



INCORPORATED TOWN OF
NORTH JUDSON
INDIANA 46366

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

March 19, 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, Vice-President Rowe and Council Members Brown, Felchuk 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 3/5/2018. Council Vice-President Rowe moved to approve the minutes. Council Member Brown seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Public Presentation:

Old Business:

Cemetery Mowing Advertisement

Tim Rhodes from T & J Lawn Care questioned the Council in regards to workman's comp details included in the 2018 cemetery mowing advertisement. Rhodes operates the company by himself and subcontracts some jobs so he is not required to carry workman's comp due to his low number of employees. He technically does not have employees as he and his wife are owner/operators. He also asked about having to purchase a contractor's permit with the Town of North Judson before being awarded the service contract with the Town. Council President Hoppe let Rhodes know that he would not have to purchase a permit as long as it's noted on his bid that if he is awarded the contract he would then purchase the permit. Also addressed was Rhodes' concerns with bagging and hauling away grass clippings which would drastically increase the cost of the work. If it was a requirement, Rhodes would not generally submit a bid. Rhodes mentioned that the way in which he would cut and care for the grounds would under normal circumstances not require the removal of clippings. When he leaves the cemetery looks nice and that's how he operates. He added to be sure to reach out to his references to get their input on the type of work and the amount of care he puts into his work.

New Business:

Recognition of Guests

Marsha Horstmann, Donna Henry, Jacque Ryan, Amanda Young – nothing to present before the Town Council.

Peggy Bohac thanked Superintendent Horstmann for filling a pot hole at Park & Main St. Bohac also presented a picture of an abandoned child's bike on the trail past Range Road that looks to be a nice bike, and whether or not Marshal Fisher has received any reports dealing with stolen bikes. Fisher had not been made aware of anything related to Bohac's concerns.

Marv Peters noticed the ice cream truck in Town and inquired as to what permits he is required to have. Former Clerk-Treasurer Henry spoke up that he was made aware when she was in office a few years ago that he needs the permit, and he was not seen in Town after being made aware of that fact. Fisher and her deputies will be made aware that he is not permitted and if he is seen to let him know he'll need a permit to continue operating in Town.

Department Reports:

School Board– Town Representative Akers – Not Present

Building Inspector – Building Inspector Abrams –

Council Member Brown asked whether or not Good To Go received a sign permit. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe let the Council know that yes they did purchase a permit.

Code Enforcement Officer- Joe Leszek–

Recently, Leszek had written five warnings of which two had been taken care of and the other three were issued fines. One was a called complaint which Leszek encouraged residents to do in order to clean up areas and issues around Town. Council Member Brown asked about any violations at Hwy. 10 and Hwy. 39, the auto shop owned by Mike Blau. He noticed one truck w/ three flat tires. Leszek let the Council know that all the vehicles are plated so there isn't much they can do.

Unsafe Building Hearing Authority – Not Present

Board of Zoning Appeals – Not Present

Planning Commission– Not Present

Railroad Advisory Committee – Council President Hoppe – Nothing to report

Park Board – Nick Radtke

Radtke let the Council know that the new band shell is up at Norwayne Field. Next to take place will be stone work around the columns and lighting. The wall repair was completed by Chambers Masonry. The Park Board wanted to thank Superintendent Horstmann for his help in regards to the work at Norwayne. Council Members and those in attendance highlighted all the positive remarks they've heard in relation to the new amphitheater.

Police Dept- Town Marshal Fisher

Fisher touched on some of the work being done at the station, including painting and a new floor, which is about half-way completed. There will now be a lobby area; they've applied for a grant for a drug drop box; there will also be a phone available 24/7 which will dial directly to dispatch in case someone has an emergency. Hoping to have the work done by the next meeting in order to host an open house. Deputy Simpson is coming along well at the K-9 training with Jimmy. They have been working on tracking, bite work, and is doing really well with obedience. Matt Noonan has been continuing the upgrades to the new K-9 Explorer. The kennel, door popper, decals and heat sensor complete. The leader of the City of Hobart, Indiana K9 program has invited Deputy Simpson to come and train with their department anytime.

Marshal Fisher presented P.O. 1424 in the amount of \$1138.40 to Collision Auto for repairs to a departmental vehicle following an accident involving a deer; a change to P.O. 1395 originally made out to South Bend Uniform but after some complications with the vendor that order was changed to Star Uniform in the amount of \$1047.00; P.O. 1436 to reimburse Matt Noonan for equipment used on the department's K9 vehicle in the amount of \$610.08.

Council Member Brown made a motion to pay in full P.O. 1424 in the amount of \$1138.40 to Collision Auto, to adjust P.O. 1395 to pay Star Uniform in the amount of \$1047.00, and P.O. 1436 to reimburse Matt Noonan for equipment used on the department's K9 vehicle in the amount of \$610.08. Council Member Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Fire Dept – Chief Leszek –

The department's been working hard on their maintenance schedule. Leszek presented P.O. 1435 to Pro-Air for a total \$2420.00 for recent work on one of the department's trucks and recent testing to keep the department's air equipment in compliance. Leszek let the Council know that their call volume has slowed which is a good thing and to remind residents to always be careful if burning anything this time of year.

Council Member Felchuk moved to pay P.O. 1435 to Pro-Air for a total \$2420.00. Council Member Young seconded the motion and all council members present concurred.

Utilities – Town Superintendent Horstmann – 19 March 2018 Utility Dept. Report

1. I would like to present **P.O. number 1432** For \$5,271.95 to Fleis and Vandenbrink for Inspection Services for the last ADA project.
2. There are wear plates on the bottom of the loader bucket that were worn through. We have cut out the worn parts, welded in new metal from our scrap pile and then built up the surface with a hard-facing welding rod to help it last longer. Took the front grill assembly off of the back-hoe to blow out the radiator, hydraulic cooler and A/C condenser. We had to remove the seat from the backhoe to get access to the A/C evaporator coil to clean it out. We used a liquid coil cleaner to clean the evaporator coil. We are still trying to get items back working the way they should have been.
3. Had to change out the hydraulic cylinders on the jet-vac due to they were leaking by hydraulic fluid.
4. I would like to present **P.O. number 1431** For \$2055.60 to Morton Salt for 40 tons of road salt. This will complete our contract for this year. We went through approximately 240 tons of salt and sand mixture this year.

5. Conducted oil change and routine maintenance on the 2016 F-250.
6. I have contacted 4 roofing companies to look at what repairs the back-roof section of the Town Hall requires. Three of the companies have looked at the roof. I have not heard back from any of them as far as how extensive of repairs are required.
7. We have acquired the various bushing and pins to hook up the quick hitch on the tractor. The tractor was delivered Friday.
8. Made about four trips with the forklift delivering all of the material for the canopy for Norwayne Field from the Park Garage over to Norwayne Field. Delivered the trailer with the beams on it from the sludge building to Norwayne Field for the contractor.
9. I would like to present **P.O. number 1433** For \$6,475.00 to Blue River Technologies for ten bags, a barrel of polymer and a spare hose kit.
10. Went and picked up the manhole for out in the industrial park and unloaded it out there. Planning on replacing the old one in the next week or so.
11. We got a quote back for the repairs that one of the raw pumps would require. The quote is \$3,753.46 which is \$2026.54 less than the cost for a new pump. This is for the pump that went out earlier. The one that just went out they are checking on the warranty with the company. They should know something later this week.

Council Member Felchuk made a motion to pay P.O. 1431 for \$2055.60 to Morton Salt, P.O. number 1432 For \$5,271.95 to Fleis and Vandenbrink, and P.O. number 1433 For \$6,475.00 to Blue River Technologies. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Council Member Brown asked Town Superintendent Horstmann about any plans for leaf and brush pick-up this spring. Horstmann mentioned that he would be giving residents a chance to gather their debris and put it out for pick-up before making any rounds around town. Council Vice-President recommended that we post a notice in the paper announcing the pick-up and to go out several times in April and possibly May to make sure we pick up all that is put out near the road.

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

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe, on behalf of the Park Board, presented P.O. 1436 in the amount of \$5885.00 to Schambers Masonry, Inc. for their work at Norwayne Field. Also presented was P.O. 1434 to AFCO in the amount of \$19,917.81 to pay the remainder of the Town's railroad insurance cost through October 2018. Paying this off will allow the Town to save the remaining interest charges which would have been included when paying on a monthly basis.

Council Vice-President Rowe moved to pay in full P.O. 1436 in the amount of \$5885.00 to Schambers Masonry, Inc., and P.O. 1434 to AFCO in the amount of \$19,917.81 to pay the remainder of the Town's railroad insurance cost through October 2018. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe outlined the insights and quotes provided by companies who inspected the leaking roof at the Town Hall. Quotes were received from RL Roofing in the amounts of \$13,500.00, \$16,900.00 & \$900.00 for various degrees of work, and Starke County Roofing & Construction Co. for \$1,200.00. Tri-County Roofing inspected the roof and recommended repairing the brick along the south and west walls of the second floor at the Town Hall as that's where the rain was most likely entering through, and that any work to the back half of the roof, above where the leaks appear to have been, would be more

touch-up type of work that wouldn't ultimately solve the main problem – the gaps and deteriorating brick. His recommendation was to reach out to someone who does masonry work before hiring anyone who does roofing repairs.

Council President Hoppe mentioned that would reach out to an individual who had previously been contacted by the Town to do some brick and mortar repair. Council Member Brown recommended reaching out to Schamber's Masonry who just did mortar work for the Town at Norwayne Field.

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe notified the Council that First Farmer's Bank & Trust's recent insights into the increased interest rate the Town could take advantage of by moving our general account had increase more from 1.12% to 1.24%. Council Vice-President Rowe asked if Mike Pazin from FFBT would be available to come to a meeting and also recommended reaching out to First National Bank of Monterey to let them know we've been speaking with FFBT, and what they might be able to offer the Town. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe will be reaching out to both to ask Pazin to attend a meeting and to let Monterey Bank know the Town is looking to increase their monthly interest returns.

Rowe asked the Council about a situation where a family inquired about purchasing and burying someone in the walkway (Grave G – hypothetically). The Council had ran into problems in the past and had stopped selling the graves in the walkways.

On behalf of Town Superintendent Horstmann, Clerk-Treasurer Rowe asked the Town Council whether or not someone who had just received their six-month pay increase, a week before the new salary ordinance took effect, would also receive the approved 3% raise. Council Members discussed with insight from Town Attorney Schramm.

Council Member Felchuk made a motion to apply the 3% raise to the employee's next paycheck (3/30/2018), Council Vice-President Rowe seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Legal Updates– Town Attorney Schramm– nothing to present

Additional Business Deemed Necessary by Council –

Council Vice-President Rowe brought up the issue of the tree stumps at Highland Cemetery. There are many stumps along the outer edges of the lots that wouldn't pose many problems as far as ease of removal, and may ultimately lead to an increase of plot available to sell. There are definitely some which need to be removed as well as trees and hedges which need to be trimmed or removed altogether. Code Officer Leszek provided some insight into the rules regarding bushes and shrubs next to graves, and that we would want to contact the families before any that are immediately next to a grave is removed. Practical Tree Service did work last year and it was recommended that we reach out to them to discuss similar work this year. Donna Henry mentioned that previously it was difficult to contact grave owners so that may be an issue to consider.


Claims for Payment – Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented the Claims for Payment packet for APV's totaling \$103,170.98. Council Vice-President Rowe made a motion to approve APV's date range 3/3/2018 – 4/2/20018. Council Member Young seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 P.M.

Next regular scheduled meeting – Monday, April 2, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

Attest:



Wendy J. Hoppe, Council President



Andrew Rowe, Clerk-Treasurer