

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 June 15, 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. Town Manager Frank Owens and Clerk Treasurer Diane Burton were 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 4/20/2021

Ed 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:

COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT 2021-2022

Tony Akles stated I have an update on the CCMG for this year with Robertson Paving, they were originally going to start on June 4th, but I think because of weather delays they are pushing it back until after July 4th. It's probably going to take less than two weeks to get it done. They actually have until the end of September to get it done. As you remember, we gave them a large window to get it done to receive better prices. David confirmed the 2nd week in July. Tony stated INDOT is going to have a second round of Community Crossings this year. It's probably going to open end of July or first of August. They haven't announced it yet. You received a list of roads that Steve Robertson talked about at the last meeting. Tony explained the lower the rating the worse the road is. You do not have any 1s, 2s, 3s or 4s. You have four 5s. The rest are 6s or 7s. There are two roads that haven't been rated yet, 775 by the school and 775 by the bridge, because those were added after the rating system was done for you. This is something for you to look over for the next meeting. If you go with 1,2 & 3 or 1, 2 & 4, you will keep it under \$150,000. I recommend submitting the roads individually again. Ed asked if 775 East can be widened with this program. Tony answered if the right of way is wide enough. The right of way also affects putting in sidewalks which has previously been discussed. Right now, Ohmer is the Point of Contact and the compliance officer. I recommend transfer the authority to Frank. **Ohmer made a motion to change the authority to Frank. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

GOSHEN MEADOWS PUMP STATION AND AIKEN STREET STORM DRAIN PROJECT

Tony Akles stated the State has a SWIF fund. They have a hundred million dollars in grant money over two phases: Fifty million this year and fifty million next year. They are going to be giving out up to five-million-dollar grants. David, Trena and I started talking about that the Goshen Meadows pump station would be a good use of the grant money. Also, the Aiken Street storm water issues would qualify. You

have the cost estimates of those projects. The applications are out now. We can help Dave and Frank fill them out at no charge. They are due July 15th. The grants are based on need and where the project is at. Tony discussed the Town's project strengths and weaknesses. Tony stated there are no match requirements, but higher points will be given for matching. If you qualify, you can still turn it down. Tony explained the process. The applications will be ranked. The awards will be given in August. **Ohmer made a motion to apply for the grant funds with the criteria that makes sense. Ed seconded.** Clyde voiced concern about the cost of easements needed for the Goshen Meadows project since easements cannot be included in the grant project. Tony stated it depends on where the utilities are located. It's pretty preliminary so we don't know where the right of way is. There was more discussion on this concern. Clyde asked which pump. Tony stated the Flygt is similar to the one we have right now. **Motion carries 5/0.**

NEW BUSINESS:

LIABILITY INSURANCE RENEWAL – ASTRA

Jerry stated John Parmley is not able to make the meeting. Everyone has a handout. The premium is listed on page 28. Clyde asked if this was basically the same as it was last time. Diane confirmed. Clyde stated we are already past the renewal date. We need to move on it. Ed asked if it is the same price as last year. Diane answered it is just a little bit more. I show the amount paid last year was \$32,287. The total this year is \$33,347. I think Clyde was asking if it's the same company which it is. **Ohmer made a motion to accept Astra but to do an Agent of Record change to a location that is within this county or an adjoining county instead of someone who doesn't have the energy to come down here to our meeting.** Clyde stated he has a mother who is deathly sick. Ohmer answered yeah. **John seconded.** Clyde wanted clarification on the motion. Jerry stated I ask for a motion to approve a renewal with Astra. **Ohmer clarified I made a motion to approve it, but I also asked for an Agent of Record.** Jerry clarified that was all one motion. Ohmer confirmed. **Motion carries 3/2.** Diane asked who are you changing it to. Ohmer gave some suggestions for options. Ohmer suggested Frank work on that.

PARK REQUEST – HOPE HERITAGE DAYS

Randy Sims requested use of the park for the 53rd annual Hope Heritage Days on September 24, 25 and 26. Handouts were provided to the Council requesting road closings. Randy reviewed the road closings. They will begin shutting down parts of the square at 10 p.m. on Thursday. Randy stated we received permission from the Commissioners to use 700 North, west of the bridge, for fireworks. **Clyde made a motion to approve the park request. John seconded.** Ohmer asked who is going to make sure that vendors are not tearing up the new sidewalks and the progress that we've made. Randy stated I will be down there, and Chad will be taking my place after I leave. It is my understanding that the sidewalks are built thick enough to drive a vehicle on. Tony Akles answered not all of them are. The places used for Hope Heritage Days were reviewed prior to the project. Definitely the bigger entrances on east and west side are thick enough and some of the sidewalks on the northwest corner. Most of the rest of the throughout park are not. There was discussion on the sidewalks. **Motion carries 5/0.**

PARK REQUEST – RACE 5 RC DRAG RACING

Joe Chambers, owner of Fast 5 RC Raceway, requested use of the east side of the square on July 11th for a RC drag racing event. Joe stated we will need power from the square, access to the restrooms and I would like to shut down the east side of the square. I will have insurance. I am getting a quote from

