

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, August 15, 2022

Attending: Council President James Miller, Councilors Steve Hahn, Greg Jones, Mary Jo Totten. Also attending: Town Supervisor Ron Holladay, Town Marshal Jerry Burk, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones. Councilor Matt Coppock did not attend.

Guests attending virtually: Joe Kline, and unidentified participant with screen name "Trent"

James Miller called to order at 6:00 p.m. The agenda is a continuation of August 8.

Clerk-Treasurer

The council reviewed initial estimates of the 2023 expense budget. The 2022 budget incorporates almost all fund reserves, therefore only 2023 revenues will be used to submit this year. The proposed budget will be advertised for a public hearing September 12. There may be reductions after that date, no increases. The budget adoption is October 10, and submission deadline is Oct 31.

A shredding service came to town hall for office documents that were declared on an Indiana document retention schedule: cancelled checks, bank statements, and utility payment stubs that are past the retention date. More will be processed in the coming months to reduce the number of boxes at the rental storage facility.

Police

The replacement radar speed sign was received. An invoice will be submitted to the trucking company for refund of the cost.

Signage for "children at play" will be installed. The school drop-off route has changed however the start time did not change, although other schools in the area did have changes.

BJ Moyars will be on office duty until mid-September and may work on grants research.

There is stone on Northgate Court that needs to be removed by Pavement Solutions.

Utilities and Street Department

River Bluffs lift #1 failed and was unattended for a time because there is no Missions alarm installed there. In addition to the current repairs, Ron Holladay recommends installing an above-ground cabinet for the electronics and a control box with alarm relay Mary Jo Totten moved to approve up to \$10,000 for the total project. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with 4 Aye, and one absent.

Ron reported the annual IDEM inspection and said the problem areas were Hawks Nest, River Bluff and Woods Edge. All of these are under construction or planning for new components within a year.

Pavement Solutions was found to be using water from a hydrant on Northgate. Ron told them to request service with a travel meter for any future needs.

Woods Edge pump 2 was successfully repaired.

The 2011 pickup truck needed transmission repair.

Committees

Transportation – Hawks Nest residents seem pleased with the appearance of the micro-surface road treatment. There is concern if it will stand up to snow plowing. Greg Jones identified six street segments that need crack seal that could be requested in a CCMG 2022-2 grant application. He moved to allocate \$3,000 for matching funds from the 2023 budget for this work. Second of Mary Jo Totten, motion carried with 4 Aye, one absent.

Greg Jones, James Miller and Georgia Jones attended a webinar on Safe Streets 4 All to understand opportunities for sidewalk grants. The council defers the local matching grant for BG property owners to January 2023.

Sidewalks on North Street were discussed. An INDOT grant paid for the new sidewalks on North Street. Some are now developing surface cracks. A prior request for downtown sidewalk repairs was not accepted, and there was no action taken at this time.

Public Relations / Communication – An update to the employee handbook will be distributed for review prior the September meeting.

Strategic Planning – The recent announcement of the Bipartisan Infrastructure legislation prompts the council to renew effort to complete a long-term plan. Sidewalks, trails and other development could be incorporated in grant requests. There is a meeting for solar development at the Tipmont office in Linden, on August 17.

Citizen Advisory Groups – no report

Old Business

Colin Sullivan mentioned a new change order for Tomahawk Lane, for a connection error in the new water line where it attaches to the system on Liberty Street. There is not agreement about who has responsibility for the cost, however the council understands the importance of correcting the error. Mary Jo Totten moved to approve the order, reserving the right to assign responsibility for funding pending further investigation. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with 4 Aye.


New Business

Jerry Burk would like the council to consider purchasing a micro-truck. The small vehicles are used for patrolling trails, also for maintenance needs.

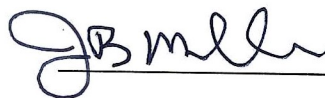
James Miller commented that EV charging stations will be a future need in long term planning.

Georgia Jones requested patrols Sept 8-10 during an evening outdoor event at the Methodist Church. Parking may be a challenge if there is large attendance.

Motion to adjourn 7:25 p.m. by Mary Jo Totten with second of Greg Jones.



Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer



James Miller, Council President