

MINUTES

MAY 11, 2020

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING

ROME CITY TOWN HALL
402 KELLY STREET
ROME CITY, IN 46784

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Gary Furlow. Cheryl Clifton and Gary Furlow present, Nick Heffner by video. Also, present, Jim Sheffield, Paul Hoffman, Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger and Conrad White. President by video Andy with KPC media, Carl Grove, Jennie Edholm, Roberta Stone, Jerry with Commonwealth and Bill Eberhard.

Gary Furlow asked for a motion to wave reading the minutes from the last meeting. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to wave reading the minutes. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

TOWN MARSHAL

Gary Furlow presented Paul Hoffman with papers asking him to accept the position as the Town Marshal for the Town of Rome City starting on May 30, 2020. All members agreed to accept Paul Hoffman as Marshal. Jim Sheffield the current town marshal is retiring on May 29, 2020. Paul accepted the position and signed the contract. This is a 1-year contract and will be review in May 2021. The pay will start at \$23.50 per hour per the salary/wage ordinance 2019-12. Paul Hoffman will be sworn in May 29, 2020 to start at midnight. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to accept Paul Hoffman as marshal. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to accept Paul Hoffman. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

PAINTING THE STREET GARAGE

Leigh Pranger present the 2 quotes for painting the street garage. This was advertised in the paper. Dean Baughman Industrial Service \$11,950.00. Busy Bee Painters, Inc. \$13,580.00. Gary stated with the virus and the uncertainty of what we will be receiving in funds that this should be tabled. Nick Heffner made the motion to table. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

WATERSHED ROOF REPAIR

Leigh Pranger presented the one quote that was received from Heritage Roofing Solutions for flat roof \$6955.00 for Metal Peak Roof \$10,252.00. Gary asked Conrad White what he thought. Conrad stated the metal roof with the relocation of openings would cause a possible leak in the future, but the flat roof would work out great for the building. Leigh Pranger stated she will get with the other industries that signed the contract for the watershed and explain the cost involved. Gary Furlow asked for a motion. Nick Heffner made the motion to approve the quote for the flat roof. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

SPILLMAN CONTRACT

Jim Sheffield present the town council with a new contract for the Spillman program. All members have read this over. Gary Furlow stated he feels that at this time we should hold off on discussing this contract. All members agreed. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to table this until a future meeting. Nick Heffner made the motion to table. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

SEWER PAYMENT FOR 165 FRONT STREET

Brenda Conley presented a letter from the owners of 165 Front Street, it's a business and these are new owners. They request not paying the sewer bill because they are not using the building currently. Bill Eberhard stated if the sewer is still connected then they should pay the bill. Nick Heffner agreed with Bill. Brenda stated the sewer is connected. All members agreed to have a letter written to the owners of 165 Front Street and tell them they are responsible to pay the sewer bill each month since it is still connected.

HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE

Brenda Conley presented the town council with the new rate for health insurance, the policy is from June 1, 2020 to June 1, 2021. It did go up 10.25% from what we have now which is United Health Care. The quotes are: United Health Care with vision, life insurance and disability are \$9,524.81, Anthem \$13,017.18 with no vision, life and disability, PHP \$10,137.17 with no vision, life and disability. Best Life Dental, what the towns has now, has not gone up. Gary Furlow asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to go with United Health Care for the health, life, vision and disability and stay with Best Life for dental. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

TAX ABATEMENTS, PRECISION, MOMENTUM, STAGGS AND SYLVAN FARMS

Brenda presented the tax abatement forms for Sylvan Farms. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to accept the tax abatement. Cheryl Clifton made the motion. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Brenda presented the tax abatement for Precision. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to accept the tax abatement. Cheryl Clifton made the motion. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Brenda presented the tax abatement for Momentum. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to accept the tax abatement. Cheryl Clifton made the motion. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Bill Eberhard and the town council have looks all of these over before the meeting and Bill Eberhard agreed with the abatements.

Brenda stated she had contact Staggs/Aggregate several times by e-mail since April 2020 and the only e-mail that was received back was, they will get back with us. There abatements must be approved by the town council and returned to the county by May 15 of each year. Brenda had contacted the county assessor and asked if there was an extension due to the virus and they stated no, it still had to be in by May 15. With Staggs/Aggregate not turning in their forms to the council then they will not be getting the abatement from the town.

CEDIT, Ordinance 2020-03

Brenda Conley presented the new 5-year plan for the CEDIT fund. Bill Eberhard had reviewed this and approved. All members read the ordinance. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-03. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

KEYSTONE PROGRAMS

Brenda Conley presented the new contract for the Keystone programs for Fund, Billing, Asset and Payroll. This is an annual contract and it went up 6% more than last year. Gary stated this is what we must use so we should make a motion to approve. Nick Heffner made a motion to approve the Keystone Program contract. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

REGISTRATIONS FOR GOLF CARTS

Paul Hoffman stated all golf carts need to renew their registrations each year for the golf carts plus all new golf carts need inspected. Jim Sheffield stated with the virus and the office being closed that they have not been able to do this. Gary asked if it can be posted on the town facebook page and web page then can the officers do this by appointment? Jim stated yes. All members agreed to start doing the inspections.

CAUSEWAY REPAIR ON KERR

Leigh Pranger presented the quote from A1 concrete to repair the causeway under the bridge on Kerr Avenue. Leigh showed pictures and presented them to the council. Conrad White stated it will need steel reinforcement also and that is something the town employees can do. Gary asked what the total cost will be. Leigh stated A1 cost is \$8160.00 and the steel cost is unknown due to until they get in there they will not know for sure. Cheryl stated could this all be done under \$12,000.00. Conrad stated should be done under that amount. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to do the work with A1 and the steel and not to exceed \$12,000.00. Cheryl Clifton made the motion. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

TOWN MANAGER(see attached)

Leigh Pranger stated the Frank Sturdivant repair shop had disconnected the sewer a few years ago and now his son is starting the business up again. Leigh stated they must have the sewer connected to run a business in the building. Leigh stated should we charge a reconnect fee of \$945.00. Bill Eberhard stated no reconnect charge. Leigh stated Frank is going to reconnect it himself, but Leigh will make sure Conrad White inspects everything. Leigh stated Frank sent a letter about being grandfathered in, but Bill Eberhard stated the letter will not be recognized. Bill Eberhard stated he will have to start paying for the sewer bill again for the business after it is connected. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to have Frank Sturdivant reconnect the sewer with Conrad White inspections and approval. Nick Heffner made the motion. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CROSSWALK ORDINANCES

Bill Eberhard presented crosswalk ordinance 2020-04 for the trail crossing/pedestrian crossing zone on Lions Drive. All member looked over the ordinance. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to accept ordinance 2020-04. Nick Heffner made the motion to approve ordinance 2020-04. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Leigh stated ordinance 2020-05 was for the school crossing for the children at the Housing Authority area to cross Front Street and walk up Grove Street and cross Washington Street to the school. All members looked over the map for the crossing. Leigh stated we need signs installed stating it is a cross walk and install some solar lights to mark the area. All members agreed to this plan. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-05. Nick Heffner made the motion to accept. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Gary Furlow asked Leigh to contact the trail committee and see if they can do something with the steep hill coming out of the trail onto Lions drive because he is seeing a lot of bike flying down the hill right on to Lions Drive and it is very dangerous. Leigh will check it out with the trail committee and get back with the council.

TOWN MARSHAL (see attached)

Paul Hoffman gave the report. Jim Sheffield read a letter to the council from Deputy Marshal Mark Feller. Mark is retiring from Rome City Marshal department on May 31, 2020. He had been with the town marshal department for 25 years. All members thanked Mark for everything he has done for the town. Jim asked if he could have the approval from the town to do a proclamation for him. Bill Eberhard stated that he could do one for Mark Feller upon the council approval. All members agreed to do this. Gary Furlow asked for a motion. Nick Heffner made the motion for the proclamation. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

STREET AND WASTEWATER (see attached)

Conrad White stated they are pulling a lot of pumps because of wipes clogging them up. Jeremy from Commonwealth stated at this time everyone is having the problems with the wipes. Gary Furlow asked Jeremy if they could find out what can be done to stop this problem and report back to the council. Jeremy stated he would.

CLAIMS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:

TOWN FUNDS: \$74,115.18

SEWER OPERATING: \$33,572.28

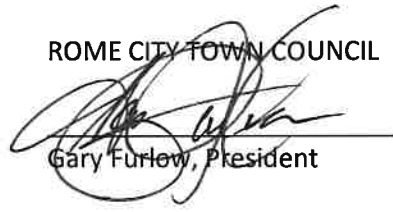
Gary Furlow asked for a motion to pay the claims. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to pay the claims. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Next town council meeting is June 8, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Rome City, IN.

Gary Furlow asked if there were any questions or concerns. Roberta Stone stated Advance Rome City is still planning the parade in August with the block party at Gaff Park if the Health Department will allow this.

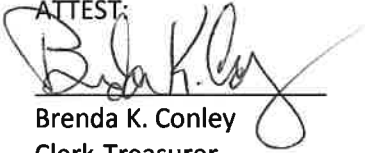
Gary Furlow asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm. Nick Heffner made the motion to adjourn. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Furlew', written over a horizontal line.

Gary Furlew, President

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brenda K. Conley', written over a horizontal line.

Brenda K. Conley
Clerk-Treasurer