

MINUTES

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL, PUBLIC MEETING (ZOOM)

DECEMBER 14, 2020

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

Nick Heffner, president, called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. All members, Nick Heffner, Cheryl Clifton and Kirk Klein present. Present Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger, Paul Hoffman, Dustin Fike, Conrad White, Tina Wilkinson, John Martin, Bridget Coe and Jared Ramer. By zoom, Carl Grove, Cindy O'Brien, Bill Eberhard and Andy (KPC)

Pledge was said

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance 2020-11 Amend sidewalk Ordinance

Nick Heffner read the sidewalk ordinance and Bill Eberhard stated this change is due to the matching amount. It is now 75% town and 25% property owners. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve ordinance 2020-11. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2020-16 Amend Open Burning Ordinance

Bill Eberhard read the ordinance and stated this is amended to add burning trash. Paul Hoffman stated he has had some problems with people burning trash and our ordinance did not have trash burning included in detail. Paul said this is different than burning wood in firepits in which that is not prohibited in this ordinance. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made a motion to accept Ordinance 2020-16 on the first reading. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Encumber Funds for the Park Department

Tina Wilkinson, Park Board President, presented a PO for encumbering funds for a new restroom at Gaff Park. All members looked it over. Tina Wilkinson and Leigh Pranger was not happy how the park appropriations for the budget were done. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2020-08. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Resolution 2020-09 Reduce Appropriations

Brenda Conley presented resolution 2020-09 to reduce appropriations. This will help with getting our budget approved for next year. These are just money left in the appropriations not being used, no money is being lost in that fund. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to accept resolution 2020-09. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-09. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Sewer Plant Mowing bids

Leigh Pranger stated she only received one bid and it was from J/S Lawn Care. They are the ones that were mowing this year and the cost is the same. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to accept the bid from J/S Lawn Care for mowing the sewer plant for 2021. Kirk Klein made the motion to accept. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2020-17 Façade Grant, TIF

Nick Heffner stated at the last Redevelopment meeting there was a need to do an ordinance to help businesses that are in the TIF areas for façade grants. This ordinance will be able to help these businesses out by giving them up to \$5000.00 matching grant for there buildings. There are several conditions that the business must do before the Redevelopment Committee will approve this grant to them. Millers Super Value has submitted the forms for their work on the outside of the building and if the town council approves this Ordinance then the \$5000.00 can be awarded to Millers Super Value. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve this ordinance. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve Ordinance 2020-17. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Resolution 2020-10 to transfer funds

Nick Heffner read resolution 2020-10 to transfer funds. Brenda stated in the Public Safety fund an appropriation was overspent and there is a need to transfer from another appropriation to put this appropriation out of the red. The appropriation in in the Public Safety fund #211. Transfer from appropriation #134 to #211, \$324.23. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-10. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Watershed Agreement

Brenda stated all 4 industries, Momentum, Aggregate, Red Sea and Orange Township Fire Department. Brenda stated this agreement is for 2 years. Momentum, Aggregate and Red Sea will pay \$3000.00 a year and the Orange Township Fire Department will pay for the water used for filling pools not for when they need it for fires. In case there is a problem with our pump equipment or building where the pumps are located and the cost is more then what is expected then we will work with the above companies to see if they can help with the additional expense. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve the Watershed agreement. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2020-18 Wage and Salary

Nick Heffner present the wage and salary ordinance for 2021. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve Ordinance 2020-18. Kirk Klein second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Paid Holidays for 2021

Brenda presented the paid holidays for 2021. Kirk Klein asked if this was the normal number of holidays from the past. Brenda stated the only change is that there are 12 days instead of 11 days due to Jan. 1, 2021 in on a Friday and in 2021 it is on a Saturday. When a holiday falls on a Saturday the town takes the Friday before off, if it falls on a Sunday the town takes the following Monday off. So, with that said there is 12 days in 2021. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve the paid holidays. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Town Insurance for 2021

Jared Ramer with Black and Ramer Insurance stated it went up 5% more then 2020. But our workers comp plan went down a lot in 2020 due to no reported injuries and that the town was doing a great job on their safety procedures. The cost is \$25,921.00 which includes terrorism, we did have terrorism on the plan this year. Jared stated if we want Cyber insurance, it would be a million-dollar plan and would cost \$1600.00 for the year. Jared stated he would have to get with the towns IT person to get all the info if the town wants to take the Cyber insurance. Jared stated some communities are getting scammed and must pay to get their email plans back up and running. This will only protect the town email accounts not personal account that are on the town's computers. Kirk Klein stated the company he works for has had some problem and he highly recommends the town take this plan. All members agreed. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to accept the town insurance with Black and Ramer for \$25,921.00 and Cyber for an additional \$1600.00. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Region 3A

Region 3A is asking the town for a director from our town council. Nick Heffner stated he will accept the position. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to accept Nick Heffner as the town director for Region 3A for 2021. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Repay INDOT

Leigh stated we must pay back INDOT Crossing Grant \$85,867.05 due to the cost came in lower on Lions Drive.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Cheryl Clifton stated she feels the employees need to be paid hazard pay for the COVID-19. Brenda stated we could do that but it will have to be an additional appropriation but right now the state is not doing additional appropriations so it will have to be next year. Nick Heffner suggested a \$1200.00 for full time employees and up to \$600.00 for part time employees. All members agreed. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve the hazard pay of \$1200.00 for full time and \$600.00 for part time. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Cheryl Clifton stated all employees should be on direct deposit. Brenda Conley will check out the cost with the payroll program company, Keystone, and report back to the council later.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

TOWN MANAGER (SEE ATTACHED)

STREET/WASTEWATER (SEE ATTACHED)

Conrad White stated we need a new 15 hp pump and the quotes came in from Indiana pump \$7850.00 for a 3 phase and \$9875.00 for a 4 phase but he wanted to check them out more before deciding. All town council members told him to let them know.

TOWN MARSHAL (SEE ATTACHED)

CLAIMS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:

TOWN FUNDS: \$323,188.83


SEWER FUNDS: \$50,148.64

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

Next Town Council meeting, January 11, 2021 at 6:30pm at the Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Rome City, IN


Nick Heffner asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. Kirk Klein made the motion to adjourn. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL



Nick Heffner, President

ATTEST:



Brenda K. Conley
Clerk-Treasurer