

DECEMBER 20, 2022

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, CLARK, WADE and WILLIAMS along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Erin Bauer.

The following visitors were present: Connie Weinzapfel, Jan Kahle, Kent Schuette, and Chad Foreman.

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

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion the minutes of the November 29, 2022, special meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop reported a tree was removed from the trail by Tom Smith.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Murphy Park be closed to vehicular traffic immediately, and that it remain closed until weather permits in the spring. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read proposed changes to the salary ordinance as contained in Ordinance 2022-5, to be effective January 1, 2023. Council members were unanimous in agreeing to consider Ordinance 2022-5 for passage, which was confirmed by a roll call vote. Councilman Clark made and Wade seconded a motion that Ordinance 2022-5 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Alsop made and Williams seconded a motion that accounts totaling \$504.99 be written off as requested by Clerk-Treasurer Atkins. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Resolution 2022-4 in full. This Resolution authorizes appropriation transfers within the General Fund. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Resolution 2022-4 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Resolution 2022-5 in full. This Resolution authorizes appropriation transfers within the Park Fund. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that Resolution 2022-5 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Kent Schuette thanked Council and Town employees for helping make Christmas in New Harmony a success.

President Blaylock announced that Jeff Smotherman has resigned as zoning administrator effective December 31. Councilman Wade made and Clark seconded a motion that Donnie Martin be appointed as his replacement. President Blaylock nominated Jeff Koester for the position. All were in favor except President Blaylock. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reappointed Kay Giles to a four-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that David Vonderscher be reappointed to the Park Board for a four-year term. Mr. Vonderscher had previously submitted a letter of resignation, but has since agreed to continue serving in order to see through some ongoing projects. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Clark reported on his findings regarding the employees' health insurance. Three other companies were quoted, and all were higher than the Town's current package with Anthem. Councilman Clark also looked into Indiana Farm Bureau, which only does individuals, not groups. Councilman Wade feels these options should be looked into earlier next year. Councilman Clark made and Wade seconded a motion that the Town continue with Anthem, under proposed plan 1, effective January 1. All were in favor. Motion carried. There was discussion on charging a higher premium for smokers.

Councilman Clark made mention of numerous volunteers in Town including Robin Lewis, Mary Beth Guard, Paula Butler, and Kent Schuette. This is not an all inclusive list, and he asked that all be recognized.

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

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 9:00 a.m.

Alvin Blaylock, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer