

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 March 16, 2021.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes 2/2/2021

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

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS

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

OLD BUSINESS:

CCMG 2020-2021 QUOTES & AWARD

Steve Robertson stated we sent information to four contractors and we received four quotes back. David Clouse and Scott Andrews has reviewed the quotes. Everything but insurance is in place. Insurance is not purchased until the contract is awarded. The next step is for you to select a contractor. **Clyde made a motion to contract with Robertson Paving. John seconded.** Scott stated for the record Robertson Paving is the lowest bid. **Motion carries 5/0.** Steve stated the next two steps are one; for the Council to authorize Jerry to sign the contract when it comes back from the contractor. The contractor has until April 1st to sign and the Council has until April 8th to get it to INDOT. **Ed made a motion to authorize Jerry to sign the contract. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Steve stated the second step is you have to issue the notice to proceed. The reason I want a separate motion for this is because we have to wait to get the insurance information. You can approve Jerry to authorize the notice to proceed. **Clyde made a motion to allow Jerry to authorize the notice to proceed. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Steve stated we will be in touch with Robertson Paving tomorrow and get things going. They have 150 days to complete the project. David and I will work with them to make sure of what areas get patched.

STRANDS TECHNICAL SERVICE AGREEMENT – AMENDMENT #2

Steve Robertson stated we have an amendment to Strand's Technical Service Agreement. It is extending our agreement from four years to six years, for an additional two years. Steve clarified this does not lock the Town of Hope into anything. It doesn't cost you any money. It could save you a little money. If you select us for future projects, less paperwork has to be completed. **Clyde made a motion to extend the service agreement for two years. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Steve stated RC Electric plans to be here tomorrow to replace bulbs and relays so the lights can go back to working as designed. Seeding was done to fill in some holes. David was able to use some of that as well. David has the extra signs and brackets. The park project as far as actual work should be completed tomorrow.

2021 BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Jerry Bragg stated all positions are now filled. Since the Plan Commission cannot have three Council members, Shawn Lang has agreed to be on that board and will replace John Walstad. Teresa Turner has been added to the Police Oversight Committee. **Ed made a motion to approve the list of appointments as presented. John seconded.** Clyde stated it still reads in our ordinance that it has to be three Town government officials on the Plan Commission. We need to change that wording in the ordinance. Scott Andrews asked if the Council wants to specify how many Council members. Jerry questioned if the Building and Zoning Administrator is considered a government official. Scott will look at the state requirement. **Motion carries 5/0.**

AMEND GARBAGE AND RUBBISH ORDINANCE 2021-01 (2nd Reading)

Scott Andrews stated this is the second reading of the ordinance that was brought before Council at the last meeting. We amended it to allow recoupment of attorney fees and cost. **Clyde made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-01. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

SHELTER HOUSE / PARK GUIDELINES

Tabled until next month.

PARK BENCHES

Jerry Bragg stated we have thirteen benches. Jessica presented sixteen historic facts last month. David suggested adding "the Surprising Little Town". Clyde agreed and suggested also listing that it was founded in 1830. Clyde questioned the need of "1942 Cedar Grove Dairy produces Grad A milk and obtains a contract from Atterbury during WWII". Ed suggested excluding "2015 Hope designated a Main Street Community". Steve suggested combining the sports State championships. **Clyde made a motion to accept all the changes discussed. John seconded.** Jessica stated you will need to check the sports dates with the school. One of them is not correct. **Motion carries 5/0.** Steve Robertson checked the dates. The boys' basketball is 2006. The girls' softball is 2015.

HOPE FOOD BANK

John Walstad provided a handout to the Council showing the number of homes served and the number of individuals served each month. The chart shows from June of 2020 to present. John shared how the number of households and number of individuals have increased due to COVID. John stated the number should go down as people get their shots. John recommended giving the Food Bank \$500 in the month of April. John stated they do a fantastic job down there. Clyde stated I totally agree on the job that they do. They need an applause. I can see his point on this situation. Clyde added the Hope Food Bank serves two townships. I do want John to continue to check with them every month. I do not want anyone to go hungry in this Town. **Clyde made a motion to approve the \$500 donation for the month of April. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

NEW BUSINESS:

PARK REQUEST – SMOKE ON THE SQUARE

Chelsea Warriner stated the board has asked me to find out what the plan will be for square use. **Clyde made a motion to open the park on April 1st.** Diane asked David if the benches will be done by then. David said there is twenty-six sharp objects out there right now. David also shared concern with the grass. Everything that was sowed has not germinated yet. David shared that process. Chelsea stated our plan then will be to have Smoke on the Square May 15th but not use the full square. We would like to shut down the inside of the square like we have done before. We will still have our teams come and do a competition. They can safely socially distance. We will do a drive-thru on the west side of the square so we would like to close off the west side of the square. We may set a date for the end of summer depending on when the square can be used. **No second. Motion dies.** Ohmer stated I concur with David. We have a large capital investment on the square. We need to let the grass grow and do what it needs to do. **Ed made a motion to approve the park request. John seconded.** Ohmer asked if it will be broken down for amateurs and professionals. Chelsea stated it's anyone that is willing to compete. It's a backyard competition so it's backyard competitors. It could mean that they compete in a lot of backyard competitions. There are not any professionals that I'm aware of. Clyde added anything the Community Center does for profit, 25% of the profit goes to the food bank. **Motion carries 5/0.** John shared that Smoke on the Square is in the Festival Guide which is cheap advertisement.

SCADA COMPUTER QUOTE

David Clouse presented a quote for Supervisory Control on Data Acquisition. David stated the Town invested \$8,000 on this in the year of 2000. This is an upgrade to the software on the computer that operates it. It controls water tower levels for water quality purposes. David explained how it works. David stated wastewater controls our discharge. We get all of data from the different flow meters that way every day. That is a requirement from IDEM for monthly and daily reports. This will be a XP 7. Steve asked if it does alarms. David confirmed. David stated with the new one, we will be able to access it with our phones and can go straight to the problem instead of having to make a trip to the office. The cost will be split 50/50 with water and sewer. **Clyde made a motion to approve the quote. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Ed asked are you still having problems with the pumping station. David stated we got the other impeller in on Friday. We are still having some issues. Hopefully that will be our next project to replace that.

EDIT REQUEST

Clyde Compton stated we met Wednesday. We have a request from Jessica Brown, Main Street, pertaining to the flowers and the gardener to take care of it. There are two quotes on the flowers. One includes flowers for the horse troughs. I thought we voted to get rid of the horse troughs in the square. The gardener is \$5,000. This is top amounts. The gardener is paid \$10 per hour. The flowers are \$2,500 including mums for the fall. David confirmed it was never voted on to get rid of the troughs. Ed stated something needs to be on the art pads. I would put flowers in them for another year. Clyde stated the Edit Committee approved the request 3/1. John suggested perennials. Trena stated in a planter, they will freeze. **Motion carries 5/0.**

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ABOUT SUBMITTED REPORTS

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

Clyde asked David asked about the diagram for Norman park. David explained the diagram. David stated the areas outlined in blue cannot overlap. The playground had to get a little bigger. It's mainly for the slide. It had to go toward the street to get it to fit. The railroad ties will define the playground area. Clyde asked about the parking that had previously been discussed. David stated it's either going to have to be between the fence and the street, flat parking, or you are going to have to go way back in and have angle parking, depending on how much green space you want to lose. Clyde said I think we need more parking.

Ed stated David's trailer is rotted out. I think David need a new trailer. Jerry said to get a quote.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.



Attest