Miller Insurance for the event. Joe explained the classes and the speed of the cars. Joe stated the tires will not leave any black marks on the street. Joe explained the process of the race. The race will be on Sunday starting at noon and ending about 6:00 p.m. Ohmer voiced concern with the time interrupting churches. Joe answered the ring tone on your phone is probably louder than the cars. Joe turned on a car for the Council to hear the sound. **Ed made a motion to approve the park request. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

WATER EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN UPDATE

David Clouse provided the Council with an updated Water Emergency Contingency Plan. David asked the Council if there were any questions on the updates. Clyde commented that he feels this is one of the best laid out plans put together where anybody, including myself, can understand what it says. **Ed made a motion to approve the updates. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

QUOTE FOR NEW TRAILER

David Clouse was not able to present a quote as planned for a new trailer because the effects of COVID. David stated I requested additional information. I do know the current steel are in the \$7,500 to \$9,000 range. Those are subject to change. Right now, steel quotes are only good for twenty-four hours. Axels are on a fifteen-week backorder. It's only going to get worse. I am going to see what I can find already built due to the price potentially changing. Hopefully I will have something to present next month.

PLATES FOR FLOWER BOXES

Stephanie Long stated we have the planter covers installed and now we need to decide what to put inside of those. Each comes with a front and a back. They can be changed out for the different seasons. I have printed for you three different options. The options presented to the Council were a barn quilt, a bandstand and an American flag in different colors. Stephanie asked the Council if they have other ideas. Stephanie stated the boxes come with a set so there is no additional cost. If additional banners are purchased, it will be \$40 per planter. There was Council discussion on the options. **Clyde made a motion to select half patriotic and half the bandstand. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Jerry asked for an update on the picnic tables that have been purchased. Stephanie answered steel prices are up. We are trying to get the steel price as cheap as we can. Right now, we are waiting on the expanded metal. We have all the other material, and it is all cut. Give us a month and we should have it. Stephanie stated the bench that had the incorrect facts on it will be replaced on Friday. Jerry stated I have received a lot of compliments on the flower boxes and the benches. Clyde requested that the plates be done by the event on July 2nd. Stephanie confirmed. Stephanie stated my hope is by the end of the week, but I will say two weeks to be conservative.

PARK REQUEST

Stephanie Long requested use of the park on Saturday, July 17. Stephanie stated we were approached by someone in the community that had a skid of pancake mix that will expire at the end of July. They gave it to us for free. We would like to partner with the Community Center and do a pancake breakfast. The event will be from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The proceeds will be split between Student's Fund of Hope and the Community Center. **Clyde made a motion to approve the use of the park. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Frank Owens stated it's been a great three weeks. I've done a lot of great projects, getting involved in some things, meeting people and have been out and about. I appreciate all of you helping with that, introducing me to folks. It's amazing to me the number of people in this community involved in doing things. It's impressing me more every day. I shared with the gentlemen here today from Indiana Landmarks about how many churches that are in this small community. They were stunned for the size of this town how many are faith based. You received my updates on everything, so I won't be long winded.

REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION FOR TOWN VIDEO

Frank Owens stated I'm excited about Hope and I want to get that message out to people by using Facebook, Instagram and twitter and all the things that we can utilize to get the word out that Hope is a great place to come especially for businesses and families. I've talked with a group, my daughter is involved with the group, they can put together a 30 second commercial for \$799. I would like for them to come to the 4th of July celebration and Heritage days to do some filming so they can put together a nice commercial. They just won an Emmy Award for a production that they put together for Pendleton. I'm real proud of what they have done. I think they will do a fantastic job for us. **Clyde made a motion to approve the commercial for \$799. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

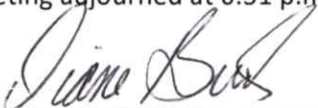
QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ABOUT SUBMITTED REPORTS

*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.

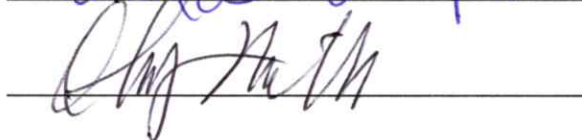
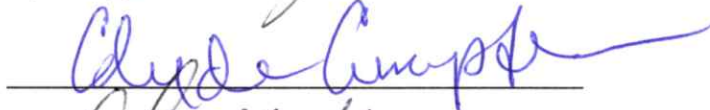
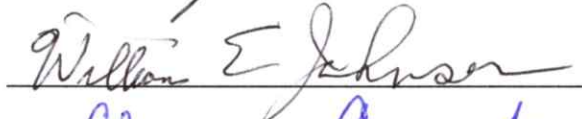
SWIF FUNDS UPDATE

Tony Akles stated Trena sent me an email. She has a fact sheet that shows there is a match. Mine does not. I will get with Trena tomorrow and I will send you an email to let you know.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.



Attest



Key Briggs
