

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 4:00 p.m. on August 25, 2022.

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 Jason Eckart 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

WASTEWATER PROJECT ARCHEOLOGICAL RECON QUOTE AWARD

Victoria Bechert stated as you know with the Town's wastewater project in doing the environmental review, you are required to do an archeological reconnaissance. I reached out to five DNR approved firms for quotes. You are only required to reach out to three. You only received two responses. Victoria reviewed the two quotes: Archaeological Consultants of Ossian in the amount of \$2,250 and SJCA in the amount of \$13,794.48. Victoria stated since there is such a big difference, I reached out to Tony Akles to see if he has had any experience working Archaeological Consultants of Ossian. He has worked with Larry Stillwell. ARA has had experience with him as well. He has performed what he needed to do in the past on projects. Larry Stillwell can do it all in his own where SJCA has more overhead. Victoria recommended the Council select Archaeological Consultants of Ossian, the lower quote. Victoria stated this does contribute to your local match a little bit so your grant request amount will increase to counteroffer that. Clyde asked what service he will actually provide. Tony explained the process and the purpose which is looking for artifacts. John asked if he does a good job. Tony confirmed. Ohmer asked how it affects the project if he does find something. Tony explained it depends on what they find. It could put you into what is called a phase two. They may do a little more digging or move. It's unfortunate but it's a hoop you have to jump through, or they will not go any further with the grant. **Ohmer made motion to approve Archaeological Consultants of Ossian. Ed seconded. Motion carries 5/0.**

UTILITY BUILDING

David Clouse stated I received pricing on painters as you requested. Three different painters declined to bid due to the time of year. I talked to the Michael Shurlock who was painting Deckard's building. He gave me a price of \$8650. He will repair some rusted spots with a patch. The building was built in the early 80s. You can paint it for \$8650 or I have a quote for new metal from the guy who is doing the roof for \$19,177. He did provide some references. Clyde asked the color it would be painted. David answered John wanted it to match the tool shed which is tan and chocolate. Clyde asked what color the roof will be. David was unsure. He stated it's hard to even see the roof. John asked David's opinion on painting it versus replacing the metal. David answered paint will probably last about ten years and metal will last forty years. It just depends on what you want to spend. Clyde said he feels the driveway needs paved so maybe we need to just paint the building. **Clyde made a motion to approve Michael Shurlock to paint**

the building. John seconded. Motion carries 5/0. Tony will have Steve look at the area that needs paved and talk to Robertson Paving. Jerry suggested a concrete slab for the recycling dumpster as well.

RECYCLING DUMPSTER

Jason stated since the dumpster was mentioned, the fees for recycling have gotten out of control. Clyde asked me to check to see if there is a cheaper option. The only thing I have found as of this point is through Waste Management to add a bin for each resident which will add \$6.00 to their trash bill. If the whole town doesn't want to participate and people want to subscribe to the recycling service, it will be \$9.00 per month. Right now, we are spending about \$20,000 a year for the recycling bin. I hate to take away recycling for the Town because it is an important thing but \$20,000 a year for people to dump their recyclables is outrageous. There was discussion on the issue. Clyde suggested splitting the cost with the residents and continue using the administrative fee currently charged to help pay for it. Jason will check with Bartholomew County to see if they will help or take it over.

CLEANUP DAY

Clyde suggested a cleanup day prior to Hope Heritage Days. Jason will work on it.

Ed stated I think we need to talk to the Community Center. Something needs to be done with the gym that burned.

NORMAN PARK UPDATE

Jason stated I had a meeting with Chip Orbin yesterday. He wants to replace 101 streetlights in our Town and save us \$508 per month. This will be replacing the incandescent bulbs with LED style lights. David asked if this would include Goshen Meadows. Jason stated he's not sure which lights they are. The LED lights are better, brighter and last longer than the incandescent. Clyde asked what the upfront cost is. Jason said there are two options: Free or up to \$44,000 if we want to purchase all of them ourselves. They will do a study and then start installing them one at a time. It will probably be February before they can have them all replaced. Jason will share the information he received from Duke. It will be added to the agenda next month. Jason stated there is a rebate opportunity as well in the amount of \$3090 to spend how we choose. Clyde asked if the poles have been set up at Norman Park yet. Jason stated they called in locates and Chip told me it will be done by next week. Jason gave an update on what all has been done at the park.

Meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Attest
