

February 22, 2021

Due to COVID-19, The Ellettsville, Indiana, Town Council met for a virtual meeting on Monday, February 22, 2021 by Zoom. Scott Oldham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mike Cornman led the Pledge of Allegiance followed with a prayer by Jimmie Durnil.

Roll Call: Members present were Scott Oldham, President; Pamela Samples, Vice President; William Ellis, Trevor Sager and Dan Swafford. Michael Farmer, Town Manager; Sandra Hash, Clerk-Treasurer and Darla Brown, Town Attorney were also present.

Supervisors present: Jimmie Durnil, Mike Cornman, Danny Stalcup, Jeff Farmer, and Kevin Tolloty.

Approval of Minutes

Scott Oldham entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on February 8, 2021. Dan Swafford so moved. Pamela Samples seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; William Ellis – abstain; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried.

Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll

Scott Oldham entertained a motion to pay Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll. Dan Swafford so moved. Pamela Samples seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; William Ellis – yes; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried.

Resolutions

Resolution 04-2021 to Write Off Uncollectable Utility Accounts

Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained this is a list of Utility accounts of customers who have moved or other reasons that are uncollectable that need written off dating back to 2017. Total of all those accounts are \$4,582.97. Dan Swafford inquired about the collection process. Sandra Hash explained it is done in house using Facebook and the internet instead of a collection agency but there is a government program for collections at municipalities called TRECS (Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance System) if Council were interested, she could get them the information. The write off procedure is not done every year and Amber Ragle-Wright, Deputy Clerk believes it was last done in 2018 for accounts older than 2017. William Ellis recalled when the County used this program it had several issues initially with name confusion and accounts being collected from 10-15 years ago so prepare for public blow back. Trevor Sager made a motion to approve Resolution 04-2021 to Write Off Uncollectable Utility Accounts. Dan Swafford seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; William Ellis – yes; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 05-2021 to Dispose of Surplus Property for Police, Street and Utilities (Department of Public Works)

Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained she had a late request to add another Police car 2010 Dodge Charger Vin # 2B3AA4CT9AH161802 to the Surplus Property list included in the packet. Dan Swafford made a motion to approve Resolution 05-2021 to Dispose of Surplus Property for Police, Street and Utilities DPW (Department of Public Works) and amend it to include a 2010 Dodge Charger for the Police Department. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; William Ellis – yes; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried.

Ordinances of First Reading

Ordinance 2021-01 to Terminate Dormant Funds

Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained these are funds that have been on the books for a couple of years that are a zero balance and no activity. She requested to terminate those funds.

Ordinance 2021-02 to Amend Chapter 36 of the Ellettsville Town Code Concerning Payroll Period and Longevity

Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained she has worked along with Scott Oldham and Michael Farmer, Town Manager to reorganize the current payroll schedule to bring everyone to the same pay dates. Some employees are being held back more than others. The new schedule will change from Friday thru Thursday to Monday thru Sunday. Longevity

disbursement will change from being paid \$250.00 per 5 years being paid every 5th year to \$100.00 per year of employment paid yearly, capped at \$2,000.00 yearly. These changes require an amendment to Town Code. Scott Oldham explained these changes to payroll will be an improvement to the process in case of illness or time off required for either Sandy or Amber to allow time for emergency adjustments.

Ordinance 2021-03 to amend Payroll Dates and Longevity Dates in Ordinance 2020-26 – 2021 Salary Ordinance

Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained this just further explains in the salary Ordinance the change and that it affects the ending date of the last pay period moving it up one week. The Ordinance states January 1 thru December 30 and now will be January 1 thru December 26.

Flood Report

Michael Farmer discussed they are working on building at 1st and Vine Street to be demoed removing the roof and doors and once those are removed it can be removed. Once the building is gone, he will wait for a plan from Christopher Burke to begin the shelving project. He also encouraged everyone to keep drains clear in front of their homes. The Town drains were cleared before the last potential rain. They have sandbags prepared at the Blue Building on Matthews Drive for anyone that might need them after all the snow melts and the next rain. He also reminded anyone who had frozen pipes recently that they would be thawing soon and in case of a water leak from it they have 24-hour service for an emergency shut off.

New Business

Partnership Agreement for Grant of Easement and Recreational Trail Signage between the Town of Ellettsville and Monroe County

Darla Brown, Town Attorney explained this was presented to her by Margie Rice, County Attorney. There is an existing Resolution granting Scott Oldham the authority to sign any necessary documents pertaining to the transfer of an easement to Monroe County. This is a part of the trail system and the County has asked the Town to transfer a section of the Stewart property. The agreement states the Town agrees to grant an easement to the County of the area outlined in the diagram and will maintain it and the Town agrees not to plant any trees or bushes that will interfere with maintenance. William Ellis made a motion to approve the Partnership Agreement for Grant of Easement and Recreational Trail Signage between the Town of Ellettsville and Monroe County. Dan Swafford seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; William Ellis – yes; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried.

The Republican Party Request Approval to Use the Ellettsville Town Hall Meeting Room on March 6, 2021 for a Republican Reorganizing Caucus

William Ellis discussed every 4 years each of the major political parties in the state has to do a reorganization for Chairman, Vice, Secretary and Treasurer. He is the Chairman for the Monroe County Republican Party and in the past, he has held them at the Showers Building and at the Monroe County Courthouse, so he felt it was fitting since we had the facilities that Ellettsville be in that mix. Party rules will comply with CDC rules. Anyone present to vote will have to wear a mask and there must be an action plan submitted to the Board of Health 5 days prior for social distancing and other procedures complying with party rules or it will be considered a defective caucus. It is not a rally or a place to solicit funds, just a function of government for reorganization. Trevor Sager made a motion to approve The Republican Party Request Approval to Use the Ellettsville Town Hall Meeting Room on March 6, 2021 for a Republican Reorganizing Caucus. Pamela Samples seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; William Ellis – abstain; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried.

Department of Public Works Request to Purchase a E35 Bobcat Compact Excavator and 30” Flail Mower Attachment

Mike Farmer, Ellettsville Utilities stated the request comes from wanting to purchase a flail mower for the E35 Bobcat mini excavator they currently own and checking into rigging it to our current equipment and retrofitting the chassis of the excavator to allow for safety considerations using a flail mower which is basically a bush hog that you put on the end and instead of digging with it will reach out and do easement clearing. It will also help with cleaning up the creek banks, along the trail and the Stewart property. The existing equipment

to retrofit will cost quite a few thousand dollars. After speaking to Bobcat, they suggested trading in our existing equipment that is only 8 years old and in really good shape for a handsome sum and in return get a new machine rigged for safety and plumbed for the flail mower. Bobcat wants \$21,880.28 to purchase the new machine and the flail mower is an additional \$6,932.75 and comes with a warranty. He is recommending moving forward with this project. The second quote came from Westside Tractor at \$10,000.00 more than Bobcat. Money will come from the equipment replacement fund and split between water and sewer at \$10,940.14. The flail mower will be split 3 ways between Street, Water and Sewer because of being used for the Department of Public Works. Each department has adequate funds to pay for it. Trevor Sager made a motion to approve The Department of Public Works Request to Purchase a E35 Bobcat Compact Excavator and 30" Flail Mower Attachment. Pamela Samples seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; William Ellis – yes; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried.

Supervisors Comments

Michael Farmer, Town Manager thanked the Street Department and DPW crews for their efforts during all the recent snowstorms. They did a great job with the streets and after finishing, they cleared all the parking lots and sidewalks for all the government buildings.

Mike Cornman, Fire Chief discussed bringing in extra staff during the storms and the crews kept the parking lots clear and ready to go not only for the warming station, but they also serve as an alternate site for the County as an emergency operation center in case they would need to move or come out. He reported there was not a lot of strenuous emergencies during that time and thanked the public for being mindful and staying off the streets during that time. He mentioned that the Street Department did aid in a situation with an individual who had a broken leg and how they were the first on the scene from listening to the Fire frequency. They cleared the road for the ambulance to get in and blocked traffic during the event because the individual was laying in the middle of the street.

Jimmie Durnil, Town Marshal also thanked the Street Department for their efforts in keeping the roads safe and reported there were no accidents during the snow emergency.

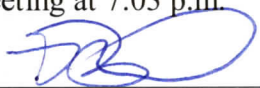
Council Comments

Dan Swafford thanked the DPW for all their efforts on the street clearing, they always do a great job. He also thanked the Fire Department for everything they did during the snowstorms and providing the warming station. Mike Cornman reported they did not have anyone that came in.

Scott Oldham thanked the crews and also Mike Farmer for being on top of every situation during the snow emergency thrown his way and taking care of it before anyone else even thought of it.

Adjournment

Scott Oldham entertained a motion to adjourn. Dan Swafford so moved. Trevor Sager seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; Trevor Sager – yes; Dan Swafford – yes. Motion carried. Motion carried. Pamela Samples adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.



Scott Oldham, President




William Ellis


Dan Swafford



Pamela Samples, Vice President



Trevor Sager



Sandra C. Hash, Clerk-Treasurer, IAMC, MMC