

**Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana**  
**Monday, October 3, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road**

A public meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, October 3, 2022, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. Present at Town Hall were board members Patricia Freck, Brandon Seifert (P) and Michael Stamets; Town Manager Beth Shellman; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Resource Officers Brandon Reichert and Pedro Yurachek; Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc.; Beth Johnson and Cory Daly of USI Consultants; seven (7) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Absent was council members Michael Aker and Gary Grant.

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

**COUNCIL ACTION**

Michael Stamets made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2022, Regular Meeting. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated October 3, 2022, in the amount of \$462,139.36. Michael Stamets seconded. The motion passed, 3-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve Huntertown Ordinance 2022-011, an ordinance for appropriations and tax rates (2023 budget). Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Michael Stamets made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2022-017, an Ordinance establishing the Opioid Settlement Unrestricted Fund #2256 and the Opioid Settlement Restricted Fund #2257. Patricia Freck seconded. Ryan Schwab covered the details of the ordinance and noted the amount of funds the town would be receiving. He also provided information on the differences between the Unrestricted Fund and the Restricted Fund. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 3-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve the secondary plat for Brownstone Section IV. Michael Stamets seconded. Motion passed, 3-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to increase the not-to-exceed amount for town attorney David Hawk. Michael Stamets seconded. Ryan Schwab reported that Mr. Hawk was getting close to exceeding the \$25,000 not-to-exceed amount for Town Council services per his contract. Patricia Freck had stated in an email that she wanted to increase the total by \$25,000 and asked to have the item placed on the agenda for the meeting. Freck said she just threw a number out to try and get a conversation started and see what other council members thought. Brandon Seifert asked if the amount could be lowered to \$15,000. Patricia Freck amended her original motion to increase the not-to-exceed amount for town attorney David Hawk by \$15,000 to \$40,000. Michael Stamets seconded. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

- Michael Messmann, representing the Perry Township Advisory Board, spoke to the council about creating a Fire Protection District to include the Huntertown Fire Department and take over fiscal responsibility. He provided the council with a handout of information and also a PowerPoint presentation with similar information. Topics covered included how to form a district, when it becomes effective, how it is governed, what is the district's tax authority, is its formation permanent,

how does it impact annexation, is what impact it has on existing fire departments and the differences between a Fire District and a Fire Territory. Messmann stated that an attorney and a financial advisor has been hired for an estimated \$16,000 and asked the town to consider contributing a portion of that amount. He closed by stating the process has multiple steps and deadlines, some of which need to be met before the end of 2022.

- Corey Daly, representing USI Consultants, provided the council with an update on the Town Center Focus Plan via PowerPoint. The presentation focused on the work that had been completed, the findings of that work, key themes of the findings, and the next steps.
- Derek Frederickson addressed the council about some commercial development opportunities at the southeast corner of the State Road 3 and Gump Road intersection. Currently, there is no convenient drive access to the property. A solution has been drawn up that would alter the access points for two neighboring businesses, however, a standard allowing for an entrance at least 1,000 feet away from an intersection with a stop light. The town has already seen comments related to other projects at intersections that require a concrete median, and he feels this project would likely be met with the same comments. He said while the town can choose to proceed without a median, it would run the risk of having funding pulled from the project and be subject to lawsuits should an accident occur, and the town chose not to follow prescribed safety guideline. Brandon Seifert would like Frederickson to find out more information on why other intersections in Fort Wayne are not being held to the same standard, citing recent construction on Wallen Road and State Road 3 as an example where concrete medians were not included. Frederickson also stated that the town is taking the lead on a traffic study for the area and will come back to the town when he has more information.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No Old Business was brought forth.

## **REPORTS**

Brandon Seifert had the following report:

- He and Patricia Freck attended the ribbon cutting for the Lutheran Health Network building just north of the Carroll Road and State Road 3 intersection.

Patricia Freck had the following report:

- She requested that leaf pick-up be extended past Thanksgiving and into December. Beth Shellman said that any leaf pick-up after Thanksgiving would have to be weather dependent but could go into December if the leaves are not frozen to the ground.
- She asked if second appraisals for various property the town was looking to purchase were completed. Beth Shellman said she would forward that information to council.

Resource Officers Brandon Reichert had the following report:

- He received another complaint about how the dead-end street area at Ashville Drive and Windwood Court, near the intersections of the Hidden Oaks subdivision and Copper Creek subdivision, is being used. He believes the Homeowners Association is agreeable to the solution proposed at the last meeting, 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.

Patricia Freck asked Reichert if the issue with a resident spending the night in the lobby of the Post Office had been resolved. Reichert said he has been in communication with the individual and is trying to get them help. He stated that the Post Office is no longer being used by anyone to loiter or be used for shelter overnight.



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

Town Manager Beth Shellman provided the council with a handout of her report and highlighted the following items:

- She is updating a letter to send to residents who signed the petition related to the abolishment of the Huntertown Utility Service Board. She asked those who still wanted to update it to finalize those updates and come in and sign the letter before sending it out.
- The Huntertown Rotary Club is sponsoring an electronic recycling event at Lifehouse Church on Saturday, October 8, 2022, from 9 a.m. to noon. The town would be providing workforce to move items to the Hazardous Waste site on Fort Recovery Road.
- The Wellness Day for town employees, elected officials and their families will be held on Friday, December 2, 2022, from 8-11 a.m. at Huntertown Town Hall.
- The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for legal, engineering and trash and recycling services have been issued. Patricia Freck asked if the current contracted companies have to submit an RFQ. Shellman said that would be a choice of the town council.

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


Beth Johnson of USI Consultants had no report.

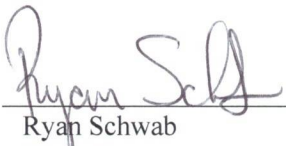
#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sherry Myers, owner of Well Grounded Coffee House in the Lima Plank Shops, provided the council with a list of upcoming events; including Halloween in the Park (Oct 28-29); Small Business Saturday (Nov. 26); Christmas in the Park (Nov. 27); and a Veterans Breakfast (Nov. 12). Conversation is ongoing about a Holiday Trolley in conjunction with some of these events to take people around to local businesses and events.

Patricia Freck made a motion to adjourn. Michael Stamets seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Attest:

  
Brandon Seifert  
President

  
Ryan Schwab  
Clerk Treasurer