

DECEMBER 15, 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, Trisha Lopez, Dan Mason, Connie Weinzapfel, and Denise Rapp.

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

President Blaylock announced the Fire Depts. annual sausage/bean supper has been cancelled.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that the salary of the Clerk-Treasurer be increased to \$4,000. per month, effective 1-1-21. All were in favor. Motion carried. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the salary of the Town Council be increased to \$3,800 per year. All were in favor. Motion carried. These changes shall be incorporated into Ordinance 2020-6.

President Blaylock reported the Town must do an update to its wellhead protection plan. The Town has contracted with the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water to assist with this.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that discussion on putting a crosswalk in at Main and Steammill Sts. be tabled until March. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock read Resolution 2020-5 in full. This Resolution authorizes appropriation transfers within the General Fund. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that Resolution 2020-5 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock asked that Council members look into appointments to the Plan Commission and Park Board and notify him of any suggestions. Appointments will need to be made at the January meeting. Attorney Bauer was asked to research the requirement that the Park Board be comprised of two Republicans and two Democrats.

Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that December 18 be the last day for leaf pick-up. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that Murphy Park be closed to vehicular traffic beginning on January 1. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock asked Council members to inform Bobby Grider if they have anything they wish to be included in the employee evaluation forms. Any comments need to be forwarded by noon on December 18.

President Blaylock announced the Town's 2020-2 Community Crossings Matching Grant application was approved. The Town was awarded \$61,092,.

Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that President Blaylock look into applying for an OCRA grant to clean out mill ditch. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Blaylock announced there is a new COVID Phase 3 funding opportunity. Proposals are due January 29, and applications are due February 26. Attorney Bauer advised that any Council member who has received funding, could apply, or has a family member who could apply, should abstain from voting on any related matters. Councilman Watson made and Alsop seconded a motion the Town apply for the Phase 3 funding. All were in favor except Councilman Wade and Williams, who abstained due to a potential conflict of interest. Motion carried. Councilman Watson made and Alsop seconded a motion that President Blaylock and Clerk-Treasurer Atkins have decision making authority concerning the Phase 3 funding. All were in favor except Councilman Wade and Williams, who abstained due to a potential conflict of interest. Motion carried.

President Blaylock spoke regarding open forum. He stated the open forum has become a community bulletin board. He asked that items brought up be relevant to the business of the Town. He encouraged those who want to speak, to ask to be placed on the agenda.

Attorney Bauer presented a draft of the food truck ordinance. Councilman Wade expressed concern that the food trucks can take business from the local eateries. Councilman Williams feels the

food trucks are a benefit to the Town as a whole, as they may bring more people to Town. Councilman Wade made and Watson seconded a motion that the permit fee be \$50. per visit. All were in favor except Councilman Williams. Motion carried. Councilman Watson made and Wade seconded a motion that food trucks be allowed from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All were in favor except Councilman Williams. Motion carried. Denise Rapp spoke in support of Councilman Williams' feelings. Councilman Wade made and Alsop seconded a motion that food trucks be allowed anywhere except Church and Main Sts. All were in favor except Councilman Williams. Motion carried.

President Blaylock reported the current contract regarding the Ribeyre Gym Restrooms expires December 31. A new contract will need to be negotiated in the spring.

Councilman Wade made and Williams seconded a motion that the Town continue with the current health insurance plan. All were in favor. 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.

President Blaylock read Resolution 2020-6 in full. This Resolution renews the Town's Title VI Implementation Plan. Councilman Watson made and Williams seconded a motion that Resolution 2020-6 be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried

Councilman Alsop asked Council to look at a tree in Murphy Park that needs taken care of. Councilman Williams asked that a tree in front of his home on Church St. be looked at as well.

Councilman Alsop reported there are repairs needed at Playtopia. Dan Mason noted these repairs may be eligible for a \$500 beautification grant through Historic New Harmony. He will work with Councilman Alsop on this.

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