

MINUTES

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING (ZOOM)

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

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

Budget Hearing

Gary Furlow called the meeting to order at 5:35pm by zoom for the 2021 budget hearing. Nick Heffner was present. Cheryl Clifton absent. Also, present Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger and Paul Hoffman. Andy (KPC reporter by zoom)

After discussing the 2021 budget all members agreed with the amounts. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to approve the 2021 budget hearing. Nick Heffner made the motion to approve. 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to adjourn the budget hearing at 6:05pm. Nick Heffner made the motion to adjourn. 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Public Meeting

Gary Furlow called the public meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members Gary Furlow, Nick Heffner and Cheryl Clifton present. Also, present, Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger, Paul Hoffman, Kate Meibers, Trevor and Brandy Norman, Chalmer Slone, Bill Eberhard and Dustin Fike. Present by zoom Andy (KPC reporter) Carl Grove.

Pledge was said

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

Sidewalks at Grove and Front Street

Sidewalks were installed at Grove and Front Streets. Residents that the sidewalks were on was Meibers, Norman, Slone and Oakley's. Brandy Norman stated they were just informed of the sidewalks a week before they were installed, and no one told them how much their cost was going to be until they walked into the building tonight. Gary Furlow stated our town ordinance states that any sidewalks being installed in town that the property owners will have to pay 50% for the cost. The town does offer to set up payments with a 3% interest. Property owners were not happy about this due to the school wanting this done for the safety of the students walking to school but the property owners felt like they were not informed of this plan and that they should not be responsible to pay their share in just a month time. Bill Eberhard stated we should have done a few meeting with the property owners before and the company installing the sidewalks were not suppose to start the work until after September 14, 2020 but their schedule changed and they did not inform the town that they were starting earlier. Gary Furlow stated that Advance Rome City is giving the property owners a total of \$4000.00 towards their share of the cost. Gary Furlow asked about amending the ordinance and have the property owners be responsible for 25% of the cost instead of 50% since it is short notice. All members agreed to have the

ordinance amended for this project to have the town pay 75% and property owners 25% with the payment plan if they need financing. Also, the council upon Bill Eberhard's recommendation to defer the payments from the property owners for a year and start on Oct.1, 2021 if they have not paid by then set up a payment plan. Trevor Norman stated he could work with that. Bill Eberhard stated the property owners need to be informed about what their cost is going to be and himself and Brenda Conley will work on a way to find a grant that may help them out. Gary Furlow asked for a motion. Nick Heffner made the motion to amend the ordinance for this project to have the property owners responsible for 25% of the cost of the sidewalks on there property and the town be responsible for the 75%. The \$4000.00 that Advance Rome City gave will go towards the property owners cost. On Oct. 1, 2021 if the cost is not paid back to the town from the property owners on their share then the town will set up a payment plan for 3 years at a 3% interest rate. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Gary Gatman with Noble County EDC, rescheduled until Oct. 2020

SIGNS ON STREET GARAGE

Brenda Conley presented 2 quotes for signs on the street garage. Jacobs Signs \$1150.00 and Miller Signs \$1972.00. These signs will be installed by our employees. One will go on the State Road 9 side and the other will be on the Kerr Ave side. Gary asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to accept Jacobs Signs for \$1150.00. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2020-10 Additional Appropriation for CCD for sidewalks

Brenda Conley presented Ordinance 2020-10 additional appropriation for the CCD Fund for \$30,000.00 to pay for the sidewalks. This was advertised on Sept. 2, 2020 in the KPC paper. Gary Furlow asked for a motion to accept Ordinance 2020-10. Nick Heffner made the motion to accept Ordinance 2020-10. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Real Estate and Easement at Hilltop and Sower Roads

Bill Eberhard stated there is an unclaimed easement at Hilltop and Sower Road and the property owners wants to take the easement and give the town right a way road. Bill Eberhard stated a quit claim is needed and he will present them at the next meeting.

Ordinance for vacation of property for Bruce Rietdrof

Leigh Pranger presented an ordinance for the vacation of 2 plotted lots. Bruce Rietdrof is going to tear down two houses and build a new house, but he needs to vacate the lots. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to sign ordinance 2020-09. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Trick/Treat date and time

All members agreed to have trick/treat on Oct. 31, 2020. 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Anyone that wants to participate should have there light on for the visitors.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Town Manager (see attached)

Leigh Pranger asked if the 3 street/wastewater employees can use some of their \$300.00 a year clothing allowance to buy base layer clothes. Bill Eberhard, town attorney, stated if they bring in a receipt it will be acceptable.

Street and Wastewater (see attached)

Town Marshal (see attached)

Claims presented for payment

Town Funds: \$141,842.68

Sewer Operating: \$51,484.82

Gary Furlow asked for a motion to pay the claims. Nick Heffner made the motion to pay the claims.

Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Bank reconciliation was signed by Gary Furlow.


Next town council meeting is Oct. 12, 2020 at 6:30pm to adopt the budget and regular meeting after.
Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Rome City, IN 46784

Adjournment time: 7:55pm. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to adjourn. Nick Heffner second the motion.
3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL


NICK HEFFNER, VICE- PRESIDENT

ATTEST:


BRENDA K. CONLEY, CLERK-TREASURER