

MINUTES
ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING

OCTOBER 10, 2022

ROME CITY TOWN HALL
402 KELLY STREET
ROME CITY, INDIANA 46784

Nick Heffner called the budget adoption meeting to order at 6:30pm. All members present. All members looked over the 2023 budget. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve ordinance 2022-08 for the 2023 town budget. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Nick Heffner asked for a motion to close the budget adoption at 6:35pm. Kirk Klein made the motion to close the budget adoption. Cheryl Clifton seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Pledge was said.

All members present for the regular meeting. Also present, Paul Hoffman, Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger, Cindy O'Brien, Heidi Lang and son, Jeremy with Commonwealth, David Fleck, Scott Neukom, John Kitchen and KPC reporter on zoom and Charity Murphy.

Nick Heffner asked for a motion to wave reading the minutes from the last meeting. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to wave reading the minutes. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wet Environmental

Leigh Pranger met with Wet Environmental about the sludge in the sewer ponds. They would like to meet with the town council on October 24, 2022 at 6:30pm to discuss what they found and what needs to be done. This will be a special meeting. All members agreed to meet on October 24, 2022 at 6:30pm for the special meeting.

Commonwealth, wetlands

Jeremy stated some to the land by the landing area needs to be out of the wetlands for the trail. Earth Source gave a quote of \$5050.00 to do the work. Jeremy stated this amount will be coming back to the town with the grant. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to accept Earth Source for the work on the wetlands. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to accept Earth Source. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

David Fleck, 310 Bernice, Trees on his property

David Fleck presented pictures and his survey of his property. David stated he contacted NIPSCO in 2019 about the low branches in the power lines and when NIPSCO came out they stated they could not do anything because the trees are in the towns right away. Charity Murphy looked over the paperwork that Mr. Fleck brought in from NIPSCO. Charity would like to contact NIPSCO and see what is going on because if the branches are into the power line, then NIPSCO should remove them. The town is not responsible for removing the trees. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to have Charity Murphy contact NIPSCO and report back to Mr. Fleck and the town council. Cheryl Clifton made a motion to have Charity contact NIPSCO. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Grant agreement for trails.

Jeremy with Commonwealth stated they are still working on it. Nick Heffner must sign the forms online. Nick stated he will.

Road closure for school Truck/Treat

Paul Hoffman met with the Rome City School Principal, and they would like to close off the roads around the school for Truck/Treat on October 14, 2022 from 5:00pm to around 6:00pm. All members looked over the map of the road closures. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve the road closures. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2022-10 and Ordinance 2022-11

Brenda Conley stated the town will be receiving money from the opioid settlement. New funds needed set up for each of these. Ordinance 2022-10 in unrestricted money and Ordinance 2022-11 is for restricted money. As far as what each fund can be used for has not been determined by the state in detail yet. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-10 and Ordinance 2022-11. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Kirk Klein seconded. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Contracting policy for elected Officials

Brenda Conley stated every year this needs to be signed stating elected officials cannot hire a contracting firm where they have relatives. All members signed the form.

Nepotism Policy for direct line of supervision for elected officials

Brenda Conley stated these needs done every year that elected officials cannot hire a relative. All members signed the form.

John Kitchen mowing sewer plant

John Kitchen would like a 2-year contract to mow the sewer plant and parks. Brenda Conley stated we bid this out each year because other mowing crews ask about this. Leigh Pranger stated she will get the info out and would like to table this until the November 14, 2022 meeting. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to table. Kirk Klein made the motion to table. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Leaf Pick UP

Leigh Pranger presented the leaf pick up for Rome City. Leigh asked if the council would like to pick up Limberlost Trails leaves. Scott Neukom stated Limberlost Trails are not annexed into the town, and they don't plow their roads plus they don't have sewer and he stated in the past it cost the town around \$1000.00 for us to pick up the leaves on Limberlost. All members agreed that since they are not annexed

into the town then we should not pick them up. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Kirk Klein made the motion to not pick up the leaves on Limberlost Trail. Cheryl Clifton seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT:

Town Manager (see attached) Leigh Pranger stated the 2017 white street truck was in an accident and we have the insurance working on it, but it is not drivable. Leigh will report back to the council when she finds out more. Leigh stated we received one of our new dump trucks and the other should be coming soon.

Street/Wastewater (see attached)

Town Marshal (see attached) Paul Hoffman stated the police car was backed into on an arrest and the insurance got back with us, but it might not be until the end of the year when it can be fixed. He will let the town council know.

CLAIMS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENTS:

TOWN FUNDS: \$85,376.92

SEWER OPERATING: \$34,460.39

Nick Heffner asked for a motion to pay the claims. Kirk Klein made the motion to pay the claims. Cheryl Clifton seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.


Next Town Council meeting is November 14, 2022 at 6:30pm at the Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Town of Rome City, IN

Nick Heffner asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm. Kirk Klein made the motion to adjourn. Cheryl Clifton seconded. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL



Nick Heffner, President

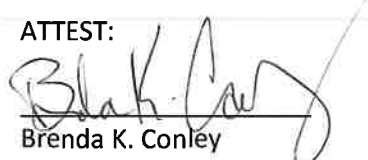


Kirk Klein, Vice-President



Cheryl Clifton, Member

ATTEST:



Brenda K. Conley
Clerk-Treasurer