

OCTOBER 19, 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: Mary Beth Guard, Jan Kahle, Trisha Lopez, Claire Eagle, and Aaron Straub.

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

Councilman Alsop reported there is an issue with the lights at Murphy Park.

Councilman Williams stated several stones are displaced at Maple Hill Cemetery. He would like to look into a renovation project.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion the 2022 budget be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop made and Wade seconded a motion the street closure request from St. Stephen's Church for October 24 be approved as requested. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that Bobby Grider and Jon Gates be approved to travel to a gas safety class on December 7-8. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported a complaint of tall grass was received concerning the property at 229 Freeman Lane. He stated the grass has been mowed, but there is still a lot of debris scattered around the property. President Blaylock continued there is a vehicle with expired plates at 709 Arthur St., and a camper at 824 Brewery St. parked along the street, which is in violation of 17.64.010 of the New Harmony Municipal Code. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that violation letters be sent to all three property owners. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock announced a meeting with Harmonie State Park has been set for November 2, to begin discussions on the possibility of the Town accepting their wastewater. He asked that Council let him know if they plan to attend as having three or more Council members present would necessitate the calling of a special meeting.

President Blaylock reported Capers has requested permission to have a tent sale on November 12-14 in the parking spaces adjacent to their store. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Capers be given permission to conduct a tent sale on Tavern St., in the parking space only, from November 12-14. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock stated Mary Beth Guard had installed lights on one tree and one planter on Main St. as requested. Councilman Wade commented he feels the lights need to be brighter, and he doesn't like how they look in the planters. Councilman Williams stated he likes the look. Councilman Alsop agreed with Councilman Wade's comments, and she also pointed out the trees will need to be trimmed from time to time. Mrs. Guard offered to get a blue-white light, and install a set. What she previously installed was warm-white. She agreed that the lights on the planters did not work. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that the lights currently installed be rejected, and that the blue-white lights be installed in the trees only, to determine if the look is as desired. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There was discussion about unlicensed vehicles. Marshal Straub served a notice on those parked along the street. For those on private property, an ordinance violation ticket must be written, they cannot be towed.

Robin Lewis was not in attendance to provide an update on the Christmas decorations.

Councilman Wade provided his suggestions on amendments to the fireworks ordinance. He would like the allowable times to be changed to July 3 & 4, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m., Labor Day, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m., and 11 p.m. on December 31 to 12:30 a.m. on January 1. He asked that Attorney Bauer write up an ordinance to reflect these changes. She was also asked to look into whether or not the Town can regulate fireworks on private property, or the type of fireworks used.

President Blaylock announced a Halloween golf cart parade will be held on October 31, beginning at 6 p.m.

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

President Blaylock read a letter of resignation from Brenda Sawyer, as a member of the Park Board, effective after the December 14 meeting.

Councilman Alsop stated she would like to plant three trees at Murphy Park to replace those that have been removed. She would like to plant a maple, oak, and gum, at an approximate cost of \$600. Councilman Alsop made and Williams seconded a motion the three trees be purchased. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop announced Arbor Day will be held October 30 at 10 a.m. at Murphy Park. There was discussion about the standard Arbor Day Proclamation and how it could be approved.

Councilman Alsop stated the bushes in the Veteran's Memorial were removed, as they were dying. She has spoken to the Garden Club about this. She will follow up with them.

Councilman Alsop checked into police and fire banners for the light poles at the request of a couple of other Council members. For a total of eight banners, the cost is approximately \$371. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion the eight banners be purchased. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade suggested that a committee be established to oversee the banners. He agreed to lead the committee.

Councilman Watson inquired about the property at 822 East St. Clerk-Treasurer Atkins stated notice was served but the property owner did nothing. It was noted that if the property owner should be seen, that Marshal Straub be contacted immediately.

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 9:14 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer