

Topeka Town Council
124 E. Lake Street, Topeka, Indiana
General Meeting Minutes, September 27, 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, Steve Schrock, Adam Lambright; Town Manager Stewart Bender and Clerk Treasurer, Naomi Miller

Others in attendance: Stan Strater, Jr., Town Marshal; Doug Fought; Fritz Helmuth; Hoyja Al Yahlri; Amina Ornaorf and Casey Erwin with DLZ

Attendance via Zoom: Wastewater Superintendent, James McDonald and Town Attorney Bill Eberhard

Minutes from previous meeting of September 13, 2021, for Common Council Meeting and Executive Session September 13, 2021

Motion to Approve: Ray Folk

Seconded: Steve Schrock

Vote: All Ayes

Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer

Claim Register – APV 14604 – 14656

Motion to Approve: Steve Schrock

Seconded: Ray Folk

Vote: All Ayes

Public Hearing on 2022 Budget was opened

- Clerk-Treasurer explained the different reports for the budget shared with the council
- Council is encouraged to review
- The adoption of the budget is set for Monday, October 11, 2021
- No Comments from the floor on the 2022 Budget hearing
- Hearing was closed

GOP Caucus to fill the vacancy of Ron Eash's is set for September 29th at 6pm at the Town Hall. Deadline is 6pm Monday, September 27, 2021. If no one else is running, then Wednesday night will be the appointment and swearing in of the single applicant, Doug Fought.

Liability Insurance

- Selective quote for 2022 coverage, \$61,801
 - Full Earthquake coverage of 19 million
- EMC quote for 2022 coverage, \$59,882
 - We had EMC in the past and they are aggressively seeking our business
 - Earthquake coverage for only 10 million
 - \$50,000 in cyber liability protection

- Current cyber protection is becoming harder to obtain for public entities. Next year the renewal will be a separate policy with a monoline carrier. This will come with a 2-step authentication requirement for all logging into programs for the town.
- Motion to move our coverage to EMC for 2022 year
Motion: Ray Folk Seconded: Adam Lambright Vote: All Ayes

Stewart Bender, Town Manager/Fire Chief

Ashely Fire Dept still interested in the truck and came back with \$14,500

- Town Attorney Eberhard stated an interlocal agreement can be made for this purchase
- Motion to sell the Fire Truck
Motion: Ray Folk Seconded: Steve Schrock
Vote: All Ayes; Adam Lambright Abstain

Pay Ap #4 for North Main Street Project

- Payment request is for \$258,347.88
- Retainage is \$61,088.17
- 25% of this pay app falls in the TIF area
 - \$64,586.97 leaving \$193,760.91 under the Town Council approval
 - Motion to recommend the TIF portion to the RDC board
 - and pay Pay Ap 4

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

Water Superintendent Opening

- No new applicants Town Manager is interested in
- Manager Bender asked council if they would consider hiring someone to work PT for the water plant and assist with the other departments.
 - The percentage split for the pay would come out 80% out of water, 10% out of wastewater and 5% out of MVH and Park
- Motion made to hire someone not to exceed 30 hours
 - Pay would be \$20.00 an hour with the split as mentioned above

Motion: Ray Folk Seconded: Steve Schrock Vote: All Ayes

Bill Eberhard, Town Attorney


8 x 18 footage by old fire

- To close on the property title company requires an affidavit
 - Declaration the town owns the property
 - Take over legal actions if someone challenges over ownership of 8' section
 - Indemnity agreement will be drawn up

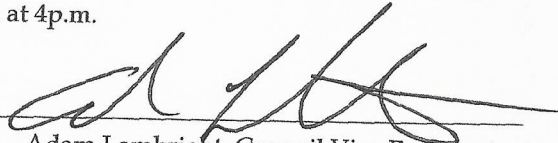
Motion: Ray Folk Seconded: Steve Schrock Vote: All Ayes

Adjournment

- 5:50 pm
- Next General Council meeting October 11, 2021, at 4p.m.




Ron Troyer, Council President



Adam Lambright, Council Vice-President

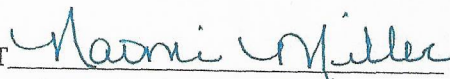


Ray Folk, Council Member



Steve Schrock, Council Member

Doug Fought, Council Member

ATTEST 

Naomi Miller, Clerk-Treasurer

