to keep everyone informed. Jerry stated we have hired them because we trust their work. I have to trust his judgement. I trust David. He does an awesome job. If he says yes this has to be. Yes this is what we need. I would set a limit. The amount was discussed. **Clyde made a motion for a total of \$25,000 allowance including what has already happened after discussion with David.** Ohmer stated we all have one common goal that our infrastructure is in good shape. Clyde stated the communication has to be there. Steve stated that is only giving me \$2,000. If my estimate is more than seven thousand I will tell them wait. I have to get the Council's approval. I need a little more leeway. Steve requested \$25,000. **Jerry seconded.** Nellie feels we should allow \$30,000. That will get us through this project. **Motion denied 2/3. Nellie made a motion for a total of \$30,000 allowance including discussion with David and Council Communication. Ed seconded. Motion carries 3/2.** Jerry stressed the need of communication on what is being done. Steve confirmed. Steve discussed his commitment to this Town. Steve shared he has donated over forty hours of his own time this year to projects in this Town.

ROOFING

Ed Johnson shared a quote he has received in the amount of \$97,400 from SCR. This quote includes removing all the decking and roof and hauling it off. He will put down three quarters inch decking. He is going to put on ice and water shield. These shingles are coated, metal shingles. He will install six inch gutter. Clyde stated Amish Roofers have completed 742 Main Street. He suggested the Council look at their work. Clyde stated they said they went with a less costly galvanized metal. They are willing to come to a meeting. The quote from Amish Roofers is \$34,872.00. It has a forty year warranty. Color was discussed. Jerry stressed it needs to have ice weather shield underneath. There was discussion on what the quote needs to cover. Ed stated he will ask if SCR if they want a chance to bid it with these changes so it is a comparable quote. Clyde stated apparently there is a sister company over in Bloomington that all they do is concrete. They are interested in bidding all this sidewalk. Ohmer stressed concern of damage if we have a one or two inch sidewalks and vehicles drive across it. We are going to have to make people who use the square responsible for any damage to those sidewalks. There was discussion on contracts. Diane stated I think vendors for Hope Heritage days have to sign one. There was discussion on the terrace seating.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.



Attest


William E Johnson
Nellie Mae
Oliver Smith