

APRIL 16, 2024

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Smotherman.

Present were: SMOTHERMAN, ARNEBERG, CLARK, WEINZAPFEL, and WILLIAMS along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins.

The following visitors were present: Wendie Thompson, Barb McConnell, Jim Brown, Rosie Benton, Tom Stahl, Tom Guggenheim, Caroline Williams, Paul Allison, Trisha Lopez, Chris Laughbaum, Andy Batt, Joshua Janik, Lynn Clark, Alex Gale, Kent Schuette, Diane Sanders, Jan Kahle, Diana Davis, Laura Nicholson, and Chad Foreman.

Councilman Weinzapfel made and Clark seconded a motion the minutes of the previous regular meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark made and Weinzapfel seconded a motion the minutes of the March 21, 2024, Special Meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark reported the new lighting at the Recycling Center will be installed on April 17.

Councilman Clark reported the live streaming camera is set to be installed on April 17.

Councilman Weinzapfel stated she and President Smotherman met with INDOT regarding possible replacement/removal of bridge related signage, as well as a few other issues.

Councilman Arneberg gave a short recap of the Eclipse.

Councilman Arneberg reported on some potential upcoming grant opportunities.

Councilman Arneberg noted the former school property would be ideal for future housing as it is not in the floodplain.

Councilman Williams stated electric has been installed at the new shelter and concrete will be poured soon.

Councilman Williams thanked Tom Guggenheim and Jim Bown for their assistance with a tree emergency over Easter weekend.

President Smotherman announced fall clean-up day is May 17.

President Smotherman announced resumes will be accepted until May 10 for Clerk-Treasurer.

President Smotherman reported the Fire Dept. has received a grant for new air masks.

Jim Brown requested sewer fee waivers at 316 and 321 Freeman Lane. The structures have been removed and he has no plans to rebuild. Councilman Weinzapfel made and Clark seconded a motion the sewer fee waiver requests be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried. President Smotherman reminded Mr. Brown that he needs to complete building permit applications for the two trailers that were removed. Mr. Brown asked about the possibility of placing campers/motor homes on the lots where the trailers were. This will be discussed with the Town Attorney.

Councilman Clark made and Arneberg seconded a motion that Olivia Kramer be granted a carriage permit as requested. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chris Laughbaum submitted a street closure request for a wedding to be held at the Granary on December 7. This is the weekend of Christmas in New Harmony. Ms. Laughbaum stated the wedding is expecting 240 guests, and they need parking. Council expressed concern over setting a precedent on street closures. Councilman Arneberg pointed out it will be difficult to close the street for part of the day. The request was denied due to lack of a motion for approval.

Councilman Clark made and Williams seconded a motion that Christian Mills be approved to travel to Olney for gas training. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Weinzapfel made and Williams seconded a motion that the New Harmony Alumni Assn. be given approval to hang their banners for their annual banquet. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark made and Williams seconded a motion the festival application for the Antique Show be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams presented three quotes for pest treatment at the Murphy Park Restrooms. Swat Pest was the low bidder at \$500. Councilman Clark made and Weinzapfel seconded a motion that the quote from Swat Pest be accepted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Diane Sanders thanked the Town for efforts put forth on the Eclipse.

Tom Guggenheim reported he is working with Councilman Clark on installing a screen of evergreens at the sewer plant.

There was discussion on Flock cameras. The proposal is to install one at each entrance to Town that records both the license plate and make and model of the vehicle then runs it through a data base to check for warrants, etc. The initial cost is \$7300, with a \$6000 annual recurring fee. Councilman Clark made and Williams seconded a motion the purchase of two flock cameras including the annual recurring fee be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark read Ordinance 2024-3 in full. This ordinance amends the meeting procedures for Town Council. Councilman Clark made and Weinzapfel seconded a motion Ordinance 2024-3 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Smotherman presented Ordinance 2024-4. This is an amendment to the salary ordinance. Councilman Clark made and Williams seconded a motion that Ordinance 2024-4 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark made and Williams seconded a motion that Robert VanLaningham's hourly rate be increased to \$11 per hour, effective April 16, 2024. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Council members agreed to schedule a Special Meeting to discuss annual salary and wage adjustments for 2024. These will need to be voted on at the May meeting. Councilman Weinzapfel suggested that incentives for certifications be dealt with at that time as well.

Councilman Weinzapfel read Ordinance 2024-5 in full. This ordinance amends the food truck ordinance. Councilman Weinzapfel made and Williams seconded a motion that Ordinance 2024-5 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark read Resolution 2024-5 in full. This Resolution establishes a policy for purchases by Town employees and Council. Councilman Clark made and Weinzapfel seconded a motion that Resolution 2024-5 be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark made and Weinzapfel seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Councilman Weinzapfel made and Arneberg seconded a motion the meeting be adjourned. All were in favor. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Jeffrey Smotherman, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer