

**Topeka Town Council**  
**124 E. Lake Street, Topeka, Indiana**  
**General Meeting Minutes, September 28, 2020 at 4:00pm**

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Council President Ron Troyer called the meeting to order.

Present: Council Member Ron Troyer, Justin Geigley, Ron Eash and Ray Folk, Town Manager Stewart Bender, Town Attorney Bill Eberhard and Clerk Treasurer, Naomi Miller

Absent: Council Members Adam Lambright, attended via phone

Others in attendance: Marshal Stan Strater, Casey Erwin with DLZ, Rick Pharris with Triad

Minutes from previous meeting of September 14, 2020

Motion to Approve: Ray Folk    Second: Ron Eash    Vote: All Ayes

**Clerk-Treasurer**

Claim Register – APV 12816 – 13191

Motion to Approve: Justin Geigley    Second: Ray Folk    Vote: All Ayes

Ordinance 2020-9-28-A, Declaring Public Records Requests Policies and Establishing a Required Form.

Motion to Approve: Justin Geigley    Second: Ray Folk    Vote: All Ayes

Council President Ron Troyer opened the 2021 Budget Hearing at 4:15pm

- Clerk-Treasurer handed out the 2021 budget forms
  - Current Year Financial Worksheet, Debt Worksheet and Budget Form 1, 2 and 3
- After discussion of the budget and no comments from the public
- Budget Hearing was closed at 4:20pm
- Budget Adoption is at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting at 4pm

A new employee handbook was given to council to review

- Discussion at the next meeting

**Stewart Bender, Town Manager/Fire Chief**

**Lagoon Closure**

- Back lagoon will not be ready to sell this year
- IDEM - Need to remove the vegetation and have testing done of the soil
- A land application on our farmland was suggested
- Bill and Stewart will continue to look into options for closing the lagoon

#### Subdivision

- Had a great meeting with Ideal Home Builders
- Putting a proposal together to review
- Will discuss proposal at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Discussion with Ligonier Telephone to run fiber optic into town and the new subdivision
  - Waiting on quote

#### Freedom Steel/S&H Metal Products

- Requesting to add approximately 425 feet at the current Freedom Steel location on Rainbow Drive
- Waiting on the blueprints to offer a recommendation
- A tax abatement will be requested of the town
- Attorney Eberhard recommends an ERA area be developed
  - A hearing be set for October 26<sup>th</sup> for an ERA
  - Ordinance 2020-9-28-B – Hearing for ERA

Motion to Recommend a Hearing: Ray Folk      Second: Ron Eash      Vote: All Ayes

#### Country Squire Estate

- Casey Erwin with DLZ was asked about his findings on the blueprints for the new office at the Country Squire property
- Before Casey expressed his findings, Rick Pharis with Triad the Country Squire Engineering firm stated they are resubmitting plans to the county.
- New plans will be reviewed at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

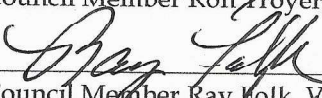
#### Stan Strater, Police Department

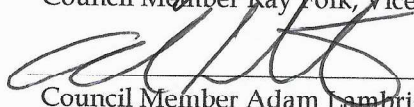
Marshal Strater is working on updating SOP before end of the year.

#### Adjournment


- 4:55pm
- Next General Council meeting: October 12, 2020 at 4p.m.

  
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Council Member Ron Troyer, President

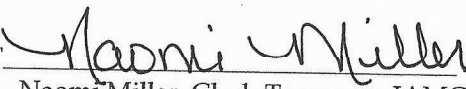
  
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Council Member Ray Folk, Vice President

  
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Council Member Adam Lambright

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Council Member Justin Geigley

  
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Council Member Ron Eash



ATTEST   
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Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer, IAMC