

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public/virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. The meeting utilized the Zoom App. Present at Huntertown Town Hall were board members Brandon Seifert (P) and Michael Stamets; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; four (4) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Attending the meeting via Zoom was council member Michael Aker; Town Manager Beth Shellman; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc.; four (4) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media.

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2022, regular meeting. Michael Aker seconded. The motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated January 18, 2021, in the amount of \$635,333.42. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2022-001, an Ordinance annexing certain territory to the Town of Huntertown, Indiana to be commonly known as Ridley Park, Section I Voluntary Annexation. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the secondary plats for Rolling Oaks Sections III and IV. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2022-001, a Resolution approve payment into employee health savings accounts. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve an IT service agreement with Fort Wayne IT Solutions as presented. Michael Aker seconded. Ryan Schwab provided an overview of the three quotes he sought for additional companies. Austen Bartels of Fort Wayne IT Solutions provided council with an overview of the changes, what new services the town would be receiving and the importance of continued IT management in the current climate. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to have Engineering Resources Inc. provide a cost study for residents along Carroll Road, between Hand Road and Johnson Road within the town's utility service territory, to explore future connections and annexation of those residents. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to remove a pedestrian walking path from the Kell Road Bridge project in order to both save money and promote safety near the Pufferbelly Trail. Michael Aker seconded. Derek Frederickson noted that the project cost has increased from an estimated \$800,000 to an estimated \$920,000. Taking the pedestrian walking paths out of the project would lower the cost to an estimated \$700,000. Frederickson also noted that the Pufferbelly Trail is adjacent to the bridge. Michael Aker said the town should encourage using the trail instead of sidewalks near the road for safety purposes. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Outside of items listed under Council Action, the following New Business was brought forth:

- Blake Pontius, a salesperson for American Marketing and Publishing, presented the council with information on improving its Google Street View profile at a one-time fee of \$565.00. The Google team would bring its cameras into Town Hall and through the corridors to provide panoramic images from inside the building. Ryan Schwab expressed concern that the updated profile might make it easier for people wishing to do harm to the workers in the facility to know the ins and outs of the building. Rick Tough, assistant district manager for American Marketing and Publishing, noted that he has not seen a case that matches those concerns, adding that most customers have seen improved safety as a result of the increased profile. Pontius also shared information on his company's text alert system, which would allow the town to send mass text messages to residents at an annual cost of \$1,250.00. Schwab said initial feedback from town employees is positive, however the town has had issue getting residents to sign up for other programs in the past and is concerned the annual cost may not be worth the service if participation is limited. After no further discussion, no action was taken.
- Megan McClellan, Executive Director of Fort Wayne Trails, provided the council with an update on a variety of trail projects in and around Huntertown. She said that a portion of the Pufferbelly Trail, from Lifebridge Church to Fitch Road, is being funded by a Next Level Trails grant and would be under construction in the summer of 2022. Construction would take one year. She also highlighted improvements to Peyton Park, a Golden Spike trail project in Fort Wayne from Ice Way to Washington Center Road; and a larger trail project from Pokagon State Park in Angola to Wabash, Indiana, an 85-mile trail which would be the longest in Indiana.
- Beth Shellman asked the council to put together comments the town would like to submit at an upcoming Public Hearing held by the Allen County Department of Planning Services. Projects to consider commenting on included re-zoning for the Farmstead at Carroll Creek for a 61-lot subdivision; rezoning for The Fens for a 764-lot subdivision; and a primary play for Copper Creek Villas, a 27-lot subdivision.

OLD BUSINESS

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

REPORTS

Outside of items listed under Council Action, no other council members had reports.

Resource Officers Brandon Reichert had no report.

Outside of items listed under Council Action, Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had the following report:

- The U.S. Department of Treasury has issued its Final Rule on the American Rescue Plan Act, which will go into effect on April 1, 2022. He noted one specific change to allowable spending. New to the replacing lost public sector revenue category is an option that will allow recipients to elect a standard allowance of \$10 million to spend on government services to determine loss of revenue, instead of applying the actual revenue loss formula. Among the items listed under government services includes road building and maintenance and other infrastructure, meaning the town could now use its entire remaining ARPA allotment for roadway improvements. He suggested that the council begin discussion with other town officials on how it would like to proceed with ARPA spending.

Town Manager Beth Shellman had the following report:

- The All-In Allen County Project team would like to make a presentation at a future meeting. Since the presentation is 30-45 minutes, she is suggesting that the council reschedule its February 22, 2022, meeting to 5 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. Those in attendance agreed to move the meeting to 5:30 p.m. Ryan Schwab said he would get the new meeting time advertised in accordance with the Open-Door Law.


Outside of items listed under Council Action, Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc. had no further report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

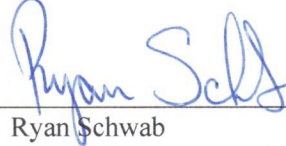
None were brought forth.

Michael Aker made a motion to adjourn. Michael Stamets seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Attest:



Brandon Siefert
President



Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer