



**Topeka Town Council**  
**124 E. Lake Street, Topeka, Indiana**  
**General Meeting Minutes, January 25, 2021 at 4:00pm**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Call to order by Council President, Ron Troyer – Common Council Meeting

**Roll Call**

Present: Council Member Ron Troyer, Ray Folk, Ron Eash, Town Manager Stewart Bender, and Clerk Treasurer, Naomi Miller

Others in attendance: Marshal, Stanley Strater and Amy Oberlin

Attendance via Zoom: Attorney Bill Eberhard, Council Member Adam Lambright, Buddy Miller, Jim McDonald

**Minutes from previous meeting of January 11, 2021**

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

**Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer**

Claim Register – APV 13640 – 13683

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

**Fire Department injury**

- Kevin Wright injured right hand during rescue training
- CT requests to pay the workers comp bills instead of filing a claim

Motion to Approve: Justin Geigley                      Second: Ron Eash                      Vote: All Ayes

**Resolution 2021-20**

- Allowing the CT to move the Coronavirus Relief Fund money into the General Fund
- Total received \$39,419
- Effective as of December 31, 2020

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

**Ordinance 2021-12**

- An Ordinance Amending the 2021 Wage and Salary Ordinance
- Providing hazard pay to the following town personnel,
  - Stewart Bender, \$1200                      Stan Strater, \$1200
  - James McDonald, \$1200                      Tracey Persing, \$1200
  - James Lambright, \$1200                      Cyndi Sadewasser, \$900
  - Greg Strawser, \$1200                      Ryan Cummins, \$900

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

#### Resolution 2021-21

- A resolution on Continuation of the Expanded Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA) and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act (EFMLEA) by the Town Board of Topeka
- Expires June 30, 2021

Motion to Approve: Ray Folk

Second: Justin Geigley    Vote: All Ayes

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

##### Leave of Absence Request

- James Lambright the Street Superintendent for the town
- Health reasons requesting 6-8 weeks' time off beginning March 1, 2021
- Requesting to secure his position with the town for 30 days after the PTO

Motion: Ray Folk

Second: Justin Geigley

Vote: All Ayes

##### Town Hall Basement and Kitchen

- Asbestos removal of the floor tile and mastic for the basement and kitchen
- Quote from Protechs, Inc totaling \$8,337.17
- Town Manager is seeking 2 more quotes
- Not to exceed 8,337.17 and if another vendor comes in lower, use the lowest quote

Motion to Approve: Justin Geigley

Second: Ray Folk

Vote: All Ayes

##### Community Bathrooms

- Temporarily closed till Governor changes the Executive Order
- Cost is 210 a month for both port-a-potties
  - Placed by community bathrooms and behind Save-a-Lot

##### Baker Tilley

- Study for Residential TIF in respect to the addition of children to attend Westview with the new development
- With 140 homes at complete development, the children estimated per home, the school could receive up to a million a year when all homes are built
- Town Manager Bender and Attorney Eberhard meet with Westview School Superintendent
  - Tuesday, January 26, 2021

The cleaning of well 1 at the water treatment plant has begun.

Payroll taxes on a higher pay does it fall under a different tax bracket?


- Clerk-Treasurer will look into and get back with the council

##### Water Superintendent


- Ron Troyer would like to advertise for a Water Superintendent
  - Town Manager stated he has not stopped advertising but has not had any interest
- Very difficult in the State of Indiana to find licensed Water and Wastewater Superintendents
- Attorney Eberhard explained that LaGrange has hired an apprentice to work under a vendor for 2 years till licensure
- Several council members stated interest in this avenue for Topeka

Adjournment

- 4:51pm
- Next General Council meeting: February 8, 2021 at 4p.m.

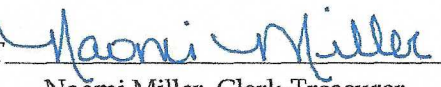
  
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Council Member Ron Troyer, President

  
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Council Member Ray Folk, Vice President

  
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Council Member Ron Eash

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Council Member Adam Lambright

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Council Member Justin Geigley

ATTEST   
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Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer

