

INCORPORATED TOWN OF  
NORTH JUDSON  
INDIANA 46366

**Inc. Town of North Judson's Town Council**  
**Regular Meeting Notes**

January 2, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.

The North Judson Town Council met in Regular Session at the North Judson Town Hall, 310 Lane Street., North Judson, IN on the above date and time with the following present: Council President Hoppe, and Council Members Felchuk, Rowe, Brown and Young were able to attend. Town Superintendent Horstmann, Town Marshal Fisher, Clerk-Treasurer Rowe and Town Attorney Schramm were able to attend.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council President Hoppe asked for approval of the agenda. Council Member Brown moved to approve the agenda. Council Member Young seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Council President Hoppe asked for approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting on 12/18/2017. Council Member Brown moved to approve the minutes. Council Member Young seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Council President Hoppe asked for approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting on 12/26/2017. Council Member Brown moved to approve the minutes. Council Member Young seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

**Public Presentation:**

**Old Business:**

2018 Town Council Appointments – Kankakee-Iriquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC)

Council Member Brown made a motion to appoint Clerk-Treasurer Rowe as the North Judson Town Council representative for KIRPC. Council Member Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Town Attorney Schramm informed the Council about the Town's involvement in and responsibility regarding the Railroad Committee and adherence to the stated Bylaws at the Regular Meeting held on 12/18/2017. One member of the Town Council will need to be present at Committee meetings along with other members appointed by Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum, CKIN, Co-Alliance, and any freight carrier hauling over 20% of the gross on the railroad.

Council President Hoppe volunteered to act as the Town's representative on the Railroad Committee.

Unsafe Building Authority – Five Member Board

Council President Hoppe informed the Council that new members for the Unsafe Building Authority – Five Member Board will need to be found as Steven Moravskij is moving and Adam Fritz wants off of the Board. Other Unsafe Board Members' terms include: Nick Radtke entering his second year in 2018. Brian Reading, also entering his second year, will be contacting the Council to confirm whether or not he will be staying on the Board. Council Members expressed their desire to have Unsafe Board Member and Building Inspector Jeff Abrams attend at least one meeting every month, and to also ask that a member of the Park Board, Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals attend or continue to attend Council Meetings to provide the Town Council with updates on their activities. Council Member Felchuk recommended that the Town put an advertisement in The Leader announcing any open Board positions.

North Judson Town Council President/Vice President

Council Member Rowe made a motion to retain Council Member Hoppe as North Judson Town Council President in 2018. Council Member Felchuk seconded the motion and all member present concurred.

Council Member Felchuk made a motion to appoint Council Member Rowe as Vice President. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

**New Business:**

**Recognition of Guests**

Marsha Horstmann had nothing to present during this time.

Carolyn Silhavy presented a check for \$100 for the Police Departments K9 Fund in honor of their Portuguese Water Dog 'Rags' who passed away in 2017.

**Department Reports:**

**School Board**– Town Representative Akers – Not Present

**Building Inspector** –Building Inspector Abrams – Not Present

**Code Enforcement Officer- Joe Leszek**–

**Unsafe Building Hearing Authority**– Steven Moravskij – Not Present

**Board of Zoning Appeals**– Not Present

**Planning Commission**– Not Present

**Railroad Advisory Committee** – Not Present

Council President Hoppe will contact Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum to request that a representative attend Council meetings throughout the year to provide an update on things that happening with their organization.

Council President Hoppe also informed the Council that Omega Rail Management, who handles billing services in regards to infrastructure running under the Town's railroad assets, will no longer be communicating with the Town through Mark Knebel and Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum, and Omega will now be sending correspondence and payments to Council President Hoppe and the Town through the Town of North Judson Clerk-Treasurer's office.

**Park Board** – Not Present

**Police Dept-** Town Marshal Fisher

Marshal Fisher informed the Council about a leak they've recently had in their garage. The roof had recently been worked on so she will be having the contractor who performed the work take a look and fix the issues causing the leaks.

Fisher inquired as to whether or not the Police Department could utilize the Civic Center and old board room as a training room where the department could host classes and training sessions. They would be willing to perform some upgrades where necessary. It could still be used by the Park Board for their meetings or any other organizations that have used it as a meeting space in the past, but Fisher wanted to get the Council's thoughts on allowing the Police Department to utilize the space to a greater extent. Council Members asked if the Park Board still uses that as a meeting space, and directed Fisher to contact Rich Akers to see if they're still meeting there and how often before any changes to the space are made, and report back to the Council at the next Regular Council Meeting on 1/15/2018.

Fisher updated the Council on the status of their K9 fundraising efforts. They've almost met their goal. They'll be selling t-shirts and hoodies which will be available for pick-up January 8<sup>th</sup>. The price of t-shirts is \$10 and hoodies are \$20, and people can reach out to officers and the station to place an order. Officer Simpson has been Marshal Fisher's side throughout all of these fundraising and K9 preparation efforts.

County police assisted the Town's police in a clean-up on High St. which resulted in five arrests. Both the county and Town authorities have been working really well together on these sort of efforts.

**Fire Dept** – Chief Leszek

**Utilities** – Town Superintendent Horstmann - 2 January 2018 Utility Dept. Report

1. Moved the electrical outlet and earth-net outlet in preparation of building the walls to enclose internet tower. Started to build the walls around the internet tower to close it off IAW State Board of Accounts. An incident occurred where Kim Kapp was operating a nail gun and a nail went through a board and into her hand. She was taken to the hospital, treated, and released the same day, and was back to work the following Monday.
2. The motor that runs the top skimmer arm for the North Clarifier went out over the Christmas weekend. We ordered and replaced the motor. I heard back from S & W Motor in LaPorte that I

took the old motor from the oxidation ditch to, to see if it could be rebuilt called and said that it is not repairable.

3. We have to replace the two-flange bearing on the Weir gate that allows us to control the level of the Oxidation Ditch. We spent a day investigating what all we need to do to get the ditch lowered low enough to remove the Weir Gate assembly and what to put in place temporarily to maintain the level high enough for the paddles to be submerged enough to maintain the correct Dissolved Oxygen levels in the ditch. This is a project we are planning on doing the end of March.
4. Replaced the LED light at the corner of Adair and Lane Street. The light is working now. The old light has been turned into the company.
5. Conducted housekeeping at the WWTP and Town Garage.
6. We cut some Ductile pipe that was at the wastewater plant into 8-foot lengths. Painted the top 4-foot section traffic yellow and put reflective tape around the top. Installed the post around the new fire hydrant at the corner of Garfield and the Alley. There were tire tracks showing that trucks have been driving over the new insta-valve that we installed. I was worried that with trucks driving over it would eventually break the water main, not to mention they are getting really close to the hydrant. We also put a couple of posts around the hydrant at the corner of the alley and McClellan Ave.
7. I would like to present **P.O. number 1402** for \$2,413.89 to Republic Services for hauling away and dumping the two sludge dumpsters at the WWTP.
8. I have been working on gathering and tallying up numerous different information for a water inspection by IDEM this Thursday.
9. Replaced a defective glow plug on the one-ton pickup.
10. Changed out the fuel filter and fuel strainer on the International Dump Truck.
11. The piping in the Chlorine room froze overnight. We had to change out a lot of piping and fittings. The pump that was online burnt up and the other one froze up and we got it so it is working partially. When it froze up it messed up the internals of the pump. I would like to present **P.O. number 1403** for \$1816.00 to Living Water for two new pumps.

The Utility Department has received numerous calls about frozen water lines and Superintendent Horstmann recommended citizens leave their water run and open cabinet doors to mitigate the freezing of water lines.

Council Member Felchuk made a motion to approve and pay PO # 1402, PO # 1403. Council Member Brown seconded the motion. All members present concurred.

**Clerk/Water Department**—Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented the following:

K9 Fundraising dollars (checks/cash) have been brought to the Town Hall by Marshal Fisher and we've been keeping a detailed record of who has donated and at what amount. Rowe asked the Council about a Police Public Donation special revenue fund in the budget that appears to dormant, and if it is not a new 'K9 Donation' fund with a corresponding receipt and disbursement appropriation line will need to be created in the budget through a Town Council Resolution.

Representatives from Umbaugh will be visiting Rowe on January 12, 2018 to prepare for year-end 2017 as well as to answer any financially related questions that Rowe and Marshal Fisher might have relating to year-end 2017 and going into the new 2018 budget year.

Rowe met with Christin Romine from 1<sup>st</sup> Source Insurance recently and presented the Council with details pertaining to the Town's 2018 insurance policy. The premium has increased again in 2018 due to the Town's high number of claims over the last several years. Romine outlined some ways to work to mitigate those losses and Rowe passed those along to the Council and department heads. Also included in the insurance offering was coverage for Cyber Security and Liability, and increased Un-Insured and Under-Insured Motorists and Property Damage coverage. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe fielded questions about the details of the policy and will be contacting Romine to clarify some of the choices the Council will need to make before signing and submitting the Declarations Application for 2018 insurance coverage.

**Legal Updates**– Town Attorney Schramm–

Council Member Felchuk made a motion to retain Justin Schramm as the Town's attorney for the year 2018. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

**Additional Business Deemed Necessary by Council** –

Council Member Rowe recommended that the Town Council set a date before the next Regular Council Meeting to address the 2018 Salary Ordinance and Departmental Council Member Liaisons. It was decided that a Special Council Meeting will be held on January 15, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. before the regularly scheduled Council meeting on the same date at 6:30 P.M.

Council Member Felchuk updated the Council on her work to fill out the Census Update in anticipation of the 2020 Census to make sure the Town's addresses are correct and income figures are accurate.

**Claims for Payment**– Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented the Claims for Payment packet for APV's totaling \$139,269.90. Council Member John Rowe made a motion to approve APV's date range 12/19/2017 – 1/2/2018. Council Member Josh Brown seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Council Member Jane Ellen Felchuk moved for adjournment, Council Member John Rowe seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

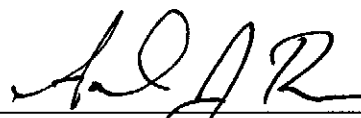
Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Next regular scheduled meeting – Monday, January 15, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

Attest:



Wendy J. Hoppe, Council President



Andrew Rowe, Clerk-Treasurer