

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, November 8, 2021

Attending: Council President James Miller, Councilors Matt Coppock, Steve Hahn, Greg Jones, Mary Jo Totten. Also attending: Attorney Eric Burns, Town Supervisor Ron Holladay, Town Marshal Jerry Burk, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones.

Guests: Bill Jones, Michael Fateley, Dave Buck, Dan Gemmecke, Colin Sullivan

James Miller called to order at 6:00 p.m. and there were 2 changes to the agenda, to discuss purchase of land and to re-order the agenda to move the attorney's presentation

The Council received information that the owner of a property adjacent town land at the street barn location might be ready to sell. Greg Jones **moved** to investigate the purchase of the land to use for town purposes. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous vote.

Attorney

Eric Burns recommended having a written resolution to confirm the desire to purchase land. Appoint two certified appraisers to give report of value, and the price can be the average of the two appraisals. Jim Miller will contact the property owner to start the process and ask if he would accept an agreement for right of first offer and refusal. Eric will provide the document. Appraisers will be scheduled.

Dave Buck gave an update for the request to vacate easements on Northgate west side for proposed construction. The revised plat would relocate easements however construction may be delayed for an undetermined amount of time. The town would not release rights to the current easement until the new route is established and new facilities are placed. Eric advised the council that vacating an easement requires the petitioner to set a public hearing to receive comments on the proposal, and the council to hold two readings of the ordinance at its public meetings. The developer is in control of setting a timeline for the initial public hearing, with assistance from the clerk-treasurer.

There is a requirement from INDOT for each grant recipient to set signature authority by ordinance. The council president would be authorized to sign on behalf of the council. Matt Coppock **moved** to adopt Ordinance 2021-603 An Ordinance Officially Designating the Town Council President as the Signing and Executing Authority for Necessary Documents. Second of Greg Jones, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote. Eric left the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

Minutes

Mary Jo Totten **moved** to accept the minutes of September 13, October 12 and October 18. Second of Steven Hahn, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

Clerk-Treasurer

The Register of Claims October 13 to November 8 was presented. Mary Jo Totten **moved** to approve the claims in the amount \$96,712.10. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

The draft salary ordinance for 2022 was discussed and tabled for additional information.

Police

Jerry Burk provided a monthly report of activity and mentioned that the 2020 Durango sustained serious damage when a deer ran into the side of the vehicle. The incident occurred on Prophet's Rock Road. Reports were provided for insurance purposes.

The Tippecanoe Township Volunteer Fire Department held a successful Fall Festival on North Street. He believes there was not as much Trick-or-Treat activity on this year's Halloween, possibly because Oct 31 was Sunday.

A quote for new roof and siding on the Street Barn will be provided at the December meeting. Jerry has information about a safety grant for line painting equipment for better street and curb marking.

A group of community citizens gave all community first responders, including the deputy police officers, a gift certificate in appreciation for their service. Jerry will distribute these to his department.

Utilities and Street Department

The quote for street repair on West Street is \$14,000. Council questioned this amount and it was determined to be a reasonable value. Mary Jo Totten **moved** to go ahead with street repairs according to the quote for \$14,000. Second of Matt Coppock, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

Ron Holladay obtained two quotes to divert storm water at 110 - 118 Main Street. There are two plans; Option #1 replaces all the concrete and new curb for \$5,740.55 and Option #2 retains the sidewalk base and adds curbing \$4,108.80. Greg Jones **moved** to approve an amount not to exceed \$5800.00 for the option deemed most appropriate, following a site inspection by Ron Holladay and Matt Coppock. Second of Mary Jo Totten, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

There was graffiti vandalism to the above-ground lift station at River Bluff which is now painted over.

Ron will attend the Pesticide Operator license renewal on November 15 at Hartford City.

The Main Lift Station replacement is delayed until spring 2022.

Redevelopment Commission – no report

Area Plan

Greg Jones moved to adopt Ordinance 2021-602 UZO Amendment #102 Definition of Lot. Second of Mary Jo Totten, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

Committees

Transportation – The CCMG 2021-2 grant request for Tomahawk Lane in the amount \$900,000.00 was approved by INDOT.

Strategic Planning – The council discussed the opportunity to seed commercial development on Northgate. Veritas Realty asked for assistance with sewage and storm water expenses to build out a three-lot subdivision. After discussion, Greg Jones moved to support wastewater and stormwater infrastructure in an amount up to \$80,000 from the 2022 Economic Development budget. Second of Matt Coppock, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

New Business

Dan Gemmecke requested the sewage utility share the cost of replacement meters to be installed next year. The new meters will reduce the time needed to read meters. He has an opportunity to purchase two pallets at a good price and asks the sewage utility to pay for 144 meters. Mary Jo Totten moved to approve up to \$33,000 for half the total purchase. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous roll call vote.

Motion to adjourn 8:23 p.m. by Mary Jo Totten with second of Steve Hahn.



Georgia Jones, Clerk/Treasurer



James Miller, Council President

Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance

Date: November 8, 2021

Time: 6:02 p.m.

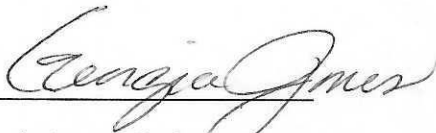
Members Present in person: None

Members Present virtually: Council President James Miller, Councilors Matt Coppock, Steve Hahn, Greg Jones, Mary Jo Totten

Also attending: Attorney Eric Burns, Town Supervisor Ron Holladay, Town Marshal Jerry Burk, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones.

Electronic Means of Communication Used For Members and Public: ZOOM.us

Attest:



Georgia Jones

Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer