

MAY 18, 2021

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

The following visitors were present: Rod Clark, Chris Laughbaum, Ben Barnes, Connie Weinzapfel, Dan Mason, Kent Schuette, Trisha Lopez, and Aaron Straub.

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

Council noted the Cemetery looks better than it has in a long time. President Blaylock stated the Boy Scouts will be putting the flags on the veteran's graves but help may be needed from others.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Ordinance 2021-4 be adopted with the following adjustments to be effective June 1, 2021: Gas/street superintendent (Bobby Grider), \$27.40/hr.; utility laborer (Brian Strader, Jon Gates, and Erik Janik), \$17.00/hr.; town marshal (Aaron Straub), \$3,689.22/mo.; office employee (Becky Harvey), \$17.00/hr. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Council discussed amending Section 8.12.030 of the New Harmony Municipal Code. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Section 8.12.030 be amended to read as follows: "No owner or occupier of any lot or parcel of real estate within the Town of New Harmony, shall own, keep, possess, or permit to be kept hogs, chickens or other animal, or fowl on such lot or parcel of real estate in the Town of New Harmony." The following vote was taken: ayes – none; nays – Blaylock, Alsop, Wade, Watson and Williams. Motion denied. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Section 8.12-030 be amended to read as follows: "No owner or occupier of any lot or parcel of real estate within the Town of New Harmony, shall own, keep, possess, or permit to be kept hogs, chickens, fowl, or other livestock on such lot or parcel of real estate in the Town of New Harmony". All were in favor. Motion carried.

Dan Mason asked if this would prohibit the displaying of animals for Heritage Artisans Days. There was discussion regarding this and also the possibility of having animals at festivals in Town.

President Blaylock announced the Town applied for and received Community Crossings Matching Grant 2021-1.

Councilman Alsop reported the cost to do needed repairs to Playtopia is \$1076., of which \$500 will be paid by an Efroymsen Beautification Grant. There will be an additional estimated amount of \$290 needed to paint the restrooms.

Councilman Wade reported the partitions for the restrooms have been ordered, along with six picnic tables. Two of the tables are being paid for by the New Harmony Business Associates, one by an anonymous donor, and the remainder by the Town.

Councilman Alsop made and Watson seconded a motion that the mask banners be removed from the light poles. All were in favor. Motion carried. Dan Mason asked that one of the banners be given to Historic New Harmony for their archives, and Connie Weinzapfel made the same request on behalf of the Workingmen's Institute.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that masks no longer be required for Town Council meetings. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop opened discussion on golf carts being brought in to Town. She stated those bringing carts in need to be made aware of the rules.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that section 8.12.030 of the New Harmony Municipal Code be amended to read as follows: "No owner or occupier of any lot or parcel of real estate within the Town of New Harmony, shall own, keep, possess, or permit to be kept hogs, chickens, fowl or other livestock on such lot or parcel of real estate in the Town of New Harmony. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, nothing in this provision prevents a temporary festival or the holder of a town-issued permit from keeping such animals within the Town limits for the duration of the festival or as allowed by the permit." All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock announced discussions are being conducted with Centerpoint Energy regarding the downtown street lights.

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

Councilman Wade suggested the speed limit on Main Street be reduced. Attorney Bauer was asked to look into what jurisdiction the Town has regarding speed limits outside the Town limits.

There being no further business, Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion the meeting be adjourned. All were in favor. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer