

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
July 20, 2020 6 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, July 20, 2020 at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road. The meeting utilized the Zoom App. Present at Huntertown Town Hall were board president Michael Aker; Town Manager Beth Shellman; and Huntertown Resource Officer Ingrid Herriott. Attending the meeting via Zoom were board members Patricia Freck, Brandon Seifert and Michael Stamets; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc.; four (4) member of the public and one (1) member of the media. Absent was council member Gary Grant

Michael Aker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

COUNCIL ACTION

Brandon Seifert made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 6, 2020 meeting. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the general, water and sewer claims dated July 20, 2020 in the amount of \$654,238.87. Brandon Seifert seconded. Patricia Freck asked if the utility service board is seeing the claims before the council approves them. Ryan Schwab informed the council that they are the legislative body of the Town and per Indiana Code; they approve claims, not the utility board. He added that the department heads, the town manager, or the clerk-treasurer are seeing and approving invoices before the council votes on them. He is not presenting claims to the utility service board for review and no one on the USB has asked to see them. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to promote utility employee Kris Bair from a utility employee #4 to a utility employee #2. Mike Stamets seconded. Patricia Freck asked about why his CDL license is allowing him to be promoted two levels. Mike Aker said that the council changed that to add a CDL license as an extra incentive late in 2019. Freck said she was concerned about employees reaching the top levels of the pay grade and having nothing else to shoot for. She also asked how often he uses his CDL license. Beth added that he is the third employee to have a CDL and the town has certain equipment that requires a CDL. Shellman also added that Bair is mainly a street department employee and is more likely to use a CDL license than a water/sewer operating license. Mike Aker noted that Bair has been offered education on water/sewer operating licenses. Discussion also covered which employees have which license and what level on the pay scale each employee is at. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve Messmann Enterprises LLC for five sidewalk projects throughout town in the amount of \$76,958.00. Brandon Seifert seconded. Beth Shellman presented the council with two quotes for five sidewalk projects. Messmann Enterprises quote came in at \$76,958.00 and Garcia Concrete Construction Inc. had a quote of \$98,800.00. Topics of conversation included project priority and ADA compliance at the park. Derek Frederickson noted that he is doing some master planning to close off the sidewalk trails and potentially moving the parking lot and adding a splash pad. Beth Shellman noted that Northwest Allen County Schools and The Friends of Huntertown Parks Inc. may contribute funding and she planned to pursue that option with them. Michael Stamets noted that even if they don't choose to participate, his motion was to pay for the projects in full. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2020-020, a Resolution in support of law enforcement officers. Patricia Freck seconded. Topics of discussion, included the colors of ribbons to display on the town's light poles; with blue being the deciding choice. After no further discussion, the motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Megan McClellan, representing Fort Wayne Trails, provided an update on the process of the signature drive in Twin Eagles for approval of the project through that subdivision. Of the 254 homes, 66-percent (or 168 homes) are needed to move forward with the project. At present, 87 signatures have been completed with 13 more being halfway complete. Beth Shellman noted that the signatures needed collected in the next few months to give contractors time to bid the project; her goal is to have them complete by September 21, 2020. Brandon Seifert asked is the project

could be built in phases. McClellan stated that the grant doesn't allow for the project to be built in phases. McClellan also said that if they don't get the signatures, the other options are for eminent domain or to lose the entire project and the \$3.3 million in funding. McClellan said she could come back in another month or so for an update. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

Ronald Webb, Senior Engineer Manager with GAI Consultants provided the council with an update on the Hathaway Road project, east of State Road three to Corbin Road. His company was hired by Allen County to do work on this project and completed 30-percent of the work before the County notified them of the Town's intent to annex areas on both sides of the road. The County is continuing to use the company for the portions of the road within its jurisdiction. Beth Shellman provided details on potential Federal Aid options for the project and was looking for direction from the council on whether it wanted to bid the project or use the company that has already started the work. GAI Consultants agreed to send the council a fee proposal for a potential contract to do the work with the town. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

OLD BUSINESS

Derek Frederickson re-introduced conversation on the sanitary sewer reimbursement agreement project. He noted that surveying is complete. He will have an update on cost and scope of project for the Utility Service Board at its next meeting. Patricia Freck asked about funding. Frederickson noted that there is some conversation with the development community but no commitment. Freck would like to see more than one financial option brought to them to vote on, rather than having a decision made without their say.

REPORTS

Brandon Seifert reported that the All-In Allen workshops are starting up again. He has organized a workshop for July 28, 2020 from 6-7 p.m. at Huntertown Elementary School. He wants to know who all can attend and noted that the attendance is limited to 20 people.

Michael Aker met with Myles Wilson, owner of Sheets 7 Childs Funeral Home and toured his facility. He should be up and running in the next few months. An open house is scheduled for Saturday, September 19th at the facility. Other topics included a Chamber of Commerce vs. Greater Fort Wayne; and the parking lot at the facility.

Huntertown Resource Officer Ingrid Herriott introduced herself to council. She said she views Huntertown as a refreshing change to just working on the road. She is meeting with businesses and handing out business cards.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had no report.

Town Manager Beth Shellman had the following report:

- 20 banner openings for the next round of Hometown Hero banners. We get more every door. If we don't get to 50, she may order some Christmas themed banners.
- Thanked everyone for taking part in Team Huntertown's virtual 5K, walking 3.1 miles around Huntertown on Friday, June 17, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None were brought forth.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to adjourn. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Attest: Michael Aker
Michael Aker
President

Ryan Schwab
Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer