

MINUTES
DECEMBER 10, 2020
7:00 PM

President Doug Bignell called the meeting to order. LeaAnn Davis was absent and David Ernst was attending the meeting virtually.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

John made a motion to accept the minutes from 11-12 and 11-23 and the December claim docket. Steve 2nd. Motion carried.

Old Business:

The addendum to the sewage rate ordinance concerning the business rate had been discussed. The clerk had asked that the rate be changed from \$82.13 to a flat rate of \$82. Doug indicated that Deen Rogers said that they were trying to keep the residential and business percentage even but that changing the business rate to do away with 13 cents would not be a problem. Graham will have the addendum ready at the January meeting.

Doug hasn't come up with any good ideas yet concerning a business association chamber of commerce and if anyone has any ideas to let him know. Tabled.

George reported for the planning and zoning as his last official act as president of that board. Rob Meranda will be taking over as President in January and Nic Davis will be Vice President. The planning and zoning board has a new member, Sierra Martin and Kevin Rollins is a possibility for the BZA. Brad Butler is on the planning and zoning board but hasn't attended a meeting for quite some time so they are going to see that he is still interested. John asked if the board does not have 5 members appointed, can they conduct a meeting. David indicated that he has a couple of people that might be interested and so does Steve.

New Business:

Graham had some changes to the 2021 salary ordinance. Police officer will be changed to Town Marshal, the town attorney does not need to be included and he has some different wording in section III. These changes will make the total amount different. A question concerning office help, and what fund it was in and the difference in the amount of hours for Maintenance was discussed. Office help is in General and Maintenance was averaged out with the raise.

John feels the Town Manager should be viewed as a town employee and on the payroll as opposed to being a contracted employee. David and Steve feel the same. David feels that when start addressing qualifications for a new town manager we need to have a little wiggle room and that the amount we will pay should be detrimental to what we're looking for.

Since the budget for 2021 is already and the pay for a town manager has been set, we may have some hurdles to overcome. The clerk indicated that we have always kept employees at 30 hours or less so that they are considered a part time employee and we do not have to provide life insurance, health insurance or retirement benefits. Tabled.

Graham had two amended salary ordinances drawn up. One would amend the 2018 ordinance for 2019 salaries and the other one would retroactively amend all ordinances in question. John made a motion to consider on the first reading and amend all ordinances in question, 2017-12, 2018-22 and 2019-16, David 2nd. Motion carried. This ordinance was offered and sustained by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 against. Motion carried.

A question concerning a contract for the crossing guard was discussed. There has never been a contract for that position. Matt reported that he has ordered a new stop sign for the crossing guard with LED lights.

Contracts were looked over. John made a motion to sign the contracts for 2021. Steve 2nd. Motion carried.

Doug reported that the AIM website has a job posting board that we can use when hiring a new town manager. John said that the reason we went to a 5 member board was so that council members would be more available to help with many of the responsibilities of a town manager. Steve feels the town manager has more knowledge than him and by not knowing what you need to know, we could open ourselves up to liabilities. David and Doug both feel that a town manager position is crucial to the town. It was also reported that Purdue has a career development center that has job postings. Doug would like all council members to take a look at the position notice that he has developed, make any changes and we will take care of it at the yearend meeting.

Dan indicated that an employee of GRW could be called upon to meet with the town council on an hourly basis for issues that Dan would usually take care of.

Changing the Penner property to industrial was approved at the Planning and Zoning meeting. John made a motion to accept the P & Z recommendation and change the property to industrial. Steve 2nd. Motion carried.

The BZA approved a variance to change a single family dwelling to multiple at 4738 Ohio St. One stipulation was that the adjacent lot remain vacant or can be used for parking. Since this fits with the town's comprehensive plan, Steve made a motion to accept the recommendation of the BZA and approve the variance for a change from single family to multi family. David 2nd. Motion carried.

George reported that the auger monster is fixed and the south tank has been cleaned out.

Dan has a proposal from Wallace Construction to patch 29 sq. yds. At the fire department for \$3651.41 and replace 360 L. Ft. of sidewalk on Cross St. for \$18,818.93. David made a motion to accept the proposals, John 2nd. Motion carried.

Dan asked if the council wanted him to submit a claim for public safety for reimbursement through the CARES act to the Indiana Finance Authority. He has already submitted a claim for the rehab of the conference room. In order to be

reimbursed for the town marshal payroll expenses, he will need the hours that were worked from March through October.

Graham did research concerning a noise ordinance. Noise is measured through decibels and the town doesn't have a machine to measure noise. Matt found them ranging from \$20 to \$100. Steve feels we should pursue both buying a decibel meter machine and have an ordinance drawn up. David would like a clause concerning activities at the park put on by the town and some exceptions, i.e., burglar alarms, ambulance, etc. Matt will research decibel machines for the best quality and price.

Parking in front of the Gypsy' Den was discussed. A "No Parking Here to Corner sign was discussed. Through a consensus of the council the maintenance man will be asked to paint a white direction of travel line through the parking space.

Graham had a Temporary Access Agreement drawn up to complete our camera inspection at 4501 Pennsylvania St. David made a motion to have Doug sign the agreement with the council's approval, Steve 2nd. Motion carried.

Dan has been approached by Nick Davis concerning a quit claim deed the town gave to D & D Auto. They don't want a trail behind their property mainly because of vandalism and damage to his property. Doug would hate to see anything done to hinder the trail going from Plainfield to Amo. Tabled.

John reminded the council that any equipment bought for the town manager should stay as property of the town.

A year end meeting will be on Saturday, December 26th at 10:00 AM

Doug made a motion the meeting be adjourned by a consensus of the council.

Date

Doug Bignell, President

John Culley, Vice President

LeaAnn Davis, Councilman

David Ernst, Councilman

Steve Swartz, Councilman

ATTEST:

Ginny Mckamey, Clerk-Treasurer

MINUTES
DECEMBER 29, 2020

President Doug Bignell called the special year end meeting to order. LeaAnn Davis was not in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. John made a motion to approve the claim docket, David 2nd. Motion carried.

The salary ordinance for 2021 was approved by a motion from David, 2nd by Steve. Motion carried.

A retention letter from Graham Youngs for 2021, with only one change, the termination clause, was approved by a motion from John, 2nd by David. Motion carried.

A transfer of funds was read transferring \$824.99 from Repairs and Maintenance to electric, \$28.59 from Dues & School fees to Social Security and Med. Tax, and \$295 from Town Marshal Training to purchase, renovation for a total of \$1148.58. David made a motion to approve the transfer of funds, Steve 2nd. Motion carried.

The Town Manager job was discussed. We will all take a look at the posting that Doug made and make changes and discuss in more length at the January 14th meeting.

Dan has emailed all council members with the projects and the people that he has worked with. With this being his last meeting, he thanked everyone for their hard work.

Employees of GRW were at the meeting for an update on the sewer rehab project. A preliminary design has been sent to George Burnett and indicated that all work was on track. They indicated that all the work that Mason Private Locating should minimize work that has to be done. They will be sending the public notice to be published on January 6th and 13th with prebid set for January 20th, which will probably be a virtual meeting.

Permits for Consultant Consent Form and Permit Fee Waiver Form were signed and notarized.

The sewer line that goes across the field at the plant was discussed in length.

The rehab design can be viewed in the clerk's office.

John made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Steve 2nd. Motion carried.

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