

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Tuesday, January 19, 2021, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. The meeting utilized the Zoom App. Present at Huntertown Town Hall was council member Michael Aker and Resource Officer Anis Softic. Present using the Zoom app were council members Patricia Freck, Brandon Seifert, and Michael Stamets; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Town Manager Beth Shellman; Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc.; David Hawk of Hawk Haynie Kammeyer & Smith; Steve Carter of Krohn & Associates; and two (2) members of the public and one (1) reporter. Absent was council member Gary Grant (P).

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2021 meeting. Brandon Seifert seconded. There was no discussion. Motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the general, water, and sewer claims dated January 19, 2020 in the amount of \$554,293.40. Brandon Seifert seconded. Brandon Seifert questioned invoices from Hawk Haynie Kammeyer & Smith in the amounts of \$11,105.50 and 7,212.50 and asked to give those invoices back to the Utility Service Board, whom they were billed to. Ryan Schwab stated that the \$7,212.50 was approved by the Utility Board at its Jan. 4 meeting and the remaining amount of \$11,105.50 is the amount that exceeds the Utility Board's not-to-exceed amount per the contracted agreement. Attorney David Hawk has asked the council to consider paying the overage. Discussion items included emails to and from the attorney seeking more information on the invoice and why those emails were not answered; whether an itemized list of charges was included, how detailed that list needs to be, and how much time it would take the attorney to create the list; what items are included in the monthly retainer and whether charges on the bill should have been included as part of the retainer; whether to pay in full now and get a credit on a future bill if some charges were not warranted; and setting up a date/time to go over the charges in the coming week. After no further discussion, the motion was defeated, 2-0-2 (Freck – Aye; Seifert – Abstain; Stamets – Aye; Aker – Abstain).

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the general, water, and sewer claims dated January 19, 2020 as presented, less the line item to Hawk Hayne Kammeyer & Smith in the amount of \$11,105.50 creating a new total amount of \$543,187.90. Brandon Seifert seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed 3-1 (Seifert – Aye; Stamets – Aye; Aker – Aye; Freck – Nay).

Brandon Seifert made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 21-001, an Ordinance to amend Huntertown Ordinance No. 14-004, as amended, for metered rates and charges for services of the Huntertown Sewage Utility. Michael Stamets seconded. Beth Shellman provided an overview of the ordinance, noting that it included the requested changes to the sprinkler credit that were voted on at the January 4, 2021 meeting. Patricia Freck asked why the ordinance only listed the sewage utility. David Hawk said that since the sprinkler credit only alters the sewer portion of a customer's bill, the water utility does not need included in the ordinance. She also stated that she asked for utility office manager Rosemary Scheele and Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab for information on how much money the sprinkler credit saves residents for the month of May and that she was told that no report exists to provide that information. Ryan Schwab confirmed the same, noting that a report in the software system could be turned on for a fee, but there was no guarantee the information Freck was seeking would be included in that report. Ryan Schwab also said that a Public Hearing for this ordinance would be held as part of the Feb. 1, 2021 meeting and that an introduction of the ordinance was all that was needed for this meeting. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 3-1. (Stamets – Aye; Aker – Aye; Freck – Nay; Seifert – Aye).

Brandon Seifert made a motion to approve Huntertown Ordinance 2021-002, an Ordinance to amend Huntertown Ordinance No. 15-006, deleting all Fort Wayne Utility treatment, pass through, and related charges for services of the Huntertown sewage utility, and to establish a system development charge for new sewer connections to the Huntertown Sewer Utility. Michael Stamets seconded. Steve Carter provided an overview of the ordinance, noting that a system development charge allows the town to collect the fee on the front end instead of charging it to the residents' utility bill. Brandon Seifert asked if there would be an issue if they changed the advertised amount. Dave Hawk said that as long as they adopt the ordinance at or lower than what was advertised, there is no issue. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to grant conditional approval for the secondary plat for the Quarry Section II, pending technical review and satisfactory start-up of a lift station for the development. Michael Stamets seconded. Patricia Freck asked about the conditions the town asks for in a secondary plat or if those conditions apply only to the primary plat. Beth Shellman noted that technical review comments are a part of the secondary plat approval process. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve a professional services agreement with Engineering Resources Inc. for engineering work on 2020-2 Community Crossings Matching Grant project for Bethel Road in the not-to-exceed amount of \$58,200.00. Michael Stamets seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed, 4-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve a quote from Tri County Water Conditioning in the amount of \$900.00 for a new water softener at Huntertown Town Hall. Michael Stamets seconded. Beth Shellman said that the Council originally approved a quote from Atomic Water Solutions for the same service in the amount of \$4,413.00 at its December 7, 2020 meeting. Utility Board president Brad Hite indicated to her that Tri County could possibly provide the same service at a lower rate and after inquiring, that was indeed the case. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Outside of items listed under Council Action, no other New Business was brought forth.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was brought forth.

REPORTS

Huntertown Resource Officer Anis Softic had no report.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had the following report:

- He provided the council with a list of the Miscellaneous Appropriation Transfers needed to close out fiscal year 2020. Since all the transfers were done within the same numerical series, no formal resolution was required.
- He has been notified that all the town's reimbursement requests to the Indiana Finance Authority for the COVID-19 Relief Fund Program have been accepted and that the payments should be arriving by the end of the month.

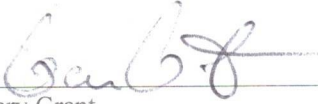
Outside of items listed under council action, Town Manager Beth Shellman had no further report.

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 7:13 p.m.

Attest:



Gary Grant
President



Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer