

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 public hearing at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 5:30 p.m. on October 19, 2021.

The prayer was given by Jerry Bragg.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jerry Bragg.

2022 BUDGET ADOPTION

Diane Burton stated this is the last piece of our 2022 budget process which is the budget adoption. We adopt our budget by ordinance. This is ordinance no. 2021-03. The amounts are the same as what was presented in August and at the public hearing in September. They are as follows: Rainy Day \$182,000, General Fund \$683,463 with an adopted tax levy of \$349,896, Local Roads and Streets \$65,000, Motor Vehicle Highway \$80,082, Cumulative Capital Improvements \$25,000, Cumulative Capital Development \$108,000 with an adopted tax levy of \$19,816, Economic Development Income Tax \$325,831, Riverboat \$20,000, LIT Public Safety \$20,000. The total budget is \$1,509,376. Diane opened it up for questions. Ed asked the amount of increase in the budget from last year. Diane answered a little over 4% if you exclude the \$70,000 from the IFA Care Act which is our typical amount. **Clyde made a motion to approve ordinance 2021-03. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

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 5:34 p.m. on October 19, 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 was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes 9/21/2021 & 9/29/2021

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. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT 2020-2021 FINAL PAYMENT

Steve Robertson stated final payment is due to Robertson Paving for the 2020-02 Community Crossings. Steve shared the cost versus the bid amount which came in under with a savings of \$10,002.28. The total cost is \$82,765.72. Steve stated Diane has thirty days to complete the closing paperwork. Steve

explained after they milled Aiken Street it wasn't nearly as bad as we thought. It didn't need the repairs that we originally anticipated. Steve complimented David and his crew for their help. **Clyde made a motion to approve the final payment of \$82,765.72. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

FUTURE COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT – CRACK SEAL FOR ROADS

Steve Robertson stated on future Community Crossing's projects, they are now allowing crack seal for roads. Next year the Town might want to look at doing some crack sealing. The budget price is about fifty cents a square yard. David stated we haven't done any in about eight years. We have been paving a lot of streets for the past six years. Some of those are due to be crack sealed. Clyde stated we did get a quote last time to do 775 East. Steve answered that will be part of the Asset Management Plan.

COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT 2021-2022 UPDATE

Steve Robertson stated a decision has still not been made on the 2021-02 Community Crossing Grants. The awards will be given late October or early November. Frank will be notified since he submitted the application. Once awarded, you have four months to get a contract between you and the contractor.

2021 ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Steve Robertson explained what is involved with the Asset Management Plan. Steve stated somebody goes around and reviews all the streets. To receive Community Crossings money, you must have an Asset Management Plan that has been completed within the last year. So, for next year's Community Crossing, you have to have it in December 1st of this year. Brice, an engineer of Strand, trained Frank to take over the assessment. Steve explained Community Crossing requires this to be done every year. Frank stated the training went fairly quickly. We covered every street. We did it in about two hours but that was with two people. It was pretty simple and straight forward in what to look for. Steve stated Frank was very willing to take on that responsibility. We will continue to help him if he needs us.

UNSAFE STRUCTURES ORDINANCE

Scott Andrews stated if you recall the last time we were here, our current unsafe structures ordinance lists a Code Enforcement Officer as the enforcement officer. We don't have a Code Enforcement Officer. The ordinance has been amended to have the Building and Zoning Administrator as the enforcement officer of the Unsafe Building Ordinance. **Clyde made a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-04 on the first reading. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Clyde made a motion to pass ordinance 2021-04. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Scott stated we've talked about some other new amended ordinances at the last meeting. I met with Matt and Matt yesterday. We went through some of those; the weed, RV storage ordinance and we added about six more new amended ordinances. We have a total of nine ordinances to present for first reading in November and then passing those in December.

RESERVE OFFICER UNIFORMS

Matt Tallent stated I sent you totals of what it would cost to outfit a new officer with new equipment. The total including uniforms, weapon, duty belt and bullet proof vest is \$1,538.49. Clyde stated I talked to Matt. He came up with an idea that I think would be a good one to start with. He is suggesting that we give a \$400 per year clothing allowance. I would like to require that this person stay for six months. I

think this might be a good start to keep some reserves here, so we don't have to shut down on Saturday mornings anymore. Matt stated I would like to set it up to where they can go spend it at US Uniform or where we buy equipment at instead of being a payout. Diane confirmed as long as I get receipts. There was discussion on the six-month waiting period and the cost of outfitting the police officer. Matt explained some of the discounts and pricing he is able to receive, some at no cost. **Clyde made a motion to allow \$400 for an equipment allowance after they have been here six months. John seconded.** Diane voiced concern for the six-month waiting period. Matt stated they will have to go through a field training program. That takes over six months. In that time, they are just required to wear standard black pants and a black polo. **Motion carries 5/0.**

Clyde asked about the eight burglaries this past month. Matt explained four of them were the storage units on South Street. They got hit in one night. We are currently working the case.

