

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Monday, June 17, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, June 17, 2024, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. Present were board members Michael Aker, Patricia Freck (P); Brad Hite, Tina McDonald, and Brandon Seifert; Town Manager Hannah Walker; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; David Hawk of Hawk Haynie Kammeyer & Smith; Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; thirteen (13) members of the public and one (1) member of the media.

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2024, regular meeting. Tina McDonald seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated June 3, 2024, in the amount of \$516,631.50. Brandon Seifert seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated June 17, 2024, in the amount of \$359,952.99. Brandon Seifert seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2024-008, an ordinance to regulate speed limits on Cedar Canyons Road within the Town of Huntertown. Tina McDonald seconded. Patricia Freck explained that this ordinance will reduce the speed limit on the entire length of Cedar Canyons Road to 35 MPH. After no further discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2024-008, an ordinance to regulate speed limits on Cedar Canyons Road within the Town of Huntertown. Brad Hite seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 2024-008, an ordinance to regulate speed limits on Cedar Canyons Road within the Town of Huntertown. Michael Aker seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2024-002, a Resolution approving 2024 Pay 2025 real and personal property compliance with Statement of Benefits (CF-1) form. Brandon Seifert seconded. Rachel Black, Senior Economic Development Specialist with the Allen County Department of Planning Services, provided the council with an overview of the resolution and details of each company that is deemed to be compliant. After no further discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Brad Hite made a motion to increase the not-to-exceed amount in the Engineering Resources Inc. contract by \$15,000.00 for the remainder of 2024. Tina McDonald seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2024-007, an Ordinance to amend Huntertown Ordinance No 88-008, as amended, to eliminate the sprinkler credit beginning with the summer of 2025. Michael Aker seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2024-007, an Ordinance to amend Huntertown Ordinance No 88-008, as amended, to eliminate the sprinkler credit beginning with the summer of 2025. Brad Hite seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 2024-007, an Ordinance to amend Huntertown Ordinance No 88-008, as amended, to eliminate the sprinkler credit beginning with the summer of 2025. Michael Aker seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- Ryan Schwab presented the council with a quote from Brown Equipment in the amount of \$350,000.00 for a new street sweeper. Schwab said this request is coming from Street Department Head Randy Bailey. The current street sweeper is a 2002 model, and parts are no longer being made for it. Included in the quote are different lease-to-own finance options. He would like the council to review the information and decide if and how it would like to proceed with the purchase. After no further discussion, no action was taken.
- Ryan Schwab notified the council that the not-to-exceed amount for Town Attorney David Hawk's services has \$2,600 remaining for the calendar year 2024 and the board should consider increasing the amount. Brandon Seifert said he would like time to talk with other board members before deciding on an amount to increase. Council members agreed to address the issue at the July 1, 2024, meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

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

REPORTS

Michael Aker had the following report:

- The Huntertown Heritage Days committee will be attending the July 1, 2024, meeting to ask for a donation for the festival's fireworks display.

Patricia Freck had the following report:

- She was informed by Randy Bailey that a request from an area farmer to plant crops on the Price property, recently purchased by the town, was not made in enough time to get an agreement in place and nothing further is happening at the property at this time.
- The Huntertown Fire Department is currently using town owned property at 2123 Trinity Street for training purposes. Once the training is complete, Randy Bailey said the town is going to rent a dumpster and begin cleaning out the property.
- She, along with Brandon Seifert, Tina McDonald, Utility Board President Tony Ramey, and Town Manager Hannah Walker, attended an Open House at Divine Mercy Funeral Home. The facility is scheduled to be complete on October 15, 2024.

Brandon Seifert had the following report:

- He would like to schedule a meeting with Pat Freck, Tony Ramey and Derek Frederickson to discuss concerns with the developers of the Copper Creek Shoppes.
- He would like to see a fund established for sidewalk improvements along Hathaway Road and Hand Road for the developments in the area. He believes the roadway will have to be widened and improved in the future and does not want the developers to put in new sidewalks today to have them ripped out as part of a project in the future. Patricia Freck said she was concerned that the price for sidewalk material today may not match the sidewalk material costs in the future. She would rather see the developer put sidewalks in as stipulated in their project plans. Other topics of conversation included sidewalk sizes, 5-feet vs. 8-feet and whether the town would be willing to pay extra to have larger sidewalks put in if they do not go ahead to create a fund.

Resource Officer Brandon Reichert had the following report:

- He just finished some department training last week.
- He anticipates the Carroll Road closure creating some issues, as people are already moving the barriers and speeding through the construction zone.
- He thanked the council for reducing the speed limit on Cedar Canyons Road.
- He continues to monitor youth who are active after dark.
- He has received numerous complaints related to fireworks within town. He said the town currently enforces state law related to fireworks which allows fireworks any day of the week until 11 p.m. Certain holidays extend that time to midnight. He also noted that the City of Fort Wayne has its own statute, and the town may want to consider its own ordinance to strengthen the ability to enforce the proper use of fireworks.
- Huntertown Heritage Days is planning a car show for Saturday, August 10, 2024. The show will take place after the parade. He plans to have Old Lima Road closed between State Road 3 and Cedar Canyons Road from before the start of the parade at 11 a.m. to the end of the car show around 3 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had the following report:

- He is tentatively planning to hold the Public Hearing for the 2025 budget at the September 16, 2024, meeting and have the Adoption Hearing at the October 7, 2024, meeting. He asked council members to check their schedule and confirm those dates will work to attend those meetings in person. The budget cannot be voted on through electronic means.

Town Manager Hannah Walker had the following report:

- The town is preparing to apply for the Community Crossings Matching Grant program for street repairs at Gemini Drive, Mercury Lane and Rabbit Run. The application program opens July 1, 2024, and awards are granted in September.
- She is planning to apply for READI 2.0 grant funding. She is planning to package some water capacity improvement projects. She said the grant is extremely competitive and requires a 60-percent local match.
- The town recently completed trail cleaning on the Pufferbelly Trail between Hathaway Road and Cedar Canyons Road.
- Carroll Road will re-open this week for the Allen County Fair, and then remain closed throughout the month of July. The roadwork is still scheduled to be complete before the school year begins.
- She is continuing to explore the need to change the speed limit on State Road 3 through Huntertown to 45 MPH. A speed study was conducted in the past, but INDOT did not recommend a change.

Town Engineer, Derek Frederickson had the following report:

- He provided the council with a handout updating the number of connections to the town's utilities and its impact on remaining capacity at the water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant.

Town Attorney David Hawk had the following report:

- He is working on the annexations related to the septic relief project on Hathaway Road.
- He is working the annexation of The Fens subdivision.
- He is also working on some utility easements throughout town.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Derek Ross, a resident at 15226 Bears Breach Run, expressed concern about the amount of fireworks being shot off by a neighbor and the times, both day and night, that fireworks are being shot. The individual has been asked to reduce his firework usage, but it only makes his shoot off more. Some of the interaction with

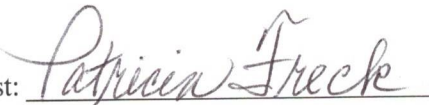
neighbors started verbal fights both in person and in social media. He has heard comparable stories from other subdivisions in town and would like to see the town adopt an ordinance to limit the times fireworks can be shot off.

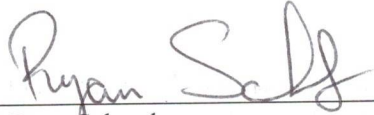
Ed Kelker, a resident at 2817 Bearberry Court, asked why the sprinkler credit was being eliminated. Patricia Freck noted that with the water plant nearing capacity during dry times, eliminating the credit may deter water usage and help improve the available capacity at the plant. He asked about getting an irrigation meter, which he can purchase from the town utility office. He went on to ask if the council members were paid and thanked them for running for office and serving the town.

Jason Hazelet, Owner of Steppin' Out Physical Therapy, asked for an update on the Dump Road roundabout project. He was concerned that the roundabout was no longer being considered, which would restrict access to the property he would like to purchase for development. Hannah Walker said the project is still being considered and the town is waiting to hear from Parkview on the details of financing the project. He would like to develop the property with the right-in and right-out access options that the roundabout would provide.

After no further public comment was brought forth, Tina McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Bradnon Seifert seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Attest:


Patricia Freck
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer