

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
May 6, 2019 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. In attendance were council members Mike Aker, Patricia Freck, Gary Grant, Brandon Seifert (P), and Mike Stamets. Also present was Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab. Also in attendance were five (f) guests and one (1) reporter. Absent were Town Manager Beth Shellman and Huntertown Resource Officer Kevin Surface.

Brandon Seifert called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL ACTIONS

Mike Aker made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2019 regular meeting as presented. Mike Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Mike Aker made a motion to approve the general claims dated May 6, 2019 in the amount of \$229,195.45. Gary Grant seconded. Mike Stamets asked for information related to a claim to the Allen County Highway Department for Gump Road. Ryan Schwab explained that the invoice was the first in a series to payback the county for construction of the road per an interlocal agreement. Schwab said that under the terms of the agreement, the town must repay the county with 20-percent of its annual CEDIT distribution and must pay the entire invoice in a 10-year period. He also said that with current CEDIT distributions, the entire invoice will be paid back in seven years. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Mike Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Ordinance 19-003, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 154.412 (floodplain) of the Town of Huntertown, State of Indiana, Ordinance. Patricia Freck seconded. Paul Blisk, Deputy Land Use Director for the Allen County Department of Planning Services provided the council with a handout and briefly discussed the changes in the ordinance. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 19-003, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 154.412 (floodplain) of the Town of Huntertown, State of Indiana, Ordinance. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Mike Aker made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 19-003, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 154.412 (floodplain) of the Town of Huntertown, State of Indiana, Ordinance. Mike Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Mike Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 19-010, a Resolution approving the transfer of appropriated funds from CEDIT, totaling \$157,480.25, to Local Road and Bridge Matching Grant Fund. Gary Grant seconded. Ryan Schwab explained to the council that this transfer was to cover the two Community Crossings Grant program projects for Hathaway Road and Bethel Road. He also noted that an extra \$6,134.25 was being transferred to cover a difference between the estimated cost and the approved cost of the Hathaway Road project. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 19-002, an Ordinance creating regulations for a residential yard waste collection site on property owned by the Town of Huntertown. Mike Stamets seconded. Outside of discussion listed under old business, no further discussion was had. The motion passed, 5-0.

Gary Grant made a motion to adopt, Huntertown Ordinance 19-002, an Ordinance creating regulations for a residential yard waste collection site on property owned by the Town of Huntertown. Mike Stamets seconded. The motion passed, 5-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve a Code of Conduct Handbook for Elected Official and their Appointees as presented. Mike Stamets seconded. Brandon Seifert said he was concerned about some language in Section 10 of the handbook as it relates to involving the Town Attorney in conduct matters. He said the language could cause problems and potentially censor or squash debates and that the town should simply follow Roberts Rules of Order. Other discussion items included who determines what is and isn't ethical conduct; what ramifications are there for violations; who presented the document to the town originally and what motivation that individual had in doing so;

and why would it be a bad thing to have a code of conduct voted on? Mike Aker asked for the motion to be tabled until the council can come to a unanimous agreement on the contents of the document. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to approve the Town of Huntertown Internal Controls document as presented. Gary Grant seconded. Ryan Schwab noted that the Utility Service Board had passed the same document at its meeting earlier in the evening. Patricia Freck asked why the USB would need to approve it since they are not the official governing body. Schwab said he wanted the document approved by both boards since it relates to the collecting/disbursing/receipting of utility money, as well as other town funds. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Outside of items listed under Council Action, no new business was brought forth.

OLD BUSINESS

Including items listed under Council action, the following old business was presented:

- Adam Davis, a resident at 15921 Grand Willow Blvd. and owner of Lawn Genie, addressed the council about issues he has encountered in regards to dumping yard and landscape waste at the town's dumping site. Davis said he was given permission at the July 15, 2016 meeting to use the facility to dump waste. Since, the town has placed signs at the site stating that contractors are not allowed to dump at the facility. Davis said he was recently pulled over by police and hassled by a Town employee after dumping at the site the previous week. He also said that as a resident, he should be allowed to dump waste at the site. He also said that he dumps waste for his customers who don't have the means of doing so. Gary Grant said that it's tough to monitor what is being dumped, whether it is for his business or for his own home. Additionally, Grant said the town has no way of verifying if what he is dumping is from Huntertown residents/customers or from customers outside of Huntertown. Davis said he doesn't bring any dump to the site from out of town and he probably dumps eight times a year. Mike Stamets questioned Davis about a claim that he doesn't charge his customers a disposal fee since he uses the town's free site, producing an invoice from one of his customers indicating that Davis charged a \$10 disposal fee. Davis explained that various fees are associated with his services (bagging grass at \$1 a bag was his example in this case) and he lists those charges under the disposal fee line item on his invoices. Gary Grant said that if he provided the town with the address(s) of the homes he was dumping waste for, then the town would have some grounds to follow-up and be certain he is using the facility under the parameters of the ordinance that council would be voting on later in the meeting. Davis agreed, stating "I don't want to ruin this for everyone else." No formal vote was taken.

REPORTS

Patricia Freck said she is continuing to look at existing ordinances in order to beef up the contents of those ordinances and bring homes in the downtown Huntertown area into compliance with those ordinances. She has met with Resource Officer Kevin Surface in regards to enforcing the ordinance and she wants to make some updates/changes to the town's current ordinances. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

Patricia Freck reported that she would like town employees to begin looking into residents who may be in violation of the town's ordinance on tall grass.

Patricia Freck said she received an email related to a lack of sidewalks on Apollo Drive. She planned to issue a response and asked to have the matter looked into.

Huntertown Resource Officer Kevin Surface was absent.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had no report.

Town Manager Beth Shellman was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

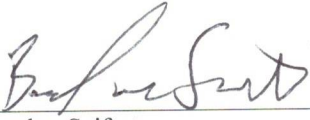
Angie Keck, a resident at 16302 Hand Road, Chairperson of the Huntertown Heritage Days Festival Committee, made a request to the council for funds to aid the festival. No action was taken. Keck said the town should look into purchasing welcome signs for the north and south entrances to town. Schwab noted that discussion on purchasing signs is ongoing. Mike Aker added that the Huntertown Fire Department will soon be getting a digital sign to help promote events in Town. Keck asked if anything was being discussed as it relates to celebrating the town's 150th anniversary. No plans are currently underway.

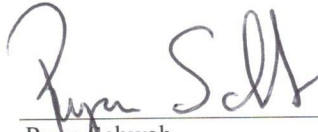
John Widmann, a resident at 16119 Fleetwood Court, representing the Huntertown Heritage Days Committee, talked about the two bands that would be playing at the 2019 HHD festival. He promoted the Senior Citizens Night planned for the event.

Widmann also commented on the discussion related to Adam Davis/Lawn Genie and his dumping of yard waste at the town's site. Widmann said he hired Davis to do some work for him on his property and voiced his concerns over some of the things Davis said earlier in the meeting.

Mike Aker made a motion to adjourn. Gary Grant seconded. Motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Attest:


Brandon Seifert
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer