

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Tuesday, January 3, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, 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, Patricia Freck, Brad Hite, Tina McDonald, and Brandon Seifert; Town Manager Beth Shellman; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; ten (10) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc attended the meeting via Zoom.

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

OATHS OF OFFICE – Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab administered Oaths of Office for the five town council members as well as Perry Township Board member Mike Messmann.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Patricia Freck made a motion to nominate Brandon Seifert as President of the Town Council for 2023. Michael Aker seconded. Brandon Seifert accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.
- Brandon Seifert made a motion to nominate Patricia Freck as Vice-President of the Town Council. Tina McDonald second. Patricia Freck accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

NOTE: Brad Hite left the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

COUNCIL ACTION

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2022, Executive Session. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2020, Regular Meeting. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the General, Water and Sewer claims dated January 3, 2023, in the amount of \$1,055,894.30. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2023-003, a Resolution approving the adoption of the All-In-Allen Comprehensive Plan. Patricia Freck seconded. Sarah Jones, Senior Planner with the Allen County Department of Planning Services, provided the Council with a Power Point presentation highlighting the comprehensive plan and its impact on the Town of Huntertown. The Power Point covered the phases of the plan, the outreach and community takeaways, research and analysis, land use development, implementation, and goals. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve the Municipal Materials Management Agreement with Republic Services for trash and recycling services in Huntertown as presented. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2023-001, a resolution approving an agreement for the services of a Town Attorney for the calendar years 2023-2025. Brad Hite seconded. Patricia

Freck expressed concern over language in section I, covering the term of the agreement noting that it only read for one-year instead of three; and section III, subsection C noting that the year ready 2020 instead of 2023-2025. Michael Aker amended his motion to include approval with those changes addressed. Brad Hite seconded. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 5-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2023-002, a Resolution approving an agreement for on-call engineering services during the calendar years 2023-2025. Tina McDonald seconded. The motion passed, 5-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2023-001, an ordinance creating a special fund to be known as Fund #2508 – Carroll Road Sidewalk/Trail Improvement Fund. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2023-001, an ordinance creating a special fund to be known as Fund #2508 – Carroll Road Sidewalk/Trail Improvement Fund. Michael Aker seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 2023-001, an ordinance creating a special fund to be known as Fund #2508 – Carroll Road Sidewalk/Trail Improvement Fund. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

Brandon Seifert appointed Toney Ramey to serve a 3-year term on the Huntertown Utility Service Board.

Patricia Freck made a motion to appoint Michael Stamets to the Huntertown Utility Service Board. Tina McDonald seconded. The full council appointment to the USB was needed because Brad Hite left the board when he was elected to the Town Council. Stamets would serve the remaining one-year on Hite's term. After no further discussion, the motion passed, 4-1 (Hite - Aye; McDonald – Aye; Aker – Nay; Freck – Aye; Seifert – Aye).

NEW BUSINESS

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

- Derek Frederickson said that about six (6) parcels remain needing purchased to have all of the right-of-way for the Carroll Road reconstruction project purchased. He would bring an updated list to the council for approval at its next meeting. He said that three properties had septic systems that were impacted and that conversations with homeowners indicated that all of them wanted to join the town's wastewater system.

OLD BUSINESS

The following Old Business was brought forth:

- Patricia Freck was going to provide the new board members with a copy of the Town's cell phone policy to see if the council was interested in making any revisions or changes.

REPORTS

Patricia Freck had the following report:

- She contacted Alex Hall about getting a quote to provide the council with an analysis on where murals could be painted in Huntertown. She has not received a call back.

Brandon Siefert had the following report:

- A property is for sale along State Road 3 that touches the town's TIF District. He would like to use TIF funds to pay for an appraisal on the property.

Resource Officer Reichert had the following report:

- He provided the council with detailed information on his Field Training Officer position and how it would impact Huntertown.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had the following report:

- He presented the council with the 2022 miscellaneous appropriation transfers and noted that with those transfers, the town no longer had any line items showing a negative value.
- He presented the council with the 2020 outstanding checks that were receipted back into their specific fund.

Town Manager Beth Shellman issued a handout of her report and highlighted the following items:

- Town employees are currently cleaning out the property recently purchased at 15735 Lima Road. She also noted that Mark Zuber has requested to participate in any committee formed to explore future uses of the building. The town is also awaiting a second appraisal on the Price property in that area as well as the current Post Office Building, which is set to become vacant in February.
- Town Attorney David Hawk is overseeing paperwork needed to create a three-member Economic Development Commission. The council has discussed the creation of an EDC to promote retail growth and financial opportunities by creating or retaining jobs and new business opportunities.
- A total of 25 new construction permits for water and sewer were issued in December, highlighting that growth is continuing.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Messmann, a resident at 16607 Lima Road, thanked the council for its involvement in the establishment of the four new fire districts that the Allen County Commissioners approved on December 16, 2022. He said that board members would be assigned on January 13, 2023, to get the organization of the various districts started.


Steve Harris, a resident at 12331 Shearwater Run and president of the Shearwater Community Association, said he was frustrated with the cancellation of trash/recycling services for his neighborhood on Friday, July 23, 2022, due to a winter storm. He was concerned that the cancellation would create a 4-week gap in recycling collection. He asked the town to consider working with Republic Services for better responses in emergency situations.

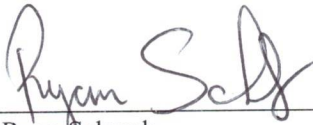
He also said that his neighborhoods have seen an increase in kids ringing doorbells, knocking on doors, and running. He said it is happening in the Shearwater, Quail Creek, and Ravenswood neighborhoods.

Michael Aker asked Harris if the street flooding issues he brought to the council at the December 19, 2022, meeting were addressed. Harris said that Derek Frederickson has looked things over. Street Superintendent Randy Bailey said the town has asked Northwest Allen County Schools to move its bus stop to get kids further away from the area where water and ice are forming on the road. He said that the roadwork would be expensive and should be added to the town's pavement asset management plan, but there are other roads in worse condition in need of attention at the present time.

After no further public comment was brought forth, Tina McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Patricia Freck seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Attest:


Brandon Seifert
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer