

JUNE 15, 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: Trisha Lopez, Mary Beth Guard, Dan Mason and Jeff Smotherman.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion the Executive Session Memorandum for May 18, 2021, be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

President Blaylock opened and read aloud the bids received for the street paving to be done with Community Crossings Matching Grant 2021-1. The following bids were received: Lupfer Equipment - \$65,566; JH Rudolph & Co. - \$58,990; E & B Paving - \$54,450; David Enterprises Inc. - \$65,680. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the bid of \$54,450 from E & B Paving be accepted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported on a quote from American Eagle Tree Service for \$3,225. This is for removal, trimming, etc at various locations in Town. Councilman William questioned the tree at 826 Church St., which is to be trimmed only. He feels the entire tree needs removed, as it is rotting. He stated he had gotten a quote from Jim Brown to remove the tree for \$1,000. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the quote from American Eagle be accepted, with the understanding that American Eagle assess the trees before trimming to determine if removal is needed. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion the festival application for Arts in Maclure Park be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2021-4 in full. This ordinance amends Ordinance 1972-2 concerning the keeping of certain animals. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion the ordinance be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2021-5 in full. This ordinance changes the Town's designated depository to United Fidelity Bank. President Blaylock noted a meeting was held the previous day where it was announced that Heritage Federal Credit Union may reopen in New Harmony. However, no firm timetable was known on when this would occur, and there was uncertainty as to if they would be able to accept public funds. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Ordinance 2021-5 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Dan Mason asked if there is a time frame for repainting of the crosswalk at Main and Steammill. Councilman Wade stated we are on the list, but the weather has caused delays.

Jeff Smotherman thanked the Town for assistance with a successful antique show.

President Blaylock reported a new agreement has been drafted regarding the gas line on the bridge. It is a two-year agreement, with a \$2,400/yr. lease payment. The Town will also be required to have the gas line inspected two times a year by a civil engineer. The agreement was reviewed by Attorney Bauer. She pointed out there are required attachments, which are not currently attached. Also, the agreement authorizes the termination of the contract if circumstances arise where there is an issue that jeopardizes the bridge or traffic. Attorney Bauer stated the agreement requires the Town to be given notice if the gas must be turned off during the construction process. It does not, however, say how much notice. Attorney Bauer noted the agreement says that if the Town abandons the gas line, the bridge authority may purchase it for \$1. Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion the agreement be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock presented a quote from Utility Safety & Design (USDI) to perform the required semi-annual inspections on the bridge. The initial inspection will be \$4,000, with each subsequent survey being \$2,500. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion the quote from USDI be accepted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock presented an updated quote from Blankenberger Bros. to replace the water line on Penfold Rd. for \$42,000. It is hoped this can be paid from ARP funds. Councilman Williams

made and Wade seconded a motion the quote from Blankenberger Bros. be accepted so the price can be locked in. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop asked for approval for repairs at Playtopia. The amount needed above the \$500 grant that was received is \$576, plus \$290 for paint for the restrooms. Councilman Wade noted he believes the lumber cost has gone up. No exact amount is known at this time. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the Town cover the cost of improvements at Playtopia and Murphy Park restrooms. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

Councilman Watson reported he was approached by a couple of board members from the Workingmen's Institute asking for a donation from the Town of \$25,000 to help with costs to replace the roof. Attorney Bauer will look into the legalities of the request. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion the request be tabled for further review. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Councilman Watson made and Williams seconded a motion the meeting be adjourned. All were in favor. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer