

MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
September 9, 2019

The Town Council meeting was called to order by Ron Troyer at 4:05 p.m. September 9, 2019 with the following persons present:

Ron Troyer	Ray Folk	Justin Geigley	Naomi Miller
Stewart Bender	Cyndi Sadewasser	Bill Eberhard	Stan Strater
Harold Gingerich	James McDonald	Larry Yoder	Rick Pharis

Minutes

Ray moved that the minutes for the last council meeting be approved. Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer

The board approved the claims as read. Ray made the motion, Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

When the 2020 Salary Ordinance is processed the Town Manager requests that the new Wastewater Superintendent is given a 3% raise. Ray made a motion to allow this raise for the Wastewater Superintendent, Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The town health coverage was discussed and determined to stay with AIM Trust and use the PPO Plan 2 for the Health Coverage, Dental Plan 1, 25k AD&D, and Plan 3 for Vision. Justin made a motion to accept the presented plans, Ray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Deanna Yoder has been hired to work odd jobs for any department in the town. Ray made a motion to accept the hire of Deanna, Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The invoice from LaGrange County Economic Development was received. Ray made a motion to pay the invoice, \$7500, Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The annual liability and workers compensation were discussed for renewal. The Liability coverage is with Selective Insurance and the Workers Comp is with IPEP. The liability

will increase 3.3% and the workers comp will increase 14.8%. The huge increase on the workers comp is due to claims filed in the past few years. Justin made a motion to accept the renewal with Selective and IPEP. Ray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Cyber coverage for \$1,000,000 was encouraged of the council to add for the 2020 policy, annually \$1,973.13. Ray made a motion to add the cyber coverage. Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ron Eash resigned from the BZA and recommendation for appointment is needed from Topeka Town Council. An application from Aldon Miller, II was presented. After much discussion council deemed his application unacceptable since he is currently serving an appointed position on Park Board and stated he could not serve two appointed positions that were paid. Ron Troyer recommends Sally Fought for filling the position. Ray made a motion to accept Sally Fought to fill the vacancy, Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Town Manager

Stewart gave an update on the Bike Trail committee, they are requesting a letter of support for an NLT Grant submission. Ray made a motion to have a letter written and Council President sign it. Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Granite Ridge is requesting a variance for a set back in the cul-de-sac. They would like a 71' set back and the plat requires 80'. They are also requesting a recommendation for a new home to be built. Ray made a motion for a Positive Recommendation to the county for the new home and for the 71' set back. Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

A road work update was given with the intent to begin Wednesday, September 18, 2019 on South Main Street and sidewalks.

A quote for S. Main Water extension done by API was presented with a base rate of \$64,287. Justin made a motion to accept the quote contingent on the residence on South Main are annexed into the town. Ray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

James McDonald the new Wastewater Superintendent was introduced to the Town Council.

Fire Chief

July and August Activity Reports were shared with the council.

The Fire Engine truck needs new steer tires. The state bid price is \$1420. Ray made a motion to accept the bid for new steer tires, Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Each year the Fire Department purchases a couple sets of turnout gear. A quote from Hoosier Fire Equipment, Inc was presented showing 4 sets for \$12,363.80. The Fire Chief would like to purchase this out of the Cum Fire appropriation being split 3 ways with the townships as the contract with them states. Ray made a motion to accept the quote and purchase the turnout gear; Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Town Marshal

Marshal Strater would like to send Tracey and Ed to a class in Steuben County for Emergency Response. There is no charge for the class. Ray made a motion to send Ed and Tracey to the class, Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

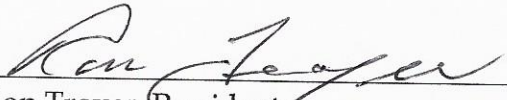
Town Attorney

The county is requesting the town to work with them to restrict the oversized load traffic on Fought Avenue to Lake and 700. Oversized loads would require a county permit, allowing oversized loads only on Lake St. and SR5. The council requested Bill to create the document the county is requesting.

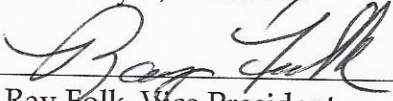
Bill presented Resolution 2019-09-09(A), Directing and Coordinating the Steps Necessary to Determine the Viability of a Topeka Residential TIF District Pursuant to I.C. 36-7-14-0.35 et seq. Ray made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-09-09 (A) and to recommend this resolution to the RDC. Justin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next Town Council meeting will be held at Topeka Town Hall on September 23, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. There being no other business to be brought before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.




Ron Troyer, President




Ray Folk, Vice President

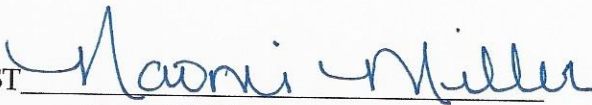
Pete Kaufman



Justin Geigley



Ron Eash

ATTEST 

Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer