

DECEMBER 17, 2019

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, FLANDERS, WADE, and WATSON along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Erin Bauer.

The following visitors were present: Dan Barton, Jenna Richardt, Selina Watson, Sally Denning, Sue Krozel, Dan Mason, Don Alsop, Chris Laughbaum, Jeff Smotherman, Tom & Caroline Williams, and Briel Kobak.

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 inactive hornets' nest at Murphy Park.

President Blaylock opened and read the following bids for street paving: E & B Paving - \$102,280.; David Enterprises - \$165,750. Bids were taken under advisement to make sure they are complete. Award should be done at the next meeting.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the proposed lease agreement between the Town and Harmony Township be approved. The agreement runs from 1-1-20 thru 12-31-23. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins requested permission to write off four utility accounts totaling \$849.35. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion the accounts be written off as requested. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Alsop seconded a motion that the financial commitment letter for the 2020-1 Community Crossings Matching Grant be approved. The Town is committing a maximum of \$31,562.50. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Resolution 2019-5 in full. This Resolution authorizes appropriation transfers within the General Fund. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Resolution 2019-5 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Resolution 2019-6 in full. This Resolution authorizes appropriation transfers within the Park Fund. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that Resolution 2019-6 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Murphy Park be closed to vehicular traffic for January, February, and approximately half of March, until the weather breaks. All were in favor except Councilman Flanders and Alsop. Motion carried.

President Blaylock recommended that leaf pick-up cease on December 20. Councilman Wade suggested the date be later so it can be put in the newspaper and people will be aware. Councilman Wade made and Flanders seconded a motion that leaf pick-up end on December 30. All were in favor except President Blaylock. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the regularly scheduled Council meeting for January, 2020, be held on January 28, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reappointed Councilman Alsop to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a four-year term, and appointed Councilman Wade to replace David Flanders, whose term will expire 12-31-21.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that President Blaylock, Councilman Watson, and Aaron Straub be appointed to the Plan and Historic Preservation Commission for four-year terms, which will expire on 12-31-23. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that Brenda Sawyer be appointed to the Park Board to replace Sue Krozel. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock introduced Jenna Richardt, with the Posey County Economic Development Partnership. She offered assistance to the Town Council on future endeavors.

Dan Mason updated Council on current happenings at Historic New Harmony.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that the Clerk-Treasurer's salary be increased by 5%, effective 1-1-20. All were in favor. Motion carried. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the salary of the Town Council members remain unchanged for 2020. All were in favor. Motion carried. These salaries are reflected in Ordinance 2019-3, which was approved.

President Blaylock reported he has spoken with Congressman Bucshon's office regarding the floodplain problem. He received a questionnaire from them, which he intends to complete in order to get their assistance. Dan Mason offered to provide a letter of support from Historic New Harmony as part of the request if desired.

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 Wade asked that Attorney Bauer look into the information that was presented by Morley & Associates on how property owners can save on their flood insurance.

Councilman Wade asked that Council look into doing something with the creek near the Old Mill Mart next year, due to flooding.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer