

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Monday, February 7, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public/virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, February 7, 2022, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. The meeting utilized the Zoom App. Present at Huntertown Town Hall were board members Michael Aker, Patricia Freck, Gary Grant, Brandon Seifert (P) and Michael Stamets; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; Town Manager Beth Shellman, Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc.; five (5) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Attending the meeting via Zoom was one (1) member of the public and zero (0) members of the media.

Brandon Seifert called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:10 p.m.

COUNCIL ACTION

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2022, regular meeting. Michael Stamets seconded. The motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated February 7, 2022, in the amount of \$330,096.26. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to adopt Huntertown Resolution 2022-002, a Resolution adopting the fiscal plan regarding the annexation of certain territory to the Town of Huntertown to be commonly known as the Ridley Park Section I Annexation Area. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to adopt 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. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to re-appoint Brandon Seifert and Michael Stamets to the Huntertown Redevelopment Commission. Patricia Freck seconded. Brandon Seifert said that his is re-appointing Randy Bailey, Rob Green and Ken McCrory through his council executive powers for appointment. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to pay \$1,000 to resident Marna Bowker to cover her insurance deductible as a result of damages to her home as a result of a sanitary sewer backup in her home. Michael Aker seconded. Beth Shellman said that the sewer backup occurred in her home last summer and that the 180-day notice period expired before the tort notice was submitted to the town. Had the notice been submitted on time, the town's insurance would have paid any claim. However, since the tort notice came after deadline, the town is under no obligation to pay for any damages. Shellman also said that the incident was caused by tree roots clogging the line, which made it the fault of the town. The utility service board approved this recommendation during its meeting earlier in the evening. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-1 (Freck – Nay, Grant – Aye, Stamets – Aye, Aker – Aye, Seifert – Aye).

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2022-003, updating the Standards and Specifications for Utilities in Huntertown pending the removal of certain language in the resolution. Michael Aker seconded. Derek Frederickson provided an overview of the updates, which cover lift station construction standards. Beth Shellman said the Utility Board member has asked that language throughout the resolution stating, "within the exclusive water and sewer service territory" be removed and replaced with "for certified

Huntertown Utilities customers.” Once those changes are made, a clean resolution will be presented to council for signature. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2022-004, a Resolution regarding extension of water and sewer services for two residential homes on Dunton Road. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve two façade grants for local businesses in a total amount of \$7,006.10. Patricia Freck seconded. Beth Shellman provided the council details on the two grant applications, noting that both applications were approved by the Huntertown Redevelopment Commission at its meeting earlier in the evening. Lift Automotive Inc. is applying for \$2,006.10 and Riverside MFG is applying for the maximum \$5,000.00. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the Huntertown Redevelopment Commission Annual Report as presented. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve a quote from Fire & Ice in the amount of \$5,484 for a gas furnace at the new utility shop building. Michael Stamets seconded. Ryan Schwab noted that the Town Council would only be responsible for one-third of the total cost (\$1,828.00) and that the utility service board approved payment of the remainder at its meeting earlier in the evening. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Gary made a motion to approve a quote from H&H Sales in the amount of \$61,251 for the purchase of a 2022 Ford F450 pickup truck, a quote from Kenn Feld Group in the amount of \$9,677.12, and a quote from Kalida Truck Equipment Inc. in the amount of \$7,000 for hydraulic upgrades for a salt spreader attachment for the vehicle, for a total purchase of \$37,094.12. Michael Aker seconded. Ryan Schwab noted that the Town Council would only be responsible for one-third of the total cost (\$20,417.00) for the truck and that the plow and hydraulic upgrades for the salt spreader would be expensed one hundred percent to the general fund. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to approve paying the seven utility workers time-and-a-half for all work performed on Wednesday, February 2-Friday, February 5 during a severe winter storm event. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- The council asked Town Manager Beth Shellman to issue a letter to the Allen County Plan Commission stating that the town had “no concerns” related to three projects to be discussed at a Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 16, 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

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

REPORTS

Michael Aker had the following report:

- He asked Street Superintendent Randy Bailey how the snow-plowing efforts went during a recent winter storm event from February 3-5. Bailey said it was one of the worst storms he has been a part of in his time with the Town, noting that as soon as crews would finish their route, the need to

begin plowing would be immediate. Council members shared words of thanks to the utility workers for their arduous work.

Resource Officers Brandon Reichert had the following report:

- He spent time in the additions prior to the storm event trying to get cars out of the streets.
- He attended a meeting of the Copper Creek Homeowners Association and street parking, blowing trash and high weeds were among the complaints.
- He asked the council to again consider "No Parking" signs on the fire hydrant side of Lima Crossing Drive to help alleviate parking concerns near Empowered Sports Club. As that area continues to develop, the parking will only get worse in the area.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had no report.

Town Manager Beth Shellman provided a handout of her report and highlighted the following items.

- Northeast Indiana (Allen Co) received a 50-million-dollar READI Grant. Since the application was made, GFW was told the grants must now be used for permitted uses for the ARPA funds. She is talking with them about using some of the funding to complete the Dunton Drain/Apollo/Gemini/Mercury project. Projects that include more than one entity get higher consideration. This project would include the county and the town. Rules are changing and being written right now. GFW will keep me informed on what projects may be eligible for the town to participate in.
- She is asking council members to consider being a part of the Huntertown team for the Pufferbelly 5K on Saturday, July 16 at 8:30 a.m.
- She met with two GFW employees who conduct community visits, and we are planning to again visit our local businesses in 2022. Last year we met with several businesses and had great conversations are retaining businesses in town, assistance that can be offered to them and many of them are interested in Façade Grants.
- Town Attorney Dave Hawk and financial advisor Steve Carter are working on the timeline to re-establish the CCD for the town. Carter told her when he was doing the fiscal plan for the Marcella Voluntary Annexation that the town could use the funds for future projects.

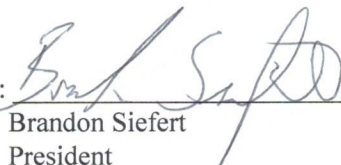
Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc. had no further report.

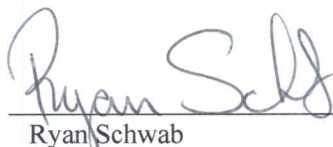
PUBLIC COMMENT

None were brought forth.

Michael Stamets made a motion to adjourn. Gary Grant seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Attest:


Brandon Siefert
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer