

OCTOBER 20, 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: Chris Laughbaum, Robin Lewis, Jeff Smotherman, Dan Mason, Connie Weinzapfel, and Trisha Lopez.

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

President Blaylock announced the paving funded by CCMG 2020-1 has been completed, less striping.

Councilman Williams reported he is waiting on a return call from the Maple Hill Cemetery mowing contractor regarding his final mow, as well as some other outstanding issues.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion the 2021 budget be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Alsop seconded a motion the conflict of interest statement submitted by Roger Wade regarding the COVID-19 Response Grant be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop made and Watson seconded a motion the conflict of interest statement submitted by Tom Williams regarding the COVID-19 Response Grant be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion the financial commitment letter for CCMG 2020-2 be approved. This letter commits a maximum of \$20,364. in Town funds. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported a written complaint has been received about the condition of the property at 1017 Steammill St. Councilman Alsop made and Wade seconded a motion that the property at 1017 Steammill St. be declared a nuisance and a letter be sent to the property owner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported a complaint has been received regarding unlicensed vehicles, etc., at 318A Freeman Lane. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that the property at 318A Freeman Lane be declared a nuisance and a letter be issued. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Connie Weinzapfel thanked the Town for the tree work done on Church St.

Robin Lewis reported on Christmas in New Harmony. She has been in contact with the Posey Co. Health Dept. regarding what activities can safely be held. She will have more concrete details for the November meeting.

Jeff Smotherman added a few more details on Christmas in New Harmony. He also stated individual business owners will decide how to handle trick or treaters.

Dan Mason, with Historic New Harmony, reported a lot of maintenance is about to begin on their properties. He also announced they have received a \$10,000 grant from the Efroymson Family Fund, to allow them to give \$500 beautification grants to entities or individuals within the Town.

Mr. Mason announced he is organizing a golf cart parade on Halloween so kids can trick or treat safely.

There was no action taken on amending the fireworks ordinance.

President Blaylock noted Council might consider adding leaves to the proposed ordinance on grass in the street.

Councilman Williams made and Wade seconded a motion that Attorney Bauer draft a food truck ordinance, modeled after Evansville's ordinance. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade proposed a trial regarding golf carts. He would like to have the Atheneum begin using the document he presented at the last meeting, which requires renters to sign acknowledging their understanding of the rules. Attorney Bauer would like to clean-up the document to track the language of the Town's ordinance. This was approved. There was discussion about visitors that bring their own golf cart to Town for a day. They are not made aware of the Town's regulations.

Councilman Alsop noted the needed maintenance at Murphy Park may need to wait until early spring.

President Blaylock spoke regarding the COVID-19 Response Grant. He reported a five person review committee looked at the 32 qualified businesses and they recommend dividing the grant funds equally among the 32. Councilman Watson made and Alsop seconded a motion that the recommendation of the COVID-19 Response Grant review committee be accepted, and that the grant funds be distributed equally among the 32 qualified businesses. All were in favor except Councilman Wade and Williams, who abstained due to having a conflict of interest. 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 Alsop reported that cars are still driving the golf cart trails. She has a quote for signs to be posted at the three entrances. President Blaylock and Councilman Watson feel that installing a post would be more effective. Councilman Williams made and Alsop seconded a motion that three signs be posted at Third St., Main St., and the Atheneum, at an estimated cost of \$160. All were in favor. Motion carried. There was discussion about the adoption of an ordinance. Attorney Bauer noted many of the Town's ordinances refer to the general penalty ordinance, which requires the issue to go to court. If an ordinance is adopted, it needs to contain its own penalty.

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 9:14 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer