

BOURBON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 13, 2020

A regular meeting of the Town Council for Bourbon, Indiana was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 with Council Members, Ward Byers, Les McFarland, Philip Hanley, Student Representative Hadessah Chupp, Clerk-Treasurer Kimberly Berger and Attorney Alex Hoover present in person. The meeting was opened to the public and livestreamed via the Town of Bourbon Facebook page.

President read a proclamation stating October as Fire Prevention Month. Members of the Bourbon Fire Department were in attendance as well, as representatives from Bourbon Township. President Byers express his gratitude for their service and protection to our community.

MINUTES: Mr. McFarland made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8th and 22nd, 2020 meeting, which was seconded by Member Hanley and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Ms. Berger submitted the docket of claims numbered 2626 through 2722 in the amount of \$273,344.43. Mr. Hanley made a motion to approve the claims as submitted, which was seconded by Member McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

Berger reminded that Trick or Treat will take place on Saturday, October 31st from 5 pm to 7 pm. She also announced that the Christmas Tree Lighting will take place at the downtown square on Saturday, November 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in accordance with Small Business Saturday. The results of the scarecrow contest are First Place – Brenda Anderson, Second Place – Bourbon Library, Third Place – Athena Stenstrom and 4th Place Bourbon Subway.

Chief Martin appeared next before the Council and offered his monthly report. Chief Martin submitted a resignation from Officer Mathew Haskins effective October 23, 2020 and the resignation was accepted with 3 Ayes, 0 Nays. Martin asked the council to approve Alex Truty as the new officer. Mr. Truty was an applicant during the recent hiring practice. Member Hanley motioned to hire Mr. Truty, Member McFarland offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays. Chief Martin then addressed the issue on no having coverage to allow for vacation days. Chief Martin requested that the officers be paid for unused vacation days due to a shortage of staff. Member Hanley motioned to pay the officers for their 2020 unused vacation days, Member McFarland offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Roger Terry, Street Department Supervisor, presented his activity report. Mr. Terry stated that leaf pick up will begin on Monday, October 19th. Terry asked permission to proceed with the repairs to the splash pad at a cost of approximately \$10,000.00. Terry was advised by the

council to let them know if there would be significant costs concerning the additional electrical work that needed completed. Mr. Terry also advised the council that round 2 of the Community Crossings grant was submitted

Steve Stacy, Water/Wastewater Superintendent presented his activity report. Stacy asked permission to sell approximately 26 Itron Readers at a cost of \$20.00 each to the Town of Argos. Mr. Hanley motioned his approval and Member McFarland seconded the motion and it passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Bill Keyser, Zoning Department representative, stated that he had nothing to bring before the council.

Mike Chapman, Fire Chief, presented his monthly report. He advised the council that they had been awarded a grant for a strut. Member McFarland expressed his gratitude for the benefit pancake breakfast.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Hoover presented Ordinance 2020-05, Access of Public Records on first reading. Member McFarland motioned to approve on first reading, Member Hanley offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Berger presented a proposal from JPR to aid in the Community Crossings Grant round not to exceed \$9,995.00. Member McFarland motioned to approve, Member Hanley seconded the motion and it passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

NEW BUSINESS: President Byers unveiled the Town of Bourbon's new website to the public. He explained that it will be more user friendly and many forms that will be needed will be available to the public. President Byers presented a proposal from JPR to provide a preliminary assessment to redo the basketball courts and potentially add 2 pickle ball courts to the Bourbon Park at a cost of \$2,500.00. Member Hanley motioned to approve the proposal, Member McFarland offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays. A request from Jill McKinney to use the Matchett Center on Mondays and Wednesdays each month to host an exercise class at a rental rate of \$50.00 per month. Ms. Berger expressed her concerns about the liability. Attorney Alex Hoover stated that Ms. McKinney will need to provide proof of liability. Pending the proof of liability, Member McFarland motioned to allow, Member Hanley seconded the motion, President Byers abstained and the motion passes 2 – 0 – 1

PATRON'S COMMENTS: Jeff and Theresa Keyser submitted a letter concerning the Karen Holm's abandoned property located at 606 N Washington Street. They stated that for many years they have dealt with animals, weeds and the house being in disrepair. President Byers question Mr. Keyser about the abandoned home ordinance and how it pertained to the property. Ms. Holm's owns two other properties that are uninhabited Member Hanley stated his concerns and past experiences with the properties and felt that we needed to move forward to start legal proceedings. Member McFarland seconded his motion, and the motion passes 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Greg Weber at 306 E Pine Street addressed the Council stating that he felt he was being singled out by having a police officer state that he cannot park in the alley. President Byers stated that the alley is a right-of-way and no parking is allowed. He was told that if he noticed others parking in alleys to notify the Bourbon Police Department. President Byers asked Mr. Weber to set up a meeting with Chief Martin to address his concern with the handling of his situation.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Member P.J. Hanley notified the council and the residents of Bourbon of his resignation from the Council. Member Hanley served 11 years on the Council and stated that new employment commitments have come to light and he felt that he could not give 100% to his role as a council member. President Byers presented Member Hanley with a plaque for his years of service and commitment to the Town and stated his appreciation to serve with him this past year.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. McFarland made the motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m., a second was offered by Member Hanley and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:

Kimberly A. Berger, Clerk Treasurer

Ward Byers, President