

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 called meeting at the Hope Town Hall in said town at 5:30 p.m. on December 1, 2014.

A quorum was declared present based on the presence of the following council members: Paula Pollitt (President), Jonathan Titus (Vice-President), Tim Shoaf, Jerry Bragg and Greg Sims. Clerk Treasurer, Diane Burton was also present. Absent: Jonathan Titus arrived late

Purpose of meeting: Working Session

The meeting was called to order by Paula Pollitt.

COLUMBUS VISITORS CENTER/SPORTS TOURISM

Lynn Lucas and Eric Marvin presented for the Columbus Visitor's Center re: Sports Tourism. Eric introduced himself to the Council. Eric presented how the Columbus Visitor's Center can partner with the Town of Hope to continue to drive sports tourism in Bartholomew Co. The Visitor's Center/Sports Tourism segment feels that Hope has some great facilities, specifically the baseball/softball fields and the gymnasiums at the school. The Sports Tourism department feels that they can bring several activities to the Bartholomew Co. area utilizing the facilities in Hope. Tim Shoaf asked if there is a contact person for the sports facilities in Hope for the Visitor's Center to go through. They were not sure at this time. Currently, Mel is being the contact person for this. Pat Walters is the president of the Hope Summer Playground and may be the correct contact person. Sports tourism can have a huge impact on a community and the number of events in Bartholomew County continues to increase and Eric feels that Hope could play a huge part in that. Eric stated years ago, Hope Summer Play Ground was approached to participate in sports tourism and they received negative feedback on utilizing the facilities. At this time, however, it was the consensus by the council that this could be a positive point for the community.

REP FOR UTILITY RATE STUDY

Trena Carter passed out handouts for the REP rate study. Trena stated that something similar to this is used in other communities as far as getting a proposal for the rate study. Trena asked if she should move forward with this or if the Council would like to look it over and determine when they want to move forward with this. Jonathan Titus recommended that Trena move forward with the study. Trena requested the study be sent to a minimum of 3-5 of the 8 firms on the list given to the Council and asked for a list of the firms the Council wished to send it to. Tim Shoaf asked if it could be sent to all 8 on the list. Jonathan agreed with this. Trena would like to send them out tomorrow afternoon to get it back in time for the Council meeting on the 15th. It was agreed that this would be done.

TOWN HALL BUILDING PROJECT

Trena stated that when she was here for last month's Council meeting, she handed out the requirements and the application form that would be needed to proceed with seeking funding for architectural fees. She will work with Mel to get the needed information and submit it to the Cummins Foundation seeking approval of the funding. Discussion on needs for the building and parking followed. Trena said that we are in the early stages of this project and Paula Pollitt stated that there will be a planning committee for the project when the time is right.

HEALTH CARE INSURANCE

Lisa Kelly went through the health care renewal with UHC. The rates decreased this year. There were no changes in the benefits. Lisa had had a question from a town employee about a Health Savings Account. She presented the product grid and the entire UHC renewal quote. She discussed the HSA options. The premium for the HSA option decreases from \$62 to \$59. The HSA option increases employee deductible from \$1500 to \$3000. The ins and outs of the HSA were discussed. The SIHO dental/vision renewal was looked at. The rate increase will not go in force

until January 1. The policy, however, renewed December 1. The rate for total insureds went from \$475.05/month to \$517.80. Vision went from \$115.80 to \$121.

Tim made a motion to accept the employee benefit plan review. Jerry seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

SHELTER HOUSE ORDINANCE (Second Reading)

Cindy Boll changed language in the ordinance to read Flatrock & Hawcreek residents as discussed at the last meeting. In Section 5-17 Fees, it currently reads "cleaning and key deposit". The "cleaning" portion was deleted because the town doesn't do the cleaning. It is expected that the people clean up after themselves. With those changes, Cindy presented the ordinance for the second reading and approval. **Jonathan made a motion to approve the Shelter house Ordinance #2014-08 as presented. Greg seconded. Motion carried 5/0.**

UNSAFE BUILDING ORDINANCE (Second Reading)

Cindy Boll presented the Unsafe Building Ordinance for a second reading with some tweaking to provide for an Unsafe Building Fund. **Tim made a motion to approve the Unsafe Building Ordinance #2014-09. Jerry seconded. Motion carried 5/0.**

SALE OF ELM STREET PROPERTY

Cindy, with Mel's assistance, has been researching the process for the sale of the Elm Street property. In January, she will present the statutory process to get this sale underway. There will be several steps necessary to begin this process.

BIDS FOR THE PARK PROJECT/CLOCK

Randy Sims stated that he sent out two addendums to the project. One was moving the date to today and he also had a pre-construction quote that felt confident that we were over on the 200 amp boxes. So it was requested that they quote five 200-amp boxes and the rest be 100 amp. Paula opened the quotes received. The first quote opened was from JP Electric from Hope, IN, received on 12/1/14 at 9:15 a.m. Included in the quote was a Certificate of Liability Insurance and a signed Comprehensive Compliance Form. The amount of the bid is \$325,000. Also included is the Quote Form and Signature Form. The next bid opened was from Nading Mechanical from Hope, IN, received December 1st at 2:25 p.m. Included in the quote was a Certificate of Liability Insurance, signed Comprehensive Compliance Form, and a Quote Form with a total of \$145,060. Randy reminded the Council that the clock was bid at \$18,000. So this amount would have to be added onto the \$145,000. These quotes are for electrical only. Randy said we need to talk to OCRA and see if we can scale back on some of the electrical. Discussion on the bids followed. Paula stated that the next step in the process is that the project must be compared to the bids. No action can be taken until the bids are reviewed and compared to the project. Trena will need to talk to OCRA to see if the electrical can be scaled back. Jonathan asked if other grants could be piggy-backed on the OCRA grant to help with funding. Randy explained that additional funds from suggested sources have already been included in the matching funds for the project. He stated that once the bid is awarded, the matching funds must all be available immediately. He suggested approaching the Custer Nugent Foundation for additional funding. This will be taken under advisement to see what we can get.

WATER RATE DECREASE

David Clouse had no further information on this subject at this time. Cindy Boll had ended the discussion previously stating that there are arguments to go either way on that and she would look into it. Cindy had no additional information at this time.

REQUEST TO DESTROY CLAIM VOUCHERS

Diane Burton requested permission to destroy claim vouchers older than 10 years. GRM can provide shredding service for \$4/box. With the Council's permission, Diane would like to present this to the Commission Board for approval. There are approximately 44 boxes to be destroyed. GRM had quoted 50 boxes at \$200.

Tim made motion to allow Diane to shred the indicated documents. Jonathan seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Mel commended Diane, Karen, Brenda and David and his crew on their efforts to organize the back room.

TOWN HALL BATHROOM REPAIRS

Mel Fox explained that she has been trying to get 3 quotes on the repairs to the bathroom. She has only been able to obtain 2 quotes, with Kelley's HomeMenders (Jim Kelley) being by far the cheapest at \$1100. She recommended that the Council approve the repairs to the bathroom. **Jonathan a made a motion to approve the town hall bathroom repairs be done by Kelley's HomeMenders. Greg seconded. Motion carried 5/0.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Attest