NEW BUSINESS:

5K RUN MEMORY OF SARAH TAYLOR 11/6/2021

Kim Taylor stated I'm here on behalf of the FFA Chapter and the Glow like Sarah Memorial Fund in honor of my daughter, Sarah Taylor. My daughter, Sarah, passed away September 2020 of Osteosarcoma. We were supported amazingly by the people in this community. We started the Glow like Sarah fund to continue to let her light shine. Our initiatives for Glow are Growth, Love, Optimism and Worship. We are a spiritual based organization that is ran under a non for profit. This run is not a money-making endeavor for us. This is a way for the FFA Club to do something in Sarah's honor and it helps them with the club goals which is to drive initiatives for community. One of the goals is to promote well-being and Health. They are wanting to do a 5K glow run which means it will be at nighttime using glow sticks, glow paint and all the fun stuff. Kim shared the route of the run. A map was given to the Council. Kim asked for permission to cross SR 9 with police assistance. Kim stated we will have volunteers wearing safety vest at all the road crossing. The time will be from 8:00 p.m. through 10:00 p.m. on November 6th. **Ed made a motion to approve the request. Clyde seconded.** Ed stated it's great that you are doing something like this and it's good for the FFA. Matt stated I'm going to put a car at the front of the run and a car at the back of the run. I am going to have two cars at the intersection at SR 9. Ohmer voiced concern of the safety of the runners. Kim stated we have liability insurance. We would not want that to happen. We have about thirty volunteers. **Motion carries 5/0.**

MORAVIAN CHURCH TURKEY SUPPER 11/20/2021

Mike Ketron stated I'm here on behalf of the Moravian Church. We're doing our annual turkey supper. This year instead of doing the traditional dine in, we are doing drive thru only. I'm here tonight to request closing Locust (from SR 9 to Race Street) from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 20th. Mike explained the route for the cars. Mike stated we typically serve around eight hundred meals. We are anticipating even more than that this year. **Clyde motion to approve the closing. Jerry seconded. Motion carries 4/0. 1 abstain.**

CHRISTMAS OF YESTERYEAR 11/19/2021

Jessica Brown stated I'm here on behalf of Yellow Trail Museum. Christmas of Yesteryear is scheduled for November 19. I'm asking permission to use the bandstand from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the characters and actors. **Clyde made a motion to approve the request. John seconded. Motion carries**

4/0. 1 abstain. Jessica stated we want to do a Christmas tree lighting ceremony at the beginning of Christmas of Yesteryear. It was a consensus of the Council to approve the request.

2022 SALARY ORDINANCE

Diane Burton stated the 2nd reading needs to be passed by December so you can take action tonight or wait until November. I did the typical 2% and 3% increase. Clyde asked that I also do a 2 ½%. You have three options to review of the salary ordinance. The only thing that is different in these salary ordinances is a percent of increase in the ranges or amounts whichever the case may be. There was Council discussion on what the county and city has given. Clyde explained why he is suggesting 2 ½%. Clyde stated we have for years done 2%. Looking up the cost of living adjustment for the last ten years in the United States, it averages out to 1.7%. This year with the virus and cost affect, this will be a good split. Clyde also requested increase the animal control an extra \$500. Diane questioned that the position is an hourly rate with an undetermined number of hours. Matt stated the position is about twenty hours per week. Scott figured the increase which is forty-eight cents. Diane added which would be in the range currently in the salary ordinance. David stated about three years ago you approved an on-call pay for utility employees. Can it be added to the percentage of increase? **Clyde made a motion to approve a 2 ½% increase including the flat rate for utility on-call pay and an increase of forty-eight cents for animal control.** Ed questioned if the police department should have on-call. We should probably add that next year. **John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.** Diane stated the 2nd reading will be next month and will include the changes.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

REQUEST FOR GARLAND FOR BANDSTAND

Frank Owens requested permission to purchase new prelit garland for the Bandstand through Lowe's. Frank stated we need nine units of it which will be a cost of \$494.82. **Clyde made a motion to approve the purchase. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

CGS/WM CONTRACT INFORMATION

Frank Owens stated we have contract information for CGS/WM that was in your packet. The contract is up for renewal December 1st of this year. They presented us with a three year contract. Frank reviewed the rates which are as follows:

December 1st, 2021 \$8.75 per unit per month/\$9.75 with administrative fee

December 1st, 2022 \$9.50 per unit per month/\$10.50 with administrative fee/Additional carts \$5.70 per month

December 1st, 2023 \$9.98 per unit per month/\$10.98 with administrative fee/Additional carts \$5.70 per month

Ed voiced concern for the amount of increase for the 2nd cart. Frank stated I did talk to Melissa today. She explained how they came up with that amount. It's based on sixty percent of the cost of the first cart. Frank shared the other factors she explained including cost of the cart and time for the driver. Clyde stated the dollar administrative fee actually pays for the recycling bin. When we originally started that it covered the cost. The amount of the service is now twice as much as when it started. Half of the cost is now coming out of our own pocket. If we can't keep these prices down, we're not going to be able to afford the recycling bin. Ed asked David if it is getting used by people out of town. David confirmed. Clyde stated concern with people not breaking down cardboard. Communication options

were discussed and include Facebook, signage and the utility bills. **Clyde made a motion to accept the contract as presented. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Frank made a request on behalf of Dave Miller to close Jackson Street on the square for Goodies, Goblins and Ghost Stories due to a tremendous response to the event and safety issues. The event is on Friday, October 29th. The closure will be from 5:00 to 8:00. **Clyde made a motion to approve the closure requested. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Frank stated an item not included in your packet because it just came in is the quote for the West side of the square. The improvements include saw cut, removing of asphalt, extending a concrete ramp and a curb along SR 9, the amount quoted from Robertson Paving for \$19,200. Frank requested Council approval. Clyde asked for the timeline. Steve answered since it does not involve asphalt work, possibly yet this year. The quote is only good for three days. Clyde asked Diane where the funds will come from. Diane answered possibly from the ARP funds. **Ohmer made a motion to approve the quote. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

Ed asked for an update on the cameras for the park and utility office. Frank answered we are trying to get a package deal. I'm waiting to hear back from Joe at Hoosier.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ABOUT SUBMITTED REPORTS

*A Town Manager, 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.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.



Attest

