

JULY 21, 2020

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: Dan Mason, Candice Croix, Dan Barton, Marvin McDurmon, Connie Weinzapfel, and Aaron Straub.

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

Councilman Williams made and Alsop seconded a motion the minutes of the July 16, 2020, special meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams reported tree work has been completed at Maple Hill Cemetery.

Councilman Wade reported there is a broken handrail at the cemetery.

President Blaylock announced the water tank inspection was completed on July 18.

President Blaylock stated Community Crossings Matching Grant 2020-2 has been delayed.

Dan Mason reported many Historic New Harmony events and programs are being done virtually.

Mr. Mason introduced Candice Croix, who recently joined Indiana Landmarks.

Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion that the bid for Community Crossings Matching Grant 2020-1 be awarded to the low bidder, David Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$72,479. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock acknowledged and thanked David & Karen Vonderscher for their donation of a bench for Murphy Park.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that a letter be sent to the property owner at 601 South St., due to high weeds. All were in favor except Councilman Williams. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2020-4 in full. This ordinance changes the Town's current policy regarding renters, and was necessitated by a change in state law. Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion the ordinance be adopted. All were in favor except Councilman Alsop, who abstained, due to her owning rental property. Upon the recommendation of Attorney Bauer, the ordinance will be up for second reading at the August meeting, due to the vote not being unanimous to adopt the ordinance on first reading. For this reason, the motion failed.

President Blaylock read Resolution 2020-2 in title only. This resolution authorizes the submittal of the COVID-19 Phase 2 Grant Application. Councilman Alsop made and Williams seconded a motion the resolution be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion that President Blaylock be authorized to sign all required documents for the COVID-19 Phase 2 Grant Application. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion that the procedures outlined in the e-mail from Debbie Bennett-Steersman dated July 9, 2020, be accepted, regarding the 13 steps they are proposing to follow should the Town's application for the COVID-19 Phase 2 Grant be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion the Economic Development Coalition (EDC) be hired as grant administrator for the COVID-19 Phase 2 Grant, at the allowed 2.5% of the grant amount, if the Town's application is approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion that the Clerk-Treasurer and Town Council President be designated as who the EDC directly reports to. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion that the Clerk-Treasurer and Town Council President be authorized to give approval as needed regarding decisions on the COVID-19 Phase

2 Response Grant. This will be done after consulting with the remaining Council members, if possible. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion that the review committee for the COVID-19 Phase 2 Response Grant be comprised of three, non-business owning residents and two Council members. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins encouraged Council to contact businesses and ask them to write letters of support for the Town's grant application. A number of letters have already been submitted.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion that only businesses within the Town's corporate limits shall be eligible to apply if the Town's COVID-19 Phase 2 Grant Application is approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported Council held a special meeting and agreed to purchase two signs to place at the entrances to Town advising people that face coverings are highly recommended. President Blaylock asked for someone to take charge of ordering the signs. Councilman Wade stated he feels more signs are needed. He was unable to attend the meeting where it was agreed to buy two signs. He thinks 20-25 signs should be purchased. It is hoped the Town will be reimbursed for the signs through the CARES Grant. President Blaylock stated he does not think signs will be effective, as people know face coverings are recommended, but people make their own choice whether to wear them or not. Councilman Williams noted most businesses and venues in Town have posted their own signs regarding facial coverings and social distancing. He asked if there is a plan on where the signs should be placed, to which Councilman Wade replied there is not. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that 20-25 signs be purchased to remind people that masks are recommended. The signs will be approximately 18" X 24". These signs will remain up until numbers start decreasing and things look better than they do now. Dan Mason offered his assistance as to wording on the signs. He would like there to be consistent, welcoming language. He also mentioned signs could be placed on the light poles downtown, such as has been done for the farmer's market. All were in favor. Motion carried. Councilman Alsop and Wade will work with Dan Mason on the sign content.

President Blaylock reported he has been working on getting mill ditch cleaned out. This was last done in 1999. This will alleviate some of the flooding on the southeast end of Town due to heavy rains. President Blaylock is working with the Posey Co. Drainage Board and the Posey Co. Surveyor. He encouraged citizens to write letters and/or contact the Posey Co. Commissioners.

Councilman Wade reported he will work with Councilman Alsop on reviewing the contracts that were submitted by the golf cart rental companies and report back at the next meeting.

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

Councilman Alsop made and Wade seconded a motion that the festival application for the Armstrong Recreation Center Jeep/UTV ride be denied. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade asked that Council members review the Town's fireworks regulations and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting. He feels the ordinance needs to be amended.

Councilman Wade noted Council has previously discussed giving raises to the employees when licenses are obtained. He would like Council to put a definite plan in writing as an incentive.

Councilman Wade stated he did some research on disinfectant foggers. He recommended the electric fogger. It is hoped the Town can be reimbursed for the fogger through the CARES Grant. Councilman Williams made a motion that one electric and one battery powered fogger be purchased. There was no second. Motion failed. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion one electric fogger be purchased, at an approximate cost of \$500. All were in favor. Motion carried. Councilman Wade will talk to the Posey Co. Health Dept. regarding the type of disinfectant to purchase.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Council members' phone numbers be removed from the Town website. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion the meeting be adjourned. All were in favor. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer