

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Monday, September 19, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public/virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, September 19, 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 of Engineering Resources Inc.; three (3) 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 6:02 p.m.

Brandon Seifert closed the regular meeting at 6:02 p.m. and opened a Public Hearing for Huntertown Ordinance 2022-011, an Ordinance for Appropriations and tax rates. Ryan Schwab provided the public with a copy of the town's Form 3 (advertisement) and Form 1 (estimated expenditures). He provided the council with a detailed overview of expenses. Patricia Freck said that she does not understand how the public can come and talk about the budget during a public hearing when budget information is not made available to them. Schwab said that he is following the law with how the budget is published and noted that material was discussed at each of the prior two Town Council meetings. He can make information more available to the public in future years.

Brandon Seifert opened the floor to public comment. None were brought forth. Brandon Seifert closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Town Council meeting at 6:07 p.m.

COUNCIL ACTION

Gary Grant made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 6, 2022, Regular Meeting. Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated September 19, 2022, in the amount of \$190,540.89. Gary Grant seconded. The motion passed, 4-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2022-027, a Resolution amending the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Fund spend plan "Summary of Funding Allocation – Town of Huntertown Projects" as found in exhibit A of Huntertown Ordinance 2022-016, adopted by the Huntertown Town Council on December 20, 2021. Patricia Freck seconded. Ryan Schwab covered the changes to the spending plan, which listed the ARP eligible projects out through fiscal year 2025. The funding must be spent by fiscal year 2026. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2022-010, an Ordinance to fix salaries of elected and appointed officials and employees of the Town of Huntertown for fiscal year 2023. Patricia Freck seconded. Beth Shellman covered the ordinance, stating that a 5.5 percent increase across the board for employees and elected officials was included. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2022-010, an Ordinance to fix salaries of elected and appointed officials and employees of the Town of Huntertown for fiscal year 2023. Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 2022-010, an Ordinance to fix salaries of elected and appointed officials and employees of the Town of Huntertown for fiscal year 2023. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to approve the pavement asset management plan as presented. Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- Alex Hall, a consultant with the Fort Wayne Downtown Improvement District, provided a power point presentation on what the Downtown Improvement District does and how it can assist the town. Her presentation covered adding murals, sculptures, and artwork to create more inviting public spaces. She noted that a proposal covering her cost to do a study for the town would be based on the town's goals and what the town wishes to budget. Beth Shellman asked if the town should look at buying various property first before having a study done. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was brought forth.

REPORTS

Resource Officers Brandon Reichert had the following report:

- He would like to see the area at Ashville Drive and Windwood Court, near the intersections of the Hidden Oaks subdivision and Copper Creek subdivision, be turned into a useable foot-traffic space. Neighbors in the area are experiencing vehicles – both construction and regular traffic – driving through their yards to drive around a dirt pile that the town has placed in the area to prevent automobile traffic. He would like to see the area paved and have some fencing or concrete barriers put up in the area to allow bikes, golf carts and walkers to access the adjoining neighborhoods. Kimberly Franks, daughter of resident Marsha Schamberg of 1301 Ashville Drive, said she would like to see two concrete barriers with some decorative trees or fencing in the area. Her mother's property has been damaged by traffic. She said the dirt pile is being moved by the construction workers in the area and that the pile seems to be used recreationally instead of as a traffic deterrent. Council members said they would contact the Homeowners Association in the area and see what they would like to have done in the area as the Association had originally asked the town not to connect the two streets. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

Outside of items listed under Council Action, Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had no further report.

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

- The council originally approved a January 31, 2023, wellness event. That event is being discussed to happen yet in 2022.
- After collecting a list of pros and cons about the abolishment of the Utility Service Board, Shellman asked the Utility Service Board for approval to send a letter to the petitioners about her findings. Board members asked if the pros and cons be removed from the letter and that any information from the town simply state the duties of a Utility Service Board. The board would like to avoid having the town send information that could sway voters. The council agreed with that approach.

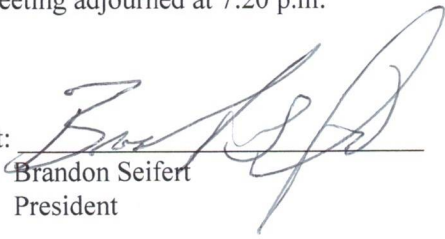
Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc. had no further report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None were brought forth.

Patricia Freck made a motion to adjourn. Michael Stamets seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Attest:


Brandon Seifert
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer