



INCORPORATED TOWN OF
NORTH JUDSON
INDIANA 46366

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

January 15, 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 Rowe moved to approve the agenda. Council Member Brown seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Council President Hoppe asked for approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting on 1/2/2018. Council Member Rowe moved to approve the minutes. Council Member Brown seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Council President Hoppe asked for approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting on 1/8/2018. Council Member Rowe moved to approve the minutes. Council Member Young seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Public Presentation:

Old Business:

New Business:

First Reading - Town of North Judson Ordinance No. 2018-02 – Establishment of a K-9 Fund
Council President Hoppe presented the first reading of Ordinance No. 2018-02 – An Ordinance Establishing a K-9 Acquisition, Training, and Equipment Fund for the Town of North Judson, Indiana. Section II – Effective Date of Ordinance 2018-02 included one typo mistakenly referring to the K-9 Fund as The Cumulative Railroad Revenue Fund.

Pending the correction of this reference, Council Member Felchuk moved to pass and adopt Town of North Judson Ordinance No. 2018-02 – K-9 Acquisition, Training, and Equipment Fund. Council Member Brown seconded the motion. All members present concurred and Ordinance No. 2018-02 passed on the first reading.

Recognition of Guests

Donna Henry, Teena Hittle, Marsha Horstmann – nothing to present before the Town Council.

Lori Simmons –

A resident of the Town of North Judson residing at 59 Main Street without running water due to frozen pipes, Simmons inquired as to whether or not there was anything that she or the Town could do beyond the measures already taken to unfreeze her water lines. Town Superintendent informed the Council that there were three remaining residents and businesses without water including 59 Main St., and that everything that his department can do has been done to help remedy the situation. The water is frozen between the main line and the meter. Horstmann has lit fires in the pit to try melt the lines but that will only work if the freeze is close enough to the pit. Simmons informed the Council how in Lacrosse they applied a heat gun and foam insulation in the pit. Horstmann informed Simmons that there are no tools that his department currently has to quickly remedy the situation but he recommended keeping a heat lamp in the pit and that he would bring some foam padding to put in the pit to try and raise the temperature enough to unfreeze the line.

Burriss Whitt –

Whitt, a resident at 404 High Street, questioned the Council relating to Code and Ordinance Violation Notice No. 000909 issued on 12/26/2017 regarding Illegally Parked or Inoperable Vehicles on the Property, Trash and Improper Disposal by Ordinance Enforcement Officer Joe Leszek. Whitt had previously been cited in the summer of 2017. Council Member Felchuk asked Whitt why this wasn't taken care of when he was cited in the summer. Leszek informed the Council that Whitt was given the 48 hour warning which expired and that Whitt was in violation of Article II – Nuisances Section 22-19 B & C. Chief Deputy Town Marshal Frank Thomas reinforced the fact that this situation has been ongoing since the summer of 2017 when previous Town Marshal John Ramos was leading the department. Thomas stated how they have been very patient and that this was the first fine that has been levied. Council President Hoppe informed Whitt that he has been warned and he's had enough time to address the violation.

Department Reports:

School Board– Town Representative Akers –

Approved at the last School Board Meeting was the Tax Anticipation Warrant Bid to take care of the amount of \$230,000.00 for the School's Capital Projects Plan. An interest rate of 1.5% from the First National Bank of Monterey was the low bid. A resolution was approved authorizing the Treasurer to pay claims and transfers between meetings at the end of the year. The first reading of several new board policies took place regarding background requirement checks, student suicide awareness prevention, and child abuse and neglect reporting. School Principals updated the Board and Superintendent Zupin reported that the emergency work on the pool has been finalized, and things are going well in that regard. The schools has received energy rebates for the middle school boiler project. Teachers, counselors and administrators will be working on the changing guidelines related to school accountability.

Donna Henry asked Akers about eLearning when the school is experiencing snow days. Akers informed Henry that the school is a little behind in that regard but Dr. Zupin and the teachers are working on that.

Building Inspector –Building Inspector Abrams – Not Present

Council President Hoppe informed the Council that Mr. Abrams has a health issue currently and was unable to attend. Hoppe informed the Council that in 2016 60 permits were issued and in 2017 30 permits were issued.

Abrams is in the process of moving just outside of Town and but would like to stay on as Building Inspector.

Code Enforcement Officer- Joe Leszek-

Leszek informed the Council of a couple cemetery issues and asked if there exists a Cemetery Board. The Council confirmed that there is not a Cemetery Board in existence. The issue is a complaint related to positioning decorates on the west side of graves. The rules and regulations are posted at the cemetery and Council President Hoppe recommended to print a copy of the cemetery ordinance and distribute it to interested parties.

Unsafe Building Hearing Authority- Steven Moravskij – Not Present

Council Vice-President Rowe inquired as to who was in charge of the Unsafe Board. The Town will be looking to replace Steven Moravskij who is stepping down from his position.

Board of Zoning Appeals- Not Present

Planning Commission- Not Present

Railroad Advisory Committee - Not Present

Park Board - Not Present

Police Dept- Town Marshal Fisher

Marshal Fisher informed the Council about the department's January 9, 2018 Narcan Training. Shortly after the training, Deputy Simpson administered two doses of Narcan to a person who had overdosed.

Fisher was on station when the Park Board recently met and was able to speak with the board who did not have a problem with the Police Department's plans to perform the previously discussed changes at the former Town Council Chambers at 206 Keller Ave. The Park Board will still have a key and access to the location for their meetings during the winter months. Fisher detailed some of the changes the department is looking to make.

Council Vice-President Rowe moved to allow the Police Department to make the previously detailed changes at the 206 Keller Ave. Council Member Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Fisher spoke about the department's K-9 program for which they've raised around \$12,000.00 so far. Reaction from local businesses and citizens has been encouraging. In the 2018 budget, the department had set aside \$10,000.00 for a vehicle/golf cart for the Town's Ordinance Enforcement. Fisher is interested in pursuing the purchase of an SUV for the K-9 which would then free up Deputy Simpsons current car for use by the Town's Code Enforcement Officer and by the Reserve Program, being implemented in the coming weeks by Marshal Fisher. Council Vice-President Rowe recommended the black vehicle to match the Town's current fleet of police vehicles.

Relating to insurance costs, if the Town chose to not continue the contract with Officer Scott Beishuizen into 2018, the cost would be offset for insuring a new vehicle. Fisher also spoke about several upgrades that will need to be purchased for the vehicle, and that Simon's Speed Shop would be willing to implement those upgrades at no cost.

Council Vice-President Rowe asked that Fisher provide a listing of the costs and a timeline related to the acquisition of a new SUV and the necessary equipment that the department is requesting. He also asked that Fisher figure out any potential costs related to the SUV and relevant equipment to mitigate any unforeseen expenses that may arise. Council Member Felchuk asked how fully equipped the vehicles are and what we may need to upgrade or supply. She also echoed Rowe in asking Fisher to provide a listing of prices for equipping a vehicle if the department is unable to purchase the fully equipped model.

Fire Dept – Chief Leszek

Leszek informed the Council how several of the department's firemen will be travelling to a newer training center in Valparaiso on January 28, 2018. The Fire Department has begun their yearly cycle of truck maintenance. It's been a busy year for the department since the start of their year on December 1st 2017 with them having answered 44 calls so far.

Leszek presented P.O. 1405 to Fire Services for \$2206.30 for equipment. Council Member Felchuk moved to approve P.O. 1405. Council Member Young seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe asked Leszek about the \$12,360.00 outstanding from Rich Grove Township for services provided in 2017. Leszek will be reaching out to Rich Grove Township to inquire as to when we can expect to receive payment.

Utilities – Town Superintendent Horstmann –

15 January Utility Dept. Report

1. Worked on the enclosure around the Internet tower.
2. I am asking the residents to PLEASE let your water run. We had 4 different places that didn't have water due to freeze ups. One has thawed out. We have had numerous calls about freeze ups, request to have their water shut off because of pipes ruptured due to freezing. We have been able to thaw out the ones where it was frozen in the meter pit. We have had to change out about a dozen bottom plates due to freezing and breaking them. We have been putting it out there everywhere we can to let your water run since the middle of November. We have had people freeze up that say they have never froze up in the past, and now they don't have water.
3. Along that line. I understand there has been some misunderstanding about evening and weekend emergency trouble calls. According to the message at the WWTP, they should call the county dispatch. The county dispatch has my phone number and they will call me. I then will call someone to check out the emergency. If someone calls one of the board members, they (the board member) can call me to relay the emergency including all the pertinent information and I will call my guys to check it out.
4. The table for the chlorine booster pumps has been made and we are waiting for the final fittings to come in so we can put the pumps on the table and run the piping to them. The heater unit has been moved to the opposite wall. This way the warm air from the heater is blowing toward the

pumps. I am still checking out the motorized louvers for the exhaust fan. I am also looking into the intake louvers to try and get it working better. Right now they are stuck open.

5. Conducting snow plowing and have continued to scrape the roads during the thawing period to reduce the amount of sludge on them.
6. Went through town picking up discarded Christmas trees that have been put out at the roadside.
7. We had the water inspection by IDEM. They want us to have spare parts on hand including a booster pump and parts for the air ejectors. We have parts for the air ejectors, but they do not consider the booster pump in the system but not running a spare. I asked him about that. I would like to present **P.O. number 1404** for \$908.00 to Living Water for a spare booster pump. IDEM also wants the town to have an ordinance on cross connection which requires businesses to have back flow protection and records of annual test completed if they have a system connected to the city water (for example: soda machines, lawn sprinklers, etc.) He sent me a template, I filled in the town's information and sent it to Justin for his review. I will then send it out to the Board so it can start the process for implementing. Some of the other discrepancies was the water tower painting, no stand-by power and well production which will all be covered with our water project.
8. Recommendation that Kim Kapp receive her six month raise as of 01/22/2018 from \$13.65/hour to \$14.25/hour.

Council Vice-President Rowe made a motion to give Kim Kapp a raise from \$13.65 to \$14.25. Council Member Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Council Member Rowe made a motion to approve the payment of P.O. 1404 for \$908.00 to Living Waters. Council Member Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Council Member Brown inquired as to what the policy is for using the Kawasaki Mule to clear up downtown sidewalks. Horstmann informed the Council that the down side of having someone in the Mule leaves just two people to clear all of the Town's streets. Council Vice-President Rowe asked about plowing the alleys since it's no longer performed on a regular basis with trash being picked up on the streets.

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

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe informed the Town Council about a lost check from 2015 to Eric Wappel for his yearly fire pay. Town Attorney Schramm provided an affidavit for Wappel to sign making the check (#3863) null and void.

Council Member Felchuk made a motion to receipt the amount of the check into our payroll appropriation account and issue Wappel a new check for the same amount. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Rowe received and distributed the 2018 Insurance Binder for the Town from 1st Source Insurance.

Rowe presented P.O. 1383 to Hap Industries in the amount of \$5796.00 for the Town's 2017-2018 Christmas lighting, and P.O. 1406 to AFCO for \$3351.83 for the February railroad insurance payment.

Also presented was the Town of North Judson – Proposed Municipal Advisory and Accounting Services Agreement covering the year 2018 and 2019 budget with H.J. Umbaugh and Associates.

Council Vice-President Rowe recommended looking at what could be done as far as not having to lease these decorations every year. He also stated his opinion that the decorations along Highway 10 did not look great and he was not at all impressed. Voices from those in attendance agreed with Rowe, and they were not at all satisfied with this year's decorations.

Council Member Felchuk make a motion to pay P.O.'s 1383 to Hap Industries in the amount of \$5796.00 for the Town's 2017-2018 Christmas lighting, and P.O. 1406 to AFCO for \$3351.83 for the February railroad insurance payment. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Legal Updates– Town Attorney Schramm–

Town Attorney Schramm voiced his approval of the Services Agreement between the Town of North Judson and H.J. Umbaugh.

Council Vice-President Rowe made a motion to approve the contract of services with H.J Umbaugh for the year 2018. Council Member Young seconded the motion and all members concurred.

Additional Business Deemed Necessary by Council –

Departmental Liasons:

Council Member Brown made a motion to approve Council Vice-President Rowe as the 2018 Council Liaison to the North Judson Police Department. Council Vice President Rowe made a motion to make Council Member Young the Fire Department Liason and Council Member Brown the Utility Liason for the year 2018. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Claims for Payment– Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented the Claims for Payment packet for APV's totaling \$41,997.61. Council Member Josh Brown made a motion to approve APV's date range 1/3/2018 – 1/15/2018. Council Member James Young 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.

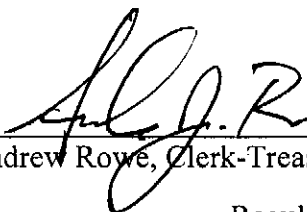
Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Next regular scheduled meeting – Monday, February 5, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

Attest:



Wendy J. Hoppe, Council President



Andrew Rowe, Clerk-Treasurer