

Topeka Town Council
124 E. Lake Street, Topeka, Indiana
General Meeting Minutes, June 28, 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, Adam Lambright, Steve Schrock, Town Manager Stewart Bender, Clerk Treasurer, Naomi Miller

Others in attendance: Deputy Clerk Cyndi Sadewasser, Marshal Stan Strater, Jr, Kelly Gardner with Alliance of Indiana, Constance Hilligoss and Quincy Miller.

Attendance via Zoom: None

President welcomed Steve Schrock as newest council member.

Minutes from previous meeting of June 14, 2021, for Common Council

Motion to Approve: Adam Lambright Seconded: Ray Folk Vote: All Ayes

Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer

Claim Register – APV 14250 – 14283

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

Ordinance 2021-19, Codifying Indiana Law as to Gun Permit Fees

- State of Indiana modified its law, towns may not collect said fees as of July 1, 2021.
- Motion to adopt and waive the second reading of Ordinance 2021-19

Motion: Ray Folk Seconded: Adam Lambright Vote: All Ayes

Contract for Fire Protection Services with Eden was received and signed by council. Motion to accept the ordinance with the townships was done at the June 14, 2021, Council Meeting.

RDC Appointment

- A replacement for Justin Geigley's position on the RDC board
- Ray volunteered to fill the vacancy

Motion to appoint Ray Folk: Ron Eash Seconded: Adam Lambright Vote: All Ayes

Internal Control Oversight Committee

- Replacement for Justin Geigley position on the Oversight Committee for internal controls
- Steve Schrock volunteered to fill the vacancy.

Motion: Ray Folk Seconded: Ron Troyer Vote: All Ayes

Garbage Collection for Topeka

- o 3-year contract is up at the end of 2021
- o Recommend doing the 4th and 5th year extension beginning January 1, 2022.

Motion to use the extension: Ron Eash

Second: Steve Schrock

Vote: All Ayes

Stewart Bender, Town Manager/Fire Chief

Kelly Gardner with Alliance of Indiana Rural Water (AIRW)

- o The Town is needing a new Water Superintendent. Kelly explained options on how to obtain an operator with no certification.
- o There is a shortage of license operators in the state of Indiana and across the US.
- o Alliance offers a 2-year program where an apprentice works under a license operator
- o Must sit for IDEM certification program
- o Need someone to work at least 20 hours a week for training new operator
- o Funding options are available
- o 3 years is a reasonable time for certification
- o The standards for a water certification were shared with council

Vactor

- Quote for a 2005 vactor truck
 - o Including all equipment needed for hydro excavating, 2 nozzles for cleaning lines and hydro ex tip.
 - o BEC Brown Equipment for \$132,500
- Jeter and Vac trailer could both be sold with this replacement
 - o Request approval to sell with a minimum bid of \$35,000
 - o Recommend offering Jeter to Yoder for no less than \$200 without advertising.
 - Bill will look into possibility according to laws to sell without a bid.
 - Jetter is not worth more than taking to recycling for the town.
 - o Advertise vac trailer with bid opening in August when new truck is ready
 - o Motion to purchase and advertise vac trailer

Motion: Ray Folk

Seconded: Ron Eash

Vote: All Ayes

There is money out there for the Wastewater improvements, a 50 or 75% match. Will take to Ross at Baker Tilley to get further information.

Pay Ap 1 with Pulver Asphalt Paving

- \$68,814.09
- \$29,106.60 falls under the TIF board leaving \$39,707.49 for Council review
- Recommendation to RDC for the TIF portion
- Motion to disburse payment of Pay Ap 1 to Pulver

Motion: Ron Eash

Seconded: Adam Lambright

Vote: All Ayes

May Fire Reports emailed to council prior to the meeting.

Trail Side Industrial Park at 436 Michigan St. is seeking approval for new sign.

- A photo of the new sign was shared with council.
- Manager Bender stated it falls within the parameters of the town and county code.

Motion: Ray Folk

Seconded: Ron Eash

Vote: All Ayes

Lougheed - lagoon closure - report received and passed all the tests requested by IDEM

Stan Strater, Town Marshal

Ammunition

- o Quote from Kiesler Police Supply for ammunition for \$2,598.54
- o 10 - 12 months out on delivery

Motion to purchase: Ray Folk

Seconded: Ron Eash

Vote: All Ayes

Attorney

Development Property

TIF meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 1pm with Ryan to discuss the Westview agreement. A resolution could be done by the next council meeting, July 12th.

Other

Constance Hilligoss asked about the plans for her front yard by the road pertaining to the road work and sidewalks being implemented. Address: 414 N. Main Street. Ms. Hilligoss is disgruntled about receiving a letter after the work had already begun and the letter lacked detailed information. A call was received from Jamie demanding she sign and bring the letter up to the town hall. Resident felt they were being bullied. In the future a meeting with residence prior to work beginning would have helped smooth things over.

President Troyer requested an executive meeting to discuss salaries and advertising for a new water superintendent. The Executive meeting was scheduled for July 8th at 4pm on Thursday at the Town Hall.

Adjournment

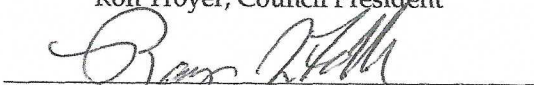
- 5:39 pm
- Next General Council meeting July 12, 2021, at 4p.m.



Ron Troyer, Council President



Adam Lambright, Council Vice-President



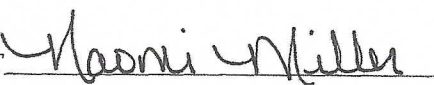
Ray Folk, Council Member



Steve Schrock, Council Member



Ron Eash, Council Member

ATTEST 

Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer

