

# MINUTES

APRIL 11, 2022

## ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING

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

Nick Heffner called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. All members, Nick Heffner, Cheryl Clifton and Kirk Klein present. Also present, Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger, Dustin Fike, Charity Murphy, Cindy O'Brien, Heather Green, Jeremy (Commonweath) and Gary Patrick and wife.

Pledge was said

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

### OLD BUSINESS:

#### MILLERS LAWSUIT

Charity Murphy, town's attorney, stated there is a lawsuit with Millers against the town. They are requesting \$13,000.00 from the town and the town insurance stated they will pay \$5000.00. Charity stated Bill Eberhard has been involved in the case and this dollar amount is approved by the Millers to settle the case. Bill Eberhard is still working on an easement. Leigh Pranger will get with Tom Miller for a new estimate for working on the easement. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve the \$13,000.00 to settle the lawsuit with the Millers and have the insurance pay the \$5000 for a total of \$18,000.00. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### COST TO DREDGE SEWER PONDS

Jeremy stated it will cost around \$500,000.00 to dredge all 4 ponds if the town goes with bids from contractors. Jeremy suggested talking to farmers around the area to see if they would be interested in the sludge for their fields. Jeremy stated the famers will not need it until the fall, but this way would save the town money. Jeremy also suggested to do 1 or 2 a year not all 4 at once. Leigh stated she will contact some farmers in the area and report back to the town council. All council members agree to proceed with this.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### TREE ON WESTON STREET

Property owner not present, no discussion.

#### HEATHER GREEN, ROME CITY PRINCIPAL

Heather Green wanted the Town Council to know that she needs more students at the Rome City School. She stated the school is not closing but enrollment is down. Heather would like more housing in Rome City.

#### **ORDINANCE 2022-02 AMEND WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE**

Brenda Conley presented Ordinance 2022-02 amending the Deputy Clerk wage amount. Nick Heffner read the ordinance. Nick Heffner asks for a motion. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve Ordinance 2022-02 and wave the second reading. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **ORDINANCE 2022-03**

Dustin Fike stated this ordinance 2022-03 is for cash and other items that is received from other sources as a result of actions in criminal matters. These funds will be placed in the Police Donation Fund. Nick Heffner read the ordinance. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve Ordinance 2022-03. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **WAIVER AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT FOR LAGRANGE POLICE**

Dustin Fike stated LaGrange Police Department would like to use the gun range and this is a waiver for them. They will have to notify the Rome City Marshal before using the range. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve the waiver. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **REDUCE SEWER FOR SPEICHER**

Brenda Conley stated the Speicher's are paying for 2 sewer connections. They own the old golf course, and they were going to put in an ice cream shop but not anymore. They are requesting to remove that sewer payment. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to remove the sewer payment for the ice cream shop. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **AGREEMENT FOR SILVERSMITH**

Leigh Pranger stated her, and the other employees met with the representatives from Silversmith. Its an IPAD and it can locate sewer lines and storm drains and other things. Scott stated he has contacted other towns and cities that have this program that they all gave great reviews. The cost for the iPad and set up is \$6450.00 then an annual fee of \$1850.00. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 aye, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **TOWN HALL WINDOWS**

Brenda Conley stated Total Property Preservation, South Milford, stop in the office and gave an estimate on washing the windows. All windows and doors outside \$266.00 inside windows \$133.00. Brenda did not contact anyone else due to these people just stopped into the office. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **TROY HARTMAN FOR REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Leigh Pranger stated Troy Hartman is interested on being on the Rome City Redevelopment Committee. All members approved.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS: (see attached)**

Town Manager, Leigh Pranger stated she was contacted by on developer, Gary Patrick, and he would like to talk to the council about his plans. Gary Patrick stated he bought the property on State Road 9 across from the Legion and he is interested in putting in housing. Possible at first be 4 duplexes' up to 20 he was wondering about the sewer and if it could be hooked up to our line. Scott stated the line could connect it ends at the property north of Patrick's property.

Leigh Pranger stated with the bridge coming down, NIPSCO, is not going to install streetlights at the intersection and there should be some at that location. Leigh would like to investigate this with the council approval. All members agreed to have Leigh check the cost out.

**STREET/WASTEWATER: (SEE ATTACHED)**

**TOWN MARSHAL: (SEE ATTACHED)**

Dustin Fike read the report. Dustin stated the speed sign is on Jefferson Street. Report is attached. Dustin stated Marshal Hoffman would like to give it a couple of months and see how the traffic speed report turns out before doing any new stop signs.

**CLAIMS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:**

TOWN FUNDS: \$201,942.62

SEWER OPERATING: \$26,720.50

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

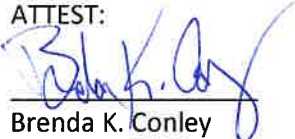
Next Town Council meeting is May 9, 2022 at 6:30pm at the Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly St., Rome City, IN

Nick Heffner asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:01pm. Kirk Klein made the motion to adjourn. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL

  
Nick Heffner, President

ATTEST:

  
Brenda K. Conley  
Clerk-Treasurer