

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

A public/virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. The meeting also utilized the Zoom app. Present at Town Hall were board members Patricia Freck, Gary Grant, Brandon Seifert (P) and Michael Stamets; Town Manager Beth Shellman; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; Derek Frederickson and Jessica Hile of Engineering Resources Inc.; thirty-seven (37) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. No one attended the meeting via Zoom. Absent was council member Michael Aker.

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 August 15, 2022, Regular Meeting. Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated September 6, 2022, in the amount of \$457,629.86. Patricia Freck seconded. The motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2022-009, a vacation of platted right-of-way ordinance (VEAS-2022-0003). Patricia Freck seconded. Beth Shellman provided the council with an overview of the ordinance, which vacates a section of right-of-way in the Twin Eagles subdivision. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2022-009, a vacation of platted right-of-way ordinance (VEAS-2022-0003). Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 2022-009, a vacation of platted right-of-way ordinance (VEAS-2022-0003). Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$5,000 for a façade grant application from Oak Tree Supply Inc. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve a bid in the amount of \$150,460.00 from Krafft Water Solutions Inc. for the Riverside Manufacturing Culvert Replacement project. Michael Stamets seconded. Jessica Hile provided an overview of the three bids received, noting that not only was Krafft the low bidder, but it was also the only bidder to submit a bid for the alternate portion of the project. Beth Shellman noted that the town plans to use ARPA money to fund this project and that the bid came in under the engineer's estimate. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to internally post a job for a full-time water department employee. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

NOTE: Patricia Freck left the meeting at 6:58 p.m. and did not participate in the remaining votes.

Gary Grant made a motion to approve charges associated with a Workplace Wellness Day, sponsored by Parkview Health, on January 31, ~~2022~~, for Huntertown employees, elected officials and their families. Michael Stamets seconded. Beth Shellman provided council members with details on the event the town qualifies for

2023

and asked if the council would pay for any employees and council members and their families who are not on the town's insurance plan. She noted that the event is free for employees who are on the town's insurance. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve phone and internet service for the water treatment plant for \$219.00 a month as presented. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$50 for the Town Manager to update her commission as a notary. Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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

- Huntertown Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab swore in two members of the Huntertown Fire Department to serve as firefighters and medics. McKenzie Newcomb and Jason Wells took part in a swear-in and pinning ceremony, conducted by Huntertown Fire Chief Robert Boren.
- Brandon Seifert would like the town to consider forming an Economic Development Commission to create "target areas" in town where potential businesses would be eligible for tax abatements or other benefits. Currently, no such commission exists and no such "target areas" exist. This commission would be tied to commercial development. The town already has a redevelopment commission to handle industrial development. Council discussed the potential of involving Allen County in an interlocal agreement to handle cases on behalf of the town. After no further discussion, no vote was taken.
- Beth Shellman informed the council that the price of a Vactor Truck, purchased from Brown Equipment earlier in the year, was increased by the manufacturer and that Brown Equipment was splitting the cost increase 50-50 with the town. Ryan Schwab provided details on how the increase would impact the town's budget. Gary Grant asked to have the contract between the town of Brown Equipment for the vehicle be reviewed by the Town Attorney to see if a price increase is even legal. Shellman said she would have Town Attorney David Hawk review the document.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The following Old Business was brought forth:

- Patricia Freck said that Alex Hall has planned to attend the meeting and talk with the council about murals, but she had a scheduling conflict. The plan is to have Hall attend the meeting on September 19, 2022, and that Hall would be looking for potential locations for a mural in Huntertown.
- Derek Frederickson provided an update on a READI grant the town is planning to apply for. He noted that the grant is only for a 25-percent match, so if the town was to get \$5 million for the water tower project like it planned, then it would have to submit a \$25 million project. He said the town still plans to apply but would have to do so on a smaller scale.

## **REPORTS**

Gary Grant had the following report:

- Township Trustee Eric Tippmann moved the prescription drug box back to Huntertown Town Hall from the Huntertown Fire Station because of some issues it was causing at the station. Grant said that the township is getting quotes for a drive up drop box at the Fire Station that would deposit the prescription drugs in a more secure location. The town has been asked to participate in the expense. Grant would provide more information when a cost is known.



Patricia Freck had the following report:

- She would like to head a committee to create covenants for the downtown Huntertown properties to help keep the town clean and beautiful.

Resource Officers Brandon Reichert had no report.

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

- The budget material was presented to the Department of Local Government Finance on August 31, 2022, and the Public Hearing has been advertised for Monday, September 19, 2022. The adoption hearing will take place on Monday, October 3, 2022.
- AIM is hosting a webinar geared toward council members on Thursday, September 15, 2022, with topics including ethics, budgeting and TIF. Any council member interested in attending needed to let him know by September 12, 2022.

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

- The bulk trash collection will begin the week of October 24, 2022. Large items will be picked up on each customer's regular trash collection date.
- She provided council with the list of pros and cons she collected regarding the abolishment of the Huntertown Utility Service Board. She was only given pros in favor of abolishment.
- She plans to apply for the "Thriving Communities Program" for a planning grant for a pedestrian bridge over State Road 3 at Gump Road. Planning grants are an 80-20 split with a maximum award of \$2 million. The deadline to apply is October 13, 2022. She would like to seek an 80-20 federal aid project with NIRCC/INDOT/Federal highway for the pedestrian bridge in the future.

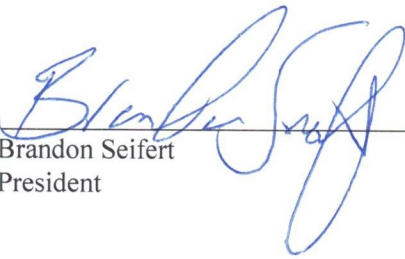
Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc. had no further report.

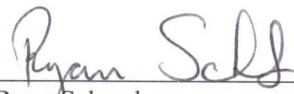
## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dave Smith, a resident at 2729 Hunter Road, thanked the council for approving the work done on his property to alleviate flooding issues. He also thanked the council for paving Hunter Road and for adding new street lights.

Gary Grant made a motion to adjourn. Michael Stamets seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Attest:

  
Brandon Seifert  
President

  
Ryan Schwab  
Clerk Treasurer