

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Monday, October 17, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public/virtual meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, October 17, 2022, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. The meeting also utilized the Zoom app. Present at Town Hall were board members Michael Aker, 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.; David Hawk of Hawk Haynie Kammeyer & Smith; five (5) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Attending the meeting via the Zoom app was council member Patricia Freck, zero (0) 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

Gary Grant made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2022, Regular Meeting. Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated October 17, 2022, in the amount of \$562,008.60. Michael Stamets seconded. The motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2022-033, a Resolution accepting conveyance of real estate. Patricia Freck seconded. Beth Shellman provided details of the resolution, noting that the property located near the intersection of W. Shoaff Road, and Hand Road was gifted to the town by Linda L. Boyd and will be the site of a new water tower. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to authorize the town manager to make an offer to purchase property located at 15735 Lima Road in a not-to-exceed amount of \$235,000. Gary Grant seconded. Beth Shellman said that the property had two appraisals done, which averaged \$235,000 and the town legally cannot offer more than the average of the two appraisals. Council members said it would be in the best interest of the town to have its offer be lower than the appraisal average. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to authorize the town manager to get property located at 15823 Lima Road re-appraised. Michael Aker seconded. Beth Shellman said that after the entire 29.4 acres was appraised, the owner has decided to only sell a portion of the property to the town. Town attorney David Hawk has advised to get the property re-appraised, noting that none of the property in question is street front property, the appraisal should come back significantly lower. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2022-034, a consent resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Huntertown, Allen County, Indiana, consenting to the establishment of a Fire District to serve the Town of Huntertown, Washington Township, Perry Township and Eel River Township. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2022-017, an ordinance establishing the Opioid Settlement Unrestricted Fund #2256 and the Opioid Settlement Restricted Fund #2257. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 2022-017, an ordinance establishing the Opioid Settlement Unrestricted Fund #2256 and the Opioid Settlement Restricted Fund #2257. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the secondary play for The Rapids at Copper Creek Section IV and Ridgewood at Copper Creek Section II. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- Derek Frederickson provided the council with a draft letter to send to the Allen County Commissioners to request funding assistance through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to aid in a new water tower and water main supply line project. He asked the council to review the draft, provide any comment, and he will bring it back for a formal vote at the November 7, 2022, meeting.
- Brandon Seifert expressed his disappointment with the installation of a concrete median on Carroll Road, east of the Bethel Road intersection. He said neither the developer nor the Highway Department had any communication with the town about the installation of the median. According to Seifert, the developer has since told him that documents were sent to the engineer in April. The engineer has no record of receiving that information. He was made aware of the median installation in August. He talked with Brian Sechler at the Allen County Highway Department who said the Highway Department, through an Interlocal Agreement with the town, had the authority to address the issue and applied the normal standards of safety to the decision. Frederickson said that even with better communication, the median likely would have been installed. Frederickson also said that if the town wanted to remove the median when it repaves that section of Carroll Road in 2023, it would have to justify doing so to INDOT through a traffic study. Seifert cited some intersections within the Fort Wayne City limits that do not have medians installed and wondered why these same standards do not apply to them and suggested that the town deviate from its specs and remove the median. Gary Grant said if the town wants the federal funding for these projects, concrete medians are just something the town will have to live with. He also noted that maybe the City of Fort Wayne is not using federal funds to make the repairs Seifert was citing. Frederickson said he would call the City of Fort Wayne to get more information.

OLD BUSINESS

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

REPORTS

Resource Officers Brandon Reichert had the following report:

- He continues to receive complaints from a resident at 1301 Ashville Drive about people driving various vehicles through her yard to get around a large dirt mound being used as a barrier to prevent through traffic from driving through two disconnected streets. The homeowner has put up a temporary fence and the town continues to wait on the direction the Homeowners Association would like to take in resolving the matter. Patricia Freck asked if the town could put large boulders in her yard to prevent people from driving through. Reichert said that a boulder would likely kill the grass in the homeowner's yard if the homeowner did not want to make the boulder permanent. Gary Grant asked why the town is not taking the lead on the issue since it is a pair of town owned streets. Beth Shellman said the Homeowners Association has requirements of what can and cannot be installed and she is still waiting to see what solution the Homeowners Association will find acceptable.
- He and Resource Officer Pedro Yaruchy plan to be highly active in the town's Halloween festivities.

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

Town Manager Beth Shellman had no further report.

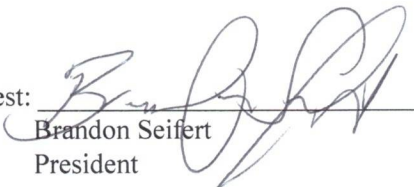
Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc. had no further report.

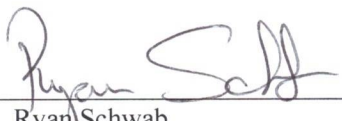
David Hawk of Hawk Hayne Kammeyer & Smith had no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None were brought forth.

Michael Stamets made a motion to adjourn. Michael Aker seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Attest: 
Brandon Seifert
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer