

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Monday, May 16, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public/virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, May 16, 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.; Jay Stankiewicz of GAI Consultants; six (6) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. No one attended the meeting via Zoom.

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Gary Grant made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 18, 2022, Regular Meeting. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated May 2, 2022, in the amount of \$582,429.09. Gary Grant seconded. Michael Stamets asked the clerk-treasurer if these bills had been paid already since the council did not meet on May 2, 2022, as scheduled. Ryan Schwab said that council president Brandon Seifert gave him permission to do so, and all of those claims had indeed been paid. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated May 16, 2022, in the amount of \$696,721.42. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2022-010, a declaratory resolution for the designation of Economic Revitalization Area No. H-19 application for Riverside MFG., LLC/RMI Properties, LLC. Patricia Freck seconded. Rachel Black, Economic Development Specialist with the Allen County Department of Planning Services provided an overview of the resolution and Scott Maddox, President of Riverside MFG, provided details on the plans for the business. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0-1 (Stamets – Aye; Aker – Aye; Freck – Aye, Grant – Aye; Seifert – Abstain).

Michael Aker made a motion to approve a quote from API Construction Corp. for street repairs in the amount of \$128,113.00. Gary Grant seconded. Beth Shellman provided the council with an overview of the three quotes received, noting that API was the lowest quoter. Ryan Schwab told the council that money was budgeted in the Motor Vehicle Highway restricted fund for a separate road project that funding was denied for, and that those monies will cover these expenses. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to approve a quote from Universal Windows Direct by Faylor Construction in the amount of \$5,875.00 for gutter improvements at Huntertown Town Hall. Patricia Freck seconded. Beth Shellman provided the council with a description on the two quotes received, noting that the quote from Rain Guard Seamless Guttering was the lowest quote at \$5,307.00. The quote also indicated that the installation was 15-20 weeks out from the date of order. Grant said that paying the extra \$568.00 was worth it to use a local vendor and to get the project started sooner. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$498.44 to the Town's payroll fund, to cover retroactivity charges on the April 2022 invoice from PHP for the town's health insurance. Michael Stamets seconded. Beth Shellman stated that PHP had underbilled the town from the months of March and April. The

error was corrected for the May payment and retroactive pay for all employees was being sought for the two months PHP committed the error. Ryan Schwab said he was against having the town pay for the expense, as utility and tax funds already pay for 90-percent of employee health insurance premiums and 50-percent of employee dependents' health insurance premiums and that the remaining amounts are the responsibility of the employee to pay through payroll deductions. Schwab said he planned to deduct a larger amount from employee checks to properly repay the payroll fund. He said he met with each employee effected and that most of them had no issue with how he planned to rectify the situation. Shellman said the employees should not have to get hit with larger payroll deductions because on an error by the insurance company. Other topics of conversation included the exact amounts being deducted related to the tier of insurance each employee has; the town already being generous by giving employees up to \$25,000 in premium pay; and what additional work the clerk-treasurer would take on if the motion were approved. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 3-2 (Stamets – Aye; Aker, - Nay, Freck – Nay; Grant – Aye, Seifert – Aye).

NEW BUSINESS

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

- Derek Frederickson introduced a discussion about partnering with Allen County to spend \$2 million of the county's ARPA funding for septic relief and gravity sewer infrastructure improvements. He notes that of the monies the county is setting aside specifically for Huntertown, that three septic relief projects total \$700,000 and a gravity sewer improvement project near the southwest corner of the State Road 3 and Hathaway Road intersection would cover the remains \$1.3 million. The idea behind the gravity sewer infrastructure improvement project is to promote commercial development in the area by limiting the amount of construction costs and future developers would need to connect to the town's sanitary sewer system. The council agreed to send a letter to the County Commissioners stating they were in favor of these projects. Frederickson said that re-zoning and project approval would come before the council at a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

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

- Beth Shellman proved the council with two quotes for the removal of Hedge Apple Trees along Hand Road. Majestic Pointe, Section II, is being constructed in the area and the trees are in the area of the sidewalk required for the addition. The Trees also present a danger because of how close they are to the road. The low quoter was D&L Tree for the amount of \$12,500.00. Mudrack Tree Services also quoted with an amount of \$21,840.00. Council members wanted to be certain that the quote from D&L Tree included stump removal, as it did not specify. Gary Grant also asked that a local businessperson, who did not quote for this project, be contacted before the council decides. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

REPORTS

Gary Grant had the following report:

- Pedro Yaruchy has been hired to be the second Huntertown Resource Officer. He and Michael Aker interviewed seven candidates. Patricia Freck asked if the town was being billed properly for the two officers. Ryan Schwab noted that since the town signed a contract to employ a second officer through the Sheriff's Department, that the department has continued to only bill the town for one officer. Grant said he would look into it.

Resource Officers Brandon Reichert had the following report:

- With the warmer weather, an increase in vehicle thefts has been reported. He wants to remind homeowners to lock vehicles that sit outside overnight. Gary Grant added that a situation was encountered where a girl was knocking on doors asking if she could mow lawns for residents and was spotted looking through vehicles of homeowners who did not answer the door. The situation with that individual was resolved earlier in the day.
- He will be monitoring the parking situation near the Huntertown baseball/softball diamonds as the summer season is about to begin.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had the following report:

- He will be attending a virtual budget workshop from AIM on Wednesday and will be in the office during the presentation. He is also attending a virtual Clerk-Treasurer's school on Friday and will be at home throughout the day for those sessions.

Outside of items listed under Council Action, Town Manager Beth Shellman had the following report:

- She is meeting with the County Department of Planning Services on Monday, May 23, to discuss the All-In-Allen Comprehensive Plan.
- The town, in conjunction with USI Consultants, is hosting a focus group for the town's downtown improvement plan on Thursday, May 19, at Huntertown Town Hall. Council members Michael Aker and Brandon Seifert are participating. Patricia Freck questioned how people were notified of the focus group and how the council members were chosen to participate. Shellman noted that emails were sent to all business owners from Shoaff Road to State Road 3.
- The town is hosting the next meeting of the Poka-Bache Connection Trail Coalition Group on May 27, 2022, at Huntertown Town Hall. Allen County Highway has asked if Huntertown would consider taking over lighting costs at the Cedar Canyons Lift Station and for a new light on the north side of Cedar Canyons Rd by Kell Rd for the trail. Installation Cost: \$817.41 for a thirty-five-foot wood pole and 145-Watt LED Cobra Head Light. Monthly costs for electricity would be \$7.95 for the lift station light and \$16.07 for the light on the north side. Council discussed installation of decorative lighting instead of wood pole with cobra head arm. She is working with the highway department and a local lighting contractor to develop a plan and cost estimate for Council consideration.
- The town has received zero responses to summer intern requests.

Derek Frederickson had no further report.

Jay Stankiewicz of GAI Consultants had the following report:

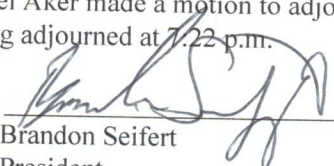
- NIRCC and INDOT has issued the Notice to Proceed for the Carroll Road Roundabout project. He also introduced Scott Underwood, who is moving to the Fort Wayne office for constructability review. Underwood addressed the council noting that he is from Huntertown.

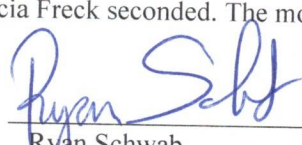
PUBLIC COMMENT

None were brought forth.

Michael Aker made a motion to adjourn. Patricia Freck seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Attest:


Brandon Seifert
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer