

# MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

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

## BUDGET HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING (ZOOM)

Budget hearing was called to order at 5:30pm. All members Cheryl Clifton, Kirk Klein and Nick Heffner(zoom) present. Also, present Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger and Paul Hoffman. All members looked over the budget. Brenda stated she had met with the budget hearing officer, and he stated everything looks good. Kirk Klein asked for a motion to approve the budget for the hearing. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Kirk Klein made a motion to adjourn the budget hearing at 5:55pm. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to adjourn. Nick Heffner seconds the motion 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Kirk Klein called the regular town council meeting to order at 6:30pm. All members present. Also, present Brenda Conley, Leigh Pranger, Bill Eberhard, Paul Hoffman and several on the sign in sheet which is attached.

Pledge was said.

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

## OLD BUSINESS:

### Horse Ordinance

Bill Eberhard stated this is a hearing on the ordinance there will be no vote taken of the ordinance tonight. Kirk Klein stated who ever wants to be heard you must have signed in and you will have 2 minutes to speak. James Fugate stated this horse discharge is polluting our lake. John Martin stated he must clean up after his dog so why don't the horse owners have to clean up after their horses. Horses can be trained to work with the bags attached. Sam Lambright stated they tried the bag, and it is not safe for animals and the people. They have had horses run away due to the bags and it is a danger to the people in the buggies when this happens. Sam stated they would like to work with the town at cleaning up with the barrels and they had advised the people to not go into the lake areas. Mike Friskney stated it is not safe to have to dodge the manure in the streets. Pam Baker stated she almost got hit head on by motorcycles dodging manure on State Road 9 and she doesn't feel like the town employees should have to clean up after them. LaVern Yoder stated he is on the safety committee in LaGrange County, and it is not safe to put bags on the horses. He has seen this in the past. The safety committee does not have a problem with picking up the manure and wants to work with the town. He stated they can have volunteers to pick up barrels in town and dispose of the manure. He also stated there is a letter going

out the people in the churches and mailed this week stating not to go on the trails with horses, lake areas, ect. Tina Wilkinson stated if we set out barrels can we depend on you to help clean them and not rely on the town employees. Cheryle Quarry stated horses have been here longer than us. LaGrange stated it was not safe to have the horses wear bags of any kind. Manure does not take up much of the road it is on the side of the road, grass clippings are worst on the roads. This ordinance is not a good idea, the town could be in a lot of trouble with the law. Margret Mossman stated she had to shut her road down due to Amish ice fishing and their horses leaving manure on her property and she had to clean it up. Josh Wilkinson stated he has horses, and they can be trained to get use to the bags. He also stated we are the taxpayers where the town receives the money. Paul Hoffman asked the Amish if they must license their buggy's with the state they stated yes. Paul Hoffman stated the town receives money from that. Jim Wilkinson stated he would like to see why the bags does not work on the horses. Reuben Bontrager is also on the Amish safety committee, and he stated they will tell the people where to park and make sure the people are respectful to the town. Josh Miller stated he knows some have violated the trails and they have been talked to about this and to not take horses on the trials. He also stated INDOT will not allow an ordinance to cover their road which is State Road 9 and that is the road we use the most. Leigh Pranger thanked everyone for their comments. Kirk Klein asked for a motion to end the hearing on the ordinance. Cheryl Clifton made a motion to end the hearing. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **NEW WEB SITE**

Brenda Conley asked if she could get approval for the new web site that was discussed at the last meeting. Brenda had to send a letter to our current web designer to stop and that was done, and the web site is down. Kirk Klein asked for a motion to accept the new web site with the state of Indiana. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to accept. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Wolcottville Town Council, no show

#### **Resolution 2021-06 Additional Appropriation for ARP**

Brenda presented the resolution for additional appropriation. This is for us to be able to spend the money this year on sewer projects. Kirk Klein read the resolution for a total amount of \$157,700.00. Nick Heffner made the motion to approve resolution 2021-06. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **Resolution 2021-07 Plan for ARP**

Brenda presented resolution 2021-07 which was read. This is like our ordinance, but we need to do this resolution for the ARP Fund. Kirk Klein asked for a motion to approve. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve resolution 2021-07. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **Trick/Treat night**

Brenda stated Halloween is on Sunday, October 31, 2021. Paul said that would be a good night because he has his deputy marshal working that night for his regular hours. Paul stated if we have it on Saturday October 30, 2021, he will have to get officers to come in and work it. Kirk Klein asked for a motion to have Trick/Treat on October 31, 2021, Sunday, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Cheryl Clifton made the motion. Nick Heffner second the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

**Dean Weir as Deputy Marshal**

Paul Hoffman is asking approval for Dean Weir to be hired back in as a deputy marshal. He did work with us before but had to resign due to another job. Now he is willing to come back and work as a detective for the town. All members agreed. Kirk Klein asked for a motion. Nick Heffner made the motion to hire Dean Weir as a deputy marshal. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2021-08 Electronic means of communication**

Bill Eberhard presented Resolution 2021-08 which states that the town may use electronic communication forever. Bill stated it was always in the governor orders but as of September 30, 2021 it is done unless the governor reinstates the electronic communication. This ordinance will allow for us to accept votes by electronic communications for governing body of the town. Kirk Klein asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2021-08. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to approve Resolution 2021-08. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

**Commonwealth Engineer**

Jeremy with Commonwealth Engineer was present to discuss the trail grant and how we will need easement or survey for the land the trails will need. Leigh stated the land is already owned by the conservancy and we do not need to acquire any land. Jeremy will get back with us later about the grant.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:****Town Manager, see attached**

Leigh stated Dan DeLong has done a lot of work finding new dump trucks. We need 2 new ones. Leigh presented the quotes from Selking International, Ft. Wayne \$82,952.95, Source Well, Minnesota, \$83917.18 and Wiers International, Plymouth, \$84,020.77 these are under the CDL rules so anyone can drive them. Also, Truck 1 Conveyer System stainless steel bed quote Kalida \$93,500.00 and Hoosier \$96,000.00. Truck 2 Standard dump with stainless steel bed, Kalida \$75,500.00 and Hoosier \$82,000.00. with under body blade. Leigh stated these must be ordered soon due to the cost changes all the time. But we still we are not getting them until late next year. Brenda stated there will need to be a loan taken out for these trucks. Leigh also stated the service truck is in bad shape and waiting on quotes for that. Kirk Klein asked for a motion. Cheryl Clifton made the motion to accept Selking International and Kalida with the contingent of their review. Nick Heffner seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Street/Wastewater, Supervisor was sick and gave the report to Leigh to read.

**Town Marshal, see attached****CLAIM PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:**

**TOWN FUNDS: \$119,931.93**

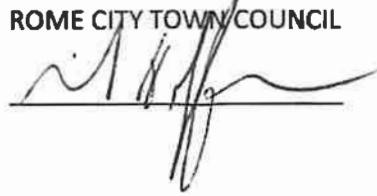
**SEWER OPERATING: \$53,399.46**

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

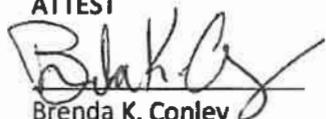
Next town council meeting is October 11, 2021 at 6:30pm starting with the budget adoption and regular meeting immediately after at the Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Rome City, IN 46784

Kirk Klein asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03pm. Nick Heffner made the motion to adjourn. Cheryl Clifton seconds the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL



ATTEST



Brenda K. Conley  
Clerk-Treasurer