

AUGUST 18, 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, WATSON, and WILLIAMS along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Erin Bauer.

The following visitors were present: Melissa Wade, David Vonderscher, Dan Mason, Dan Barton, Lois Gray, and Connie Weinzapfel.

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

Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion the minutes of the July 21, 2020, special meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade reported the outdoor lights at the Fire Station have been repaired.

Councilman Williams stated he had a complaint about mowing at the cemetery. He has contacted the mowing contractor and is waiting on a return call.

Councilman Williams stated he checked on the broken handrail that was reported by Councilman Wade at the last meeting. It seems to be stable.

Councilman Williams expressed concern over the large amount of grass on the steps at the cemetery. He asked for assistance from President Blaylock on making contact with the mowing contractor.

President Blaylock reported the water system is currently down due to a valve replacement on Main Street.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that a 15-year agreement with Liquid Engineering for water tank inspection be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion that letters be sent to those who owe golf cart fees, which are now delinquent. If there is no response, Marshal Straub will then take over. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Williams seconded a motion that the Economic Development Coalition be retained as grant administrator, if the Town is awarded funding for the COVID-19 response grant. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Melissa Wade voiced her frustration over the water being turned off in Town on August 18. She stated she was told that Council was award of this on August 13, but she was not told until August 17. President Blaylock apologized, but stated anyone could have checked with Bobby Grider when he was working on the valve to see what was going on. Ms. Wade stated she should not have to do that, she feels that as a business owner, she should have been told. Councilman Wade commented that he, as a Council member, also was not informed.

Dan Mason reported all of Historic New Harmony's programming has been moved to either online or Zoom. Their fall programming begins August 27. He encouraged anyone to contact him with any issues.

President Blaylock read Ordinance 2020-4 in title only. This ordinance was introduced at the last meeting. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Ordinance 2020-4 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade presented a draft of some language he would like to see added to the contracts used by the golf cart rental companies. Attorney Bauer was asked to look into this. Councilman Wade stated if the rental companies don't agree, then he feels their golf cart registrations should not be renewed for next year. There was also discussion on possibly mailing a list of the golf cart rules to all golf cart owners, instead of doing inspections as the ordinance states.

Councilman Wade asked that all Council members think about how they would like to handle the incentives for employees to obtain licenses. President Blaylock feels like the employee should reimburse the Town for anything that has been paid if the employee does not pass the test to obtain the license.

Council members agreed to have Attorney Bauer look into the Town's options on cleaning out mill ditch.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor except President Blaylock. Motion carried. President Blaylock noted Council had previously voted to purchase 20-25 signs which state the Town recommends masks. However, banners were purchased, in addition to signs. He asked how that came about. Councilman Alsop responded that three Council members had agreed to the purchase.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that a letter be sent to the property owner at 626 Frederick St., stating they are in violation of the Town's nuisance ordinance. All were in favor except Councilman Williams. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Watson seconded a motion that fall clean-up day be held October 9. All were in favor. Motion carried. Council members suggested that a sentence be added to the clean-up day notice stating that only trash from properties within the Town limits is eligible to be picked up.

Councilman Wade noted he feels the Town needs to look into establishing an ordinance to regulate food trucks. He will work with Attorney Bauer on this.

It was noted the utility disconnect moratorium ended on August 14, and Council agreed disconnects need to resume since the amount of delinquencies is quite high.

Councilman Williams noted Council had received a pageant proposal and asked that Council members read the provided information.

Councilman Williams stated he received a complaint about mowed grass on Church St. He wondered if an ordinance prohibiting this needs to be looked into.

Councilman Williams asked if a street sign could be installed for the Barn Abbey. Council will look into this.

Councilman Wade reported the disinfectant sprayer is in, and also the chemicals.

Councilman Alsop reported the restrooms and shelter house at Murphy Park need some sprucing up. She feels there is cleaning and painting needed. She will get prices for the work.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins noted Linda Clifford had submitted some information just prior to the meeting and asked Council to review it.

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 9:25 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer