

APRIL 18, 2023

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, CLARK, WADE, and WILLIAMS along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Erin Bauer.

The following visitors were present: Diane Sanders, Chris Laughbaum, Lora Arneberg, Trisha Lopez, Andrew Smith, Connie Weinzapfel, and John Foley.

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

Councilman Wade made and Clark seconded a motion the minutes of the March 24, 2023, Special Meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion the minutes of the April 11, 2023, Special Meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams reported a tree at Maple Hill Cemetery that was approved for removal is not dead so he will be canceling the removal.

Councilman Williams feels the river trail should be opened ASAP. He will get with Supt. Grider on this.

Councilman Williams noted Councilman Clark had previously pointed out that the trail signs needed painting. However, upon inspection, he feels only power washing is needed. Councilman Clark stated some residents in Town have volunteered to paint the signs. It was agreed to start with cleaning and then evaluate.

Councilman Wade reported he has spoken with INDOT about putting a street light in on Hwy. 69 just outside the Town limits. INDOT's response was that there were not enough accidents in the area to warrant a light. He suggested that residents consider initiating a petition with the request.

Councilman Clark reported he met with USDA Rural Development regarding funding to replace water lines on Church St. The meeting went well.

President Blaylock announced spring clean-up day is April 21.

President Blaylock stated salary adjustments need to be set in May. He noted a Special Meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 9 to discuss this.

Councilman Wade reported on interest rates at 5/3 Bank. Council is discussing moving some of the Town funds to another financial institution. 5/3 is offering a rate of 4.4% on five and ten month certificates. President Blaylock is in favor of purchasing additional certificates through United Fidelity. There was concern among Council as to whether the Town's funds are insured fully with one institution. Clerk-Treasurer Atkins will look into this. Councilman Clark would like to purchase additional certificates with United Fidelity with utility depreciation funds due to the increased interest rates. Council agreed to obtain more information on the subject and possibly add this to the agenda for the Special Meeting tentatively scheduled for May 9.

President Blaylock reported he obtained a quote for a fork lift basket, two harnesses, and two manyards for \$1655. for the Town backhoe. This price is from Uline, which was the lease expensive of the three companies that were priced. Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion the items be purchased for \$1655. from Uline. All were in favor. Motion carried

Lora Arneberg reported on the proposed light pole banners. They are proposing to install banners for attractions in Town and annual events. They would like to install the banners and keep them up for a year. There are not enough locations for every business in Town to have one. She will attend the next meeting with a sample. They will only be using half of the poles.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that a proposal from Icon for an epoxy floor at the Murphy Park Shelter House for \$8568. be approved, to be paid from the New Harmony School Building Fund. There is also a small repair that needs to be done to the epoxy floor at the fire station, which is in addition to the \$8568. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that a proposal from Daviess Co. Metal for a new shelter house at Murphy Park for \$18170. be accepted, to be paid from the New Harmony School Building Fund. All were in favor. Motion carried. There will be no fee charged for this shelter at the present time, but this will be reevaluated at a later date.

Councilman Wade made and Clark seconded a motion that the bid for concrete work at Murphy Park for \$11,000. be accepted. This includes concrete for the new shelter, walkways to both old and new shelters, and a walkway to Playtopia. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that the aforementioned Murphy Park improvements be paid from the New Harmony School Building Fund. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that six picnic tables be purchased for Murphy Park for \$6097.94, to be paid from the New Harmony School Building Fund. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported he has made a list of alleys he is recommending to be paved. He has them listed under three different priorities so the list can be cut off based on available funding. President Blaylock stated he has asked for suggestions at the last meeting and he received none. Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion that the Town advertise for bids based upon the recommendations submitted by President Blaylock. Councilman Williams expressed concern over drainage. This will be included with the bidding information. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock announced golf cart registration can be completed April 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, behind Town Hall.

President Blaylock followed up on clean-up at 1017 Steammill St. and LDA Properties. He stated a lot of work has been done on 1017 Steammill, and work continues. Council will continue to monitor.

Councilman Wade made and Williams 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 Wade made and Williams seconded a motion the meeting be adjourned. All were in favor. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer