

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 3:50 p.m. on October 14, 2020.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT 2019-2020 PROJECT UPDATE

Steve Robertson stated the 2019-2020 Community Crossing Matching Grant completion date is October 30th. There were some concerns about the intersection of North Brookside Drive and Schaefer. O'Mara came out last weekend. David and Ed were present. I don't think anything can be done under that project. There is a small area that holds water. I'm recommending that you give O'Mara permission to ask for release of retainage and close that project out. We've come up with a way to add a couple of drainage inlets on Schaefer Drive with the Community Crossing grant. That will take care of the water in that area. INDOT now allows you to do small draining along with the Community Crossings if you need to get rid of the water. Steve explained the process. Ed added in the center of intersection is the lowest point. We suggested putting a drain there. Go straight across, pick up the other low spot and put a drain there. **Ed made a motion to accept the O'Mara 2019 project and pay retainage. Nellie seconded.** Clyde stated I think we are giving in to O'Mara again. If this was a problem, it should have been a part of bid originally. Steve explained that part of the problem is that the streets were not constructed at the same time which makes it more difficult. David added I don't think they were responsible for the problem. This has been a problem long before I came here. David explained the problem. David stated I think when Schaefer is done, you need to take 80 to 100 feet of Brookside to try to get some flow and add in the center to fix it. Steve voiced concern about how far back we go to keep estimates under \$150,000. **Motion carries 4/1.** Steve stated they will have to submit a release of retainage letter. It will be approximately \$13,000.

COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT 2020-2021 APPLICATION

Steve Robertson stated we put together cost estimates for the three projects: Aiken Street from Jackson to South Street, Schaefer Drive from just east of Brookside to south of Brookside and Hauser Drive. Schaefer did go up about \$12,000. Steve explained the changes. The three projects together come in at \$145,178.00. The Town's portion will commit \$36,294.50 to do all three projects. Steve asked the Council if they wanted to submit all three streets together or each street separately. Our recommendation is Aiken Street priority one, Schaefer two and Hauser three. Steve stated I did ask a paving contractor about 775 East. Their recommendation was that it just needs crack sealed. I would not waste Community Crossings money on crack sealing because it is a very minimal cost. It would also put you over the \$150,000. Ohmer asked the cost to crack seal 775 East. Steve stated we did not calculate it.

Ohmer asked David's opinion. David stated eventually all of the roads that we have been paving will need that to preserve them. Diane asked how much are we saving by staying under the \$150,000. Steve answered in our fees \$19,000 to \$20,000 in savings. The Council gets to select the contractor. It doesn't have to be advertised and it doesn't have to be the lowest quote. **Clyde made a motion to prioritize the projects as recommended. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Steve clarified there is not a charge from Strand until awarded the Community Crossings Grant. Steve stated I need a motion for the financial commitment letter for your 25% and how it gets funded. Diane stated I recommend \$30,000 to come from MVH Restricted and the remainder from Stormwater. If Stormwater is not allowed, I recommend EDIT. **Ohmer made a motion to fund the match as recommended. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Steve Robertson stated INDOT now requires that you do an Asset Management Plan every year. It is due by December 1st. The cost of the plan is \$4,100. This will be for if you want to look for money in 2021. There was Council discussion on the need for additional paving. Steve clarified this would be for any State funding not just INDOT. **Ohmer made a motion to move forward with the update of the Asset management Plan. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Steve reminded the Council that they are allowing minor drainage work. There was Council discussion on drainage issues.

Clyde asked David about putting inlets on his street. David explained that wouldn't work on his street. Clyde asked if the residents who are affected gave permission to go on the driveway to give it the needed pitch, would that work. There was a discussion on a solution. Steve stated the only thing you could do there is shoot grade from where the inlet is. Typically, a street has 2% fall. You would have to see how high you would have to raise that up. You could also look at the possibility of putting in a drain. I do not believe it would qualify for a Community Crossing because it was just paved five years ago. They would question why you are wanting to pave it again.

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT

Matt Tallent stated I wanted to approach you tonight to hear your thoughts on trick or treating so that we can go ahead and get it announced. There is no other community around us that is limiting trick or treating. My recommendation is to go ahead and have trick or treating on the 31st. Matt shared a post that he is recommending to give guidance on trick or treating this year. Clyde suggested adding to not go up to houses that do not have lights on. Matt confirmed. Clyde stated the Goodies, Goblins and Ghost Stories has been canceled. To me it's very, very sad. I think David Miller has brought that program up to where it was absolutely tremendous. Number one, I don't want that event to be forgotten. The other thing I would like to do this year, we have allocated \$1300 for that canceled event. In the past the Fire Department and Police Department have funded treats themselves. **Clyde made a motion to allocate \$350 to Fire Department and \$350 to the Police Department to buy treats for the kids to hand out. If there are any treats left, distribute them to the food bank.** Jerry first asked for Council decision on having trick or treat. It was a consensus of the Council to allow the activity from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **Nellie seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Jerry stated we need a contract for people to sign when using the shelter house. We need a deposit to ensure they haul off their own trash. This is something for the Council to consider.

Nellie questioned when the Council plans to open the park? David suggested keeping it closed because of mud. Matt asked for better signage stating no bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades etc. The Council agreed. **Ed made a motion to keep it closed until further notice to allow the grass to grow. Nellie seconded. Motion carries 4/1.**

Jerry suggested the Council look into replacing the picnic tables and the benches that are located in the shelter house. Jerry stated I am waiting to get quotes requested to present to the Council.

Clyde questioned what to do with the horse troughs that currently sit on the art pads. That still hasn't been decided. Ed recommended placing flower boxes on the art pads and expressed concern about the exposed conduit. Steve suggested getting flower boxes to match the current flower boxes. The Council voiced dislike of the new flower boxes. David suggested a small picnic table. There was more discussion on what to do with the troughs. Steve suggested waiting until spring. Clyde asked about the gravel area. David stated we'll have to wait for the ARA grant closing.

Matt requested more no tress passing signs since the park is going to remain closed. I can buy a pack of twelve for \$24. The Council agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.



Attest







