

**Meeting of the Town Council of Hometown, Indiana**  
**Friday, January 5, 2024, 3:30 p.m.**  
**Hometown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road**

A public meeting of the Hometown Town Council was held on Friday, January 5, 2024, at Hometown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Hometown, IN. Present were board members Patricia Freck, Brad Hite, Tina McDonald and Brandon Seifert (P); Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Town Manager Beth Shellman; zero (0) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Board members Michael Aker was absent.

Brandon Seifert called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COUNCIL ACTION**

Patricia Freck made a motion to appoint Michael Stamets to the Utility Service Board for a 3-year term. Tina McDonald seconded. Discussion items included the lack of interest in candidates, a conflict of interest with one of the two interested candidates; and the desire to have an experienced candidate remain on the board. After no further discussion, the motion carried, 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Beth Shellman asked council members to consider a request from Street Superintendent Randy Bailey to hire David Bleke to work part-time for the street department. A street employee resigned and finished working for the Town on January 4, 2024, and two new hires were not scheduled to be voted on by Council until the January 8, 2024, meeting. Discussion items included paying current employees overtime versus hiring a new employee at a part time rate; the severity of the pending winter storm and how much extra help was truly needed; and a conflict of interests as Mr. Bleke works for a vendor the town purchases equipment from. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

No other business 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 3:47 p.m.

Attest: Patricia Freck  
~~Brandon Seifert~~ Patricia Freck  
President

Ryan Schwab  
Ryan Schwab  
Clerk Treasurer