

Topeka Town Council
124 E. Lake Street, Topeka, Indiana
General Meeting Minutes, May 18, 2020 at 4:00pm

Remote Town Council Meeting via Webex

Council Member Ron Troyer called the meeting to order with Council Member Eash, Council Member Folk, Council Member Lambright, Council Member Geigley and Clerk Treasurer, Naomi Miller in attendance.

Also, in attendance was Stewart Bender, Casey Erwin with DLZ, Bill Eberhard, and Tyler Coffel and Jeff Rowe with Baker Tilly.

Clerk-Treasurer

A discussion was had on the penalties that were waived for April and May, should they be waived any further? Council Member Folk made a motion to waive the month of June penalties and Council member Lambright seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

The LaGrange County Community Foundation is requesting 2 representatives from our community on a new Steering Committee to oversee and provide input to the planning process for a new county-wide comprehensive plan. Council Member Geigley and Folk volunteered. Council Member Lambright made a motion to appoint Council Member Geigley and Folk to the Steering Committee. Council Member Eash seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Topeka Police, February, March and April reports were emailed to Council. The March Fire reports were emailed to the council. All received by council.

Town Manager/Fire Chief

A Niblock Change Order #2 for the 2019 Community Crossing Project was shared with the council for \$5,383.50. Council Member Geigley made a motion to approve the Change Order #2 for \$5,383.50. Town Council Member Folk seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The pump at the Subway lift station needs replaced. A quote from Ferguson for \$14,989.43 and a quote from Weed for \$13,080 was given to the council. Manager Bender recommends the Ferguson quote due to the Weed quote stated the cost for the time to install is not included in the quote. Council Member Lambright made a motion to have Ferguson install a new pump at the Subway lift station. Council Member Eash seconded the quote and it carried unanimously.

The Wastewater Superintendent would like to get one of the lift stations pumps at Subway fixed. It has a bad base (volute). Xylem quoted the volute at \$2,591. Council Member Eash made a motion to purchase the volute from Xylem, Council Member Folk seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Resolution 2020-9, Modifying Mandating Necessary Safeguards for the Reopening of Town Buildings and Resumption of Town Operations Consistent with the National and Statewide Emergencies, was shared with the council. Council Member Folk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-9 with the additional of waiving the June penalties for the utilities. Council Member Lambright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Manager Bender requested bringing in one summer employee now to assist with the lawn mowing in town. Council Member Folk made a motion to allow one summer help employee to be hired. Council Member Lambright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The 1st public hearing for the Topeka Water Plan Preliminary Engineering Report as it relates to a Drinking Water SRF Project was opened. The estimated project costs if \$4,392,000. Jeff with Baker Tilly shared a worst-case scenario for the water rates bonding the entire amount. Currently we have \$24.77 monthly to an increase of \$49.04 based on 4000 gallons of usage. No public comments were made. On Tuesday, May 26th is the next hearing on this matter pending completion of the Pilot Plant and start of final engineering. Public hearing closed.

The 1st public hearing for the Topeka Wastewater Plant Preliminary Engineering Report as it relates to a Drinking Water SRF project was opened. The estimated project is 7.63 million. Jeff with Baker Tilly shared a worst-case scenario for the wastewater rates bonding the entire amount. Currently we have \$48.78 monthly to an increase of \$84.68 based on 4000 gallons of usage. No public comments were made. On Tuesday, May 26th is the next hearing on this matter. Public hearing was closed.

A grant application to OCRA was presented to the council authorizing a grant to be submitted on behalf of the town and a commitment to a local match amount. Council Member Folk made a motion to authorize the grant submission. Council Member Lambright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

A Signatory Resolution for Application to Wastewater SRF was presented to the council for review. Council Member Eash made a motion sign the application and Council Member Folk seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

A letter proposal for completing a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and application to Indian SRF/IFA for the WWTP improvements was given to the council. Council Member Eash made a motion to proceed with the PER, Council Member Lambright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next Town Council meeting will be held at Topeka Town Hall on May 26, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. There being no other business to be brought before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

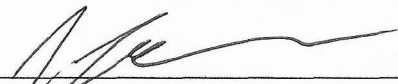


Council Member Ron Troyer, President

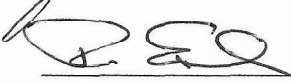
Council Member Ray Folk, Vice President



Council Member Adam Lambright



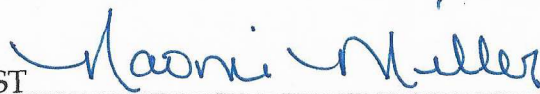
Council Member Justin Geigley



Council Member Ron Eash



ATTEST



Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer, IAMC