



TOWN OF  
*LaGrange*  
INDIANA

Laurie D. Miller, Clerk/Treasurer  
Mark W. Eagleson, Town Manager  
1201 N Townline Road  
LaGrange Indiana 46761  
260-463-3241

Meeting Minutes - December 19, 2016

The regular meeting of the LaGrange Town Council met at 7:00 pm, at the LaGrange Town Hall.

**Council Members Present:** Juan Arroyo, Raymond Hoover, Suellyn Mickem, Edna Bowser, Deborah Naylor

**Also present:** Laurie Miller, Bill Eberhard

RDC President Mark Eagleson opened the meeting to discuss Redevelopment projects for 2017 and the Water Bond payment due. The bond was issued to construct a water tower located in the North TIF District. The Clerk is asking the RDC board to consider making the January payment from TIF funds. RDC member Hoover motioned to make the payment due January 1, 2017 from TIF funds, RDC Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried. It was then proposed to allow the Town Attorney to pursue paying the complete balance due from TIF funds in July 2017. TIF has funds available to pay the bond in full saving the town interest payments. After discussing the matter, RDC member Hoover motioned to pursue the payoff. RDC Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The RDC board then discussed sidewalk projects for 2017, including possible hot water heat lines to keep the downtown sidewalks free of ice, and making corners ADA accessible.

Member Hoover then made a motion to adjourn the RDC meeting and proceed with the regular Town Council meeting. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President Arroyo opened the meeting at precisely 7:00 pm.

Member Bowser made a motion to approve the agenda with flexibility, Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council Member Naylor made a motion to approve minutes from the December 5, 2016 meeting. Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**WASTEWATER:**

- ✓ Received and discharged 8.512 mg of treated wastewater - 16% capacity of plant
- ✓ Reports submitted to IDEM
- ✓ No Sanitary sewer overflows or permit violations

**Water:**

- ✓ Submitted one sewer adjustment application for John Schmidt/Ken Clifford at Crab Apple Cove. Member Mickem made a motion, seconded by Member Bowser to allow the adjustment of 4,000 gallons of untreated water. Motion carried.
- ✓ Checked two leaks
- ✓ Updates recorded and forwarded to IDEM
- ✓ Repaired an electrical issue

**POLICE:** Presented a year end details report (2016)

- ✓ 90 K9 deployments; 469 Agency Assists; 6476 Business Checks
- ✓ Updated the council on the wrecked vehicle. West Bend Insurance is offering a settlement of \$19,158.00. Member Bowser motioned to accept the settlement offer, seconded by Member Naylor. Motion carried.
- ✓ Requested approval for the purchase of a 2017 Dodge Charger from the 2016 Budget (funds to be encumbered).
  - ✓ State Bid - Bloomington \$24,290.00
  - ✓ Sorg Automotive \$24,540.00
  - ✓ LaGrange Country Dodge \$24,431.00

Equipment for the Vehicle:

1. Torg's Electronics: \$4,538.00
2. Cops Gear \$4,711.00

Marshal Snyder stated that if the purchase is approved, he will not be asking for an additional vehicle in 2017.

Member Hoover made a motion to purchase the vehicle from LaGrange Country Dodge, stating that they are local and with the small difference in cost, the council would prefer to purchase locally. Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Member Mickem then made a motion to purchase the equipment from Torg's Electronics, Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- ✓ Snyder then discussed the 2017 Durango that was recently purchased. He is proposing that the vehicle be unmarked, other than having a K9 decal for safety reasons. The inside cage will also have markings as an extra precaution. Snyder outlined his reasoning for this request, also noting that the vehicle is gray. It is also equipped with an extra feature that allows other vehicles to "feel a vibration" when it is in pursuit. Member Hoover made a motion to approve having the vehicle as stated above. Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ✓ Marshal Snyder then discussed the possibility of having a second in command for the department.

#### **FIRE:**

- ✓ Chief Elick announced that the following awards were given to firefighters:
  1. Matt Huffman - Fire Tamer Award
  2. Norman and Vernon Bontrager - Rookie of the Year
  3. Shawn Fryer - 1<sup>st</sup> Responder of the Year
  4. Payton Ritchie - Firefighter of the year.
- ✓ Reported that the Breakfast with Santa fundraiser for the Food & Clothes Basket was a success. Approximately \$800.00 in cash was raised along with non-perishable food items.
- ✓ Will be purchasing additional boots with the DNR grant funds
- ✓ Received a written offer for Squad 15. Will be meeting with Juan Arroyo and both township trustees to discuss the sale of the vehicle.

#### **Town Manager:**

- ✓ Presented a stipulation on annexation with maps for review. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the stipulation, adding "sewer" to the agreement. (Hoover also stated that he would allow president Juan Arroyo to sign for him on the paperwork if he was not available) Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ✓ Requested the council hire John Marlow for the Street Department at 17.25 per hour, with an increase of .25 after a 90 day probation period. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Member Mickem. Motion carried.
- ✓ Locked fuel prices for 2017 at 2.30 per gallon for regular fuel and 2.34 per gallon for diesel.
- ✓ Requested the council appoint dept representatives and officers for 2017. Member Hoover made a motion for Juan Arroyo to remain as President and Suellyn Mickem as Vice President. Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Member Hoover also made for dept representatives stay the same as 2016.
  1. Water - Deb Naylor
  2. Wastewater - Suellyn Mickem
  3. Street; Cemetery; Park - Edna Bowser
  4. Fire - Juan Arroyo
  5. Police - Ray Hoover.

Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **CLERK:**

- ✓ Presented the 2017 Council meeting schedule. Member Hoover motioned to approve as presented, member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ✓ Presented Resolution 2016.12.19 to transfer \$45,000 to the Rainy Day fund. Member Hoover motioned to approve the transfer, motion was seconded by Member Bowser. Motion carried.
- ✓ Requested the council read and sign the annual certification of elected officials form as required by the State of Indiana.
- ✓ Approval of Tiffany Bontrager to be appointed as Deputy Clerk was presented to the council. As Deputy Clerk, she will be added as a signer at the bank to have access to financial information for book keeping purposes. Member Mickem made a motion to approve the appointment, seconded by Member Bowser. Motion carried.

#### **ATTORNEY:**

- ✓ Presented the "Preliminary Findings and Resolution designating Specific Property as Economic Revitalization Area" to the council. This area is where Forest River has purchased and will be asking for a Tax Abatement. A public hearing has been set for January 16, 2017. Member Bowser made a motion to accept the document noted, and move forward with the revitalization area. Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ✓ Discussed the property at 314 Hillside Drive. USDA Loans will be securing the home.
- ✓ There has been an offer to purchase 502 E Michigan Street. Council discussed releasing the lien and what kind of renovation agreement they will require of the new owner. Member Hoover made a motion to proceed, releasing the lien, but not allowing profit for the seller. Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.

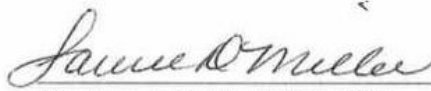
#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

- ✓ Discussed street lighting on Townline Rd.
- ✓ Gave an update on 214 W. Steuben Street. House is complete and for sale.

**ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS: Member Mickem made a motion to approve claims, Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

ADJOURN: Member Bowser made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Juan C Arroyo Council President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest: Laurie D. Miller, IAMC, CMC  
Clerk Treasurer