

JANUARY 18, 2022

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 8:30 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Blaylock.

Present were: BLAYLOCK, ALSOP, WADE, and WILLIAMS, along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Erin Bauer.

The following visitors were present: Chris Laughbaum, Steve Angel, Mary Beth Guard, Trisha Lopez, Bill Meyer, and Aaron Straub.

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

President Blaylock reported the mowing contract is up for Maple Hill Cemetery. It is hoped bids will be received in time to discuss at the next meeting.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Councilman Blaylock serve as President for 2022. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock stated department heads will remain the same as 2021.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Council meet the third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Erin Bauer be retained as Town Attorney for 2022. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop made and Williams seconded a motion that Bobby Grider be authorized to attend a water conference in French Lick from March 15-17. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop made and Williams seconded a motion the carriage application from Horseshoe Bend Carriage Co. be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion the water utility emergency plan be approved as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion the Keystone Maintenance Agreement be renewed at a cost of \$8545. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock presented a list of the current building permit fees, along with a list of suggested revisions. The current fees have been in place since 2005. He asked that Council members look over all provided information and be ready for discussion at the next meeting.

President Blaylock recommended that Council consider replacing the 2012 Exmark mower. He obtained a quote from H & R Agri-Power for a new mower for \$12,324. If trading in the 2012 mower, the price is reduced to \$9324. Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion the Exmark be purchased with trade-in of old mower. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read a letter of resignation from Erik Janik. His last day will be March 15. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that the job be advertised with a starting pay of \$17 an hour. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported the storm siren has been out of service for several weeks. There have been some repairs made and it will be monitored on Wednesday during the regularly scheduled testing time. He is in the process of getting an estimate on replacing it.

President Blaylock reported there is some erosion at the water storage tank. He would like to have a contractor look at it to see what can be done. Council agreed this needs to be done.

Steve Angel complimented Council on the new streetlights as well as the new asphalt. He also applauds the Town's efforts in trying to keep the Town safe by adding cameras. He asked that Council look into improving the Town's internet service. Mr. Angel encouraged Council to look into online bill paying.

Mary Beth Guard reported she has installed two sets of the white/blue lights in front of Red Bud Park and at Church and Main Sts. There is a set of the warm white in front of the Mews. President Blaylock asked that Council look at both choices and be ready for a decision at the next meeting.

President Blaylock announced that Marshal Straub has been unable to deliver the ordinance violation regarding the unlicensed camper in the alley due to the owner being incarcerated.

Councilman Alsop reported a committee meeting regarding Christmas decorations is planned to be held before the next Council meeting.

Councilman Alsop made and Wade seconded a motion that Tom Armstrong be appointed to the Plan Commission. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion that Jeff Smotherman be appointed as zoning administrator effective January 1, 2022. All were in favor. Motion carried.

No new information was received regarding the Deaconess Mobile Breast Center.

President Blaylock reported the highway signs that were discussed at the last meeting have been paid for by the New Harmony Business Associates for 2022. They would like the Town to consider contributing for 2023.

President Blaylock reported a request has been made to temporarily install a statue at the end of Granary St. near the entrance to the Rappite Cemetery. This request was made by Kent Schuette on behalf of the New Harmony Business Associates. The statue will be on loan from Columbus, IN. Councilman Alsop made and Wade seconded a motion the discussion be tabled until more information on size, etc. can be obtained. All were in favor. Motion carried

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

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion the generator at the water shed be repaired at an estimated cost of \$2900. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade presented a proposal from Jarrett Security Solutions for the installation of security cameras at various locations in Town at a cost of \$12,506. There will need to be internet installed at Murphy Park in order to place cameras there. Councilman Wade will talk to Sparklight about this. Also, electric will need to be ran at the Fire Station for the cameras there. There was discussion about cameras at the boat ramp. He asked that Council look the information over, and if anyone would like to obtain another quote, he encouraged them to do so. Jarrett also submitted a quote for \$129 to install a camera in the police car. Councilman Alsop made and Williams seconded a motion that the camera be purchased for the police car at a cost of \$129. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock announced he has gotten the cemetery expansion plans to a contractor in hopes of getting a cost estimate.

There being no further business, Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion the meeting be adjourned. All were in favor. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer