

MINUTES

PUBLIC MEETING (ZOOM)

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL

JANUARY 11, 2021

ROME CITY TOWN HALL

402 KELLY STREET

ROME CITY, IN 46784

Meeting was called to order by Nick Heffner at 6:32pm. Nick Heffner, Kirk Klein and Cheryl Clifton present. Also present, Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger, Paul Hoffman and Bill Eberhard. By ZOOM Andy, KPC reporter and Cindy O'Brien.

Pledge was said.

Election of officers for 2021

All voted. Nick Heffner is President; Kirk Klein is Vice President and Cheryl Clifton member.

OLD BUSINESS:

Direct Deposit

Brenda Conley stated she called Keystone Program and left a message but has not heard back. Brenda asked to table until February meeting. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to table. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to table. Kirk Klein second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE 2021-01 AMEND GARBAGE IN GENERAL CODE

Leigh Pranger read the ordinance. Leigh stated after her and Paul Hoffman looked over the other ordinance they felt there should be changes made. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve Ordinance 2021-01 on the first reading. Kirk Klein second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION 2021-01

Brenda Conley stated this is for the CARES ACT money that is in the general fund. It needs appropriated into a stipend appropriation to pay the stipend to the employees, Conference Room update appropriation and Police program appropriation. Brenda stated this needs to be advertised first and then presented to the council at the February meeting for approval then it will be sent to the State for their approval. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve to advertise resolution 2021-01. Kirk Klein made the motion to advertise. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Eberhard, Weimer, Glick representation for 2021

Nick Heffner read the letter from Eberhard, Weimer and Glick Attorney at Law. There are no increases for 2021 the charges are the same as 2020. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to accept Eberhard, Weimer and Glick as our legal council for 2021. Kirk Klein made the motion to accept. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Conference room update

Brenda presented a cost to update the conference room for \$16,007.00 with Fairchild Communication Systems, INC, out of Fort Wayne. This will update all our equipment in the conference room. What we have now is not working and it is outdated. Our IT person, Gary Cox, has gotten the quote and he will oversee the whole process. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve the update to the conference room. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve the update. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 aye, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Police Program

Paul Hoffman stated that the department needs to keep the policies always updated. Last time it was updated was 2016. The CARES ACT money can help pay for this program. This program updates any federal or state policy to the law. The cost is \$14,046.00 with an annual fee on \$2,386.80. All the officers will have electronic access to the policy and procedure manual via computer or cell phone while at home or at work 27/7. The company is LEXIPOL. All town council agreed that this is needed. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve the cost of the program after the additional appropriation is approved. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

IT, Gary Cox contract

Brenda Conley presented the contract for our IT person Gary Cox. The cost did not change from last year it is \$3000.00 annually. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve the contract for IT with Gary Cox for \$3000.00 for 2021. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve the contract for \$3000.00. Cheryl Clifton second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

New Reserve, Gary Cox

Paul Hoffman stated Gary Cox will be a new unpaid reserve for the town if approved. He will not be patrolling but will be helping with the detective work. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve Gary Cox as a reserve for the Town of Rome City. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Board Appointment

Leigh Pranger presented the board appointment for 2021. Plan commission Joe Bertels until 1-1-2023, Oak Shores Rep. Steve Cole until 1-1-2024, Leigh Pranger until 1-1-2025. BZA, Judy Fox until 1-1-2025. Park Board, Doug Maley until 1-1-2023, Tina Wilkinson until 1-1-2025. Redevelopment Commission, all 1 year, Leigh Pranger, Randy Pippenger, Dan Beall, Nick Heffner, Jeff Cybulski and Brad Anderson. Economic Development Commission Nick Heffner. Nick Heffner asked for a motion to approve. Kirk Klein made the motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**Town Manager, year end and monthly (see attached)****Street/Wastewater**

Leigh stated Conrad White is out sick for the week and did not have his report done. Leigh stated we are having problems with a valve at the wastewater plant that needs repaired and the cost will be \$10,000.00 to \$30,000.00 approximately. It is between pond #2 and #3 and it is about 8 feet deep. Our employees can not do the work to replace it. Leigh would like approval to have Commonwealth Engineers do the work to see what the cost and how they are going to fix it. It will cost \$150.00 per hour for Commonwealth to do the research. Nick Heffner stated we need to set this up with Commonwealth, but we should make sure they do not exceed 4 hours of planning time. Leigh stated they said it should only take 2 to 3 hours. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to have Commonwealth do the work up but not

to exceed 4 hours. If they need more time, they will have to get approval from the town council. Kirk Klein seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

TOWN MARSHAL (see attached)

Paul Hoffman stated he would like to get each of his officers' town owned guns. Paul stated all our officers use their personal firearms and if they were in a situation that they had to use them then the state will keep their gun for evidence until the case is completed. Paul stated that there is a grant that he wants to apply for \$12,000.00, Sprit of Blue, that will help pay for the 7 guns and 4 rifles. Paul will keep the council informs about the progress.

Miscellaneous

Bill Eberhard stated he had just heard today that on the Kim Miller property, where the drainpipe was installed, they are asking the town to pay for a new seawall 105.5 foot long. Bill stated the area where the pipe is placed, was is very small area, Bill Eberhard stated with the town council approval, he will contact the attorney for the Millers and state the town will replace only 5 to 10 foot of seawall. All council agreed. Nick Heffner asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made a motion to have Bill Eberhard contact the attorney for Millers with a request to only pay for a 5-to-10-foot seawall. Kirk Klein second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:

TOWN FUNDS: \$220,205.57

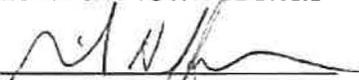
SEWER OPERATING: \$37,741.95

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

Next Town Council meeting is February 8, 2021 at 6:30pm (ZOOM), Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Rome City, IN 46784

Nick Heffner asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39pm. Kirk Klein made the motion to adjourn. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motions carried.

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL


Nick Heffner, President

ATTEST:


Brenda K. Conley
Clerk-Treasurer