

INCORPORATED TOWN OF
NORTH JUDSON
INDIANA 46366

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

September 17, 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 Councilmembers Brown, Young and Felchuk were able to attend. Town Superintendent Horstmann, Town Marshal Fisher, Clerk-Treasurer Rowe were able to attend.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council President Hoppe asked for approval of the agenda. Council Vice-President 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 9/4/2018. Council Member Brown moved to approve those minutes. Council Member Young seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Public Presentation:

Kathy Holem – 5K Special Event Permit

Holem addressed and presented the Council with details regarding a "Run for Kids 5K Walk/Run" that she and her newly opened gym, Max Effex/Max Health, at 103 Sheridan Ave. are looking to host on October 27, 2018. Holem is looking to be granted a Special Event Permit for the event from which the proceeds will go to benefit Kid's Closet – a not-for-profit entity affiliated with the Methodist Church which provides a wide range of goods from clothing to school supplies to less affluent students across the area at no cost.

Discussion was held between Holem, the Council, Police & Fire Departments regarding road closures and signage along the route. The route will begin at Max Effex and end in the vicinity of Kid's Closet (Methodist Church) near Keller Ave. and Central Ave. where there will be music, bouncy houses, and other entertainment scheduled. A map was provided to Town Superintendent Horstmann who volunteered the use of the Town's road barricades; Town Marshal Fisher and Fire Chief Leszek communicated their willingness to help in any way necessary to ensure a safe, successful event as well.

Councilmember Brown made a motion to approve the submitted special event permit application and waive the fee associated with said application. Councilmember Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Merrit Foundation – Dave Weinberg

Weinberg addressed the Council in regards to the Merit Foundation's "From Worst to First" mission to improve Starke County's standing in the National Health Community Rankings for the State of Indiana. Weinberg described himself, the foundation, where their mission comes from, their strategic planning, and the ultimate goals and timeline associated with the ("Worst to First") initiative, as well as details regarding the rankings put forth by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Weinberg, who has assembled a board and executive team to represent the foundation, is working to partner with various local organizations as well as public and private leaders from around the county in formulating a plan to complete the mission they're setting forth and accomplish over the next 100 months.

Jacque Ryan (WKVI) asked if Weinberg would be looking to partner with Hope Restored being established in North Judson to tackle drug addiction and working with addicts who are coming out of incarceration to rebuild their life. Weinberg stated, yes, they'll be looking to collaborate with individuals, groups or organizations that could help promote the goal to go from near the bottom of the rankings to the top.

Old Business:

Norwayne Field Splash Pad – Continuing Discussion

Continued discussion was held on the topic of the Norwayne Field Splash Pad. Updated plans were received from Bill Smith at Vortex Aquatics Inc. detailing 21 water fixtures at 69gpm at a cost of around \$60,000.00. Bill Smith will be attending the next Council meeting and Councilmembers were encouraged to take a look and compile any questions for Smith at the October 1, 2018 meeting.

New Business:

Town of North Judson Ordinance No. 2018-11: 2019 Budget Appropriations & Tax Rates – First Reading The first reading of Ordinance No. 2018-11 was held.

Councilmember Brown made a motion accept the first reading of Ordinance No. 2018-11. Councilmember Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Recognition of Guests

Jacque Ryan, Marsha Horstmann, Shirley Kots, Peggy Bohac – nothing to present before the Town Council.

Don Childers – Childers addressed the Council regarding questions about an alley existing adjacent next to his residence at 602 Simmons St. According to some maps and surveys performed in the past, it's Childers' understanding that half of his driveway where he parks his vehicles is actually an undeveloped alley connected to undeveloped roads intended to potentially subdivide that neighborhood further than it is now and was when first developed. Councilmembers advised Childers to visit the Starke County Recorder's Office and Auditor's Office in Knox, to view the property record card if possible, and see what the actual subdivision looks like in order to have a more exact understanding of the dynamics prior to any decisions regarding the possible vacating of any alleys or undeveloped properties in that area of Town.

Teena Hittle – Inquired about the parking on the north side of Main St. as there have been vehicles parked along that portion of the street and up on the sidewalk. Council President Hoppe noted that there are not "No Parking" signs along the street to which Hittle replied that there are signs but only at the ends of the street and not in the middle section where the parking is taking place. Marshal Fisher will be looking into the matter.

Scott Kryzenowski – Informed the Council, Police Department & Code Enforcement Officer Leszek about dogs in the neighborhood digging up his yard, ripping up plants, defecating on his lawn, and climbing on and scratching the hood of his vehicle after one dog pursued a cat perched on the hood of his vehicle in his driveway. He advised that the dog(s) were suspected to be untagged as well. Marshal Fisher notified Kryzenowski that she would be looking into the matter promptly. Kryzenowski also asked the Council how a “Stop” sign could be implemented at the intersection of Luken St. and Main St. Between the Fire Department and Heartland Christian Center, there is a lot of activity in that area and no deterrent to slow vehicles travelling on Main St. Council President Hoppe noted that the Council & Utilities Department would look into the matters.

Department Reports:

School Board – Town Representative Akers: Not Present

Building Inspector – Building Inspector Abrams: Not Present

Council President Hoppe informed the Council about a resident that purchased a fence permit earlier in the year but wanted to remove that fence and rebuild in a different manner. Building Inspector Jeff Abrams asked the Council to consider the details and possibly waive the fee as he had already purchased one permit but would only be changing the type of fence, and nothing additional would be altered. Discussion was held on the topic.

Councilmember Felchuk made a motion to waive the fence permit fee requirement in this instance considering the permit fee collected previously for the same type of structure. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Code Enforcement Officer - Joe Leszek: Not Present

Unsafe Building Hearing Authority – Not Present

Board of Zoning Appeals – Nothing to Present

Planning Commission – Not Present

Railroad Advisory Committee – Council President Hoppe:

Park Board – Nick Radtke: Not Present

Police Dept- Town Marshal Fisher:

Fisher discussed recent community outreach events held or participated in by the department at both the Lutheran School and NJSP Liberty Elementary. Fisher discussed in-depth and expanded on her work with representatives from Glock Firearms recently. Fisher is working on updating the Police Departments 11 service weapons, some of which are near 20 years old, while there is a buy-back program currently available through September. Marshal Fisher presented PO 1506 to Ray O’Herron for \$1928.50 for eleven Glock Gen 5 9mm and ten 17-Round Magazines; PO 1507 to Ray O’Herron for \$1020.00 for four Winchester 9mm (2-Range, 2-Duty).

Councilmember Brown made a motion to pay PO 1506 to Ray O'Herron for \$1928.50 for eleven Glock Gen 5 9mm and ten 17-Round Magazines; PO 1507 to Ray O'Herron for \$1020.00 for four Winchester 9mm (2-Range, 2-Duty). Councilmember Young seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Fire Dept – Chief Leszek:

Chief Leszek discussed recent informative efforts presented to kids at the Lutheran School as well as the five similar events to be held in October – National Fire Prevention Month. Leszek also updated the Council on the progress of the county's efforts to address the recent radio issues. They're hoping to have the issues fixed by week end (Sept. 21).

Utilities – Town Superintendent Horstmann: 17 September 2018 Utility Dept Report

1. Installed a new water meter pit at 109 Silver. The old meter setting was inside the house and in really bad shape. We put the setting in the front yard and the home owner re-piped the water lines inside installing a new shut off valve.
2. We hosted an Alliance of Indiana training day. There were 20 people from various towns in attendance. The topic was Communication between Water and fire Departments.
3. We replaced the entire chimney stack on the furnace at the water dept. due to it being totally rusted out. We also had to replace the furnace fan motor due to it being froze up.
4. Have replaced all of the street signs from the last order along Hwy 10 and various other locations around town.
5. I have cut the weeds on the hill outside of Pioneer Cemetery. Picked up the buckets, shovel and wood. Took them to Dr. Dalphond and he ask if I would be able to get rid of them so I put the wood on the brush pile and threw the buckets away, since they were to brittle to use. There wasn't a wheel barrow up there.
6. We have been preparing water meters by installing the spanner fitting on them. This way it will speed up the meter replacement later this week after meter reading this week.
7. Commonwealth sent a letter updating IDEM of the town's progress in implementing the combined sewer overflow compliance plan as required by the Agreed Order case no. 2014-22606-W. Got it signed by Wendy and sent it back to Commonwealth who has sent it back to Idem. I have a copy stamped that IDEM has received it. I also received a copy of the construction permit for IDEM. Got the two pages signed by Wendy scanned them in and e-mailed them back to Commonwealth, also mailed the originals back to Commonwealth.
8. Pushed debris back at the pond and also at the dump.
9. I would like to present **P.O. number 1502** for \$6,473 to Blue River Technologies for 10 sludge bags and a barrel of Polymer. I would also like to present **P.O. number 1503** for \$2,506.16 to Republic Services for hauling, dumping and returning our sludge dumpsters.
10. Talked to the Postmaster about the mailboxes. He said they are still looking into what to do I told him just let me know when they need help with removing them

Councilmember Brown made a motion to pay **P.O. number 1502** for \$6,473 to Blue River Technologies for 10 sludge bags and a barrel of Polymer; **P.O. number 1503** for \$2,506.16 to Republic Services for hauling, dumping and returning our sludge dumpsters. Councilmember Young seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Some discussion was held, and Town Attorney Schramm's recommendation was considered, on the topic of the easement agreement for the property at Railroad St. and Simmons St.

- Councilmember Felchuk made a motion to grant Council President Hoppe signatory authority in regards to the authorizing of the easement agreement with Donald L. Brown on the Town's behalf. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Councilmember Young made a motion to include and accept a one-time payment in the amount of \$300.00 from the Town of North Judson for the Permanent Storm Drainage Easement and Temporary Construction Easement, payable to the Grantor, and described in said agreement entered into by the Town of North Judson with Donald L. Brown. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

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

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe informed the Council that Code Enforcement Officer Leszek now has a key to the Town Hall and a mailbox in order to expedite ordinance issues and, more specifically, the mowing lien process. Rowe updated the Council on the ongoing communications with R & R Benefits, who will be meeting with employees to quote 2019 health insurance costs on Tuesday, September 25th, and ONI Risk Partners with whom Rowe has been in steady communication to get them all the information they need. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe also let the Council know the availability of the website domain names previously outlined and detailed costs related to purchasing all available domains for a five-year period.

- Councilmember Brown made a motion to purchase and secure the rights to the four available domain names – NorthJudsonIN.com, WelcometoNorthJudson.com, TownofNorthJudson.com, HomeoftheBlueJays.com – for a five-year period. Councilmember Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Rowe informed the Council in regards to the timeline of the selection process for organizations vying for the opportunity to conduct the Town's Comprehensive Plan being undertaken as a part of the Stellar Communities initiative. KIRPC will be helping the Town carry out this process. The next big date is October 9th by which the submitting entities will need to have their Statements of Qualifications in for the Town's review.

Rowe discussed his efforts regarding the planting of trees in Pioneer Cemetery as a result of Phyllis Rees' \$500.00 donation. WRF Nursery & Garden Center in Porter County has two large, well established Red Sunset Maples which they would deliver to the Town for a total cost of around \$498.00. To have them plant the trees would add around \$150.00 per tree. Also discussed was the possible Highland Cemetery expansion through the acquisition of adjacent land from Marie Buivis. Rowe met with and let Marie know that the process is ongoing and to get everything on the right track may take some time.

As requested by the Council, Clerk-Treasurer Rowe let them know his findings from Umbaugh's financial insights regarding the cost of adding a part-time (24 hours/week) deputy clerk, around \$16,500.00 per year.

Billing Clerk Jennifer Vanek informed the Council about her findings related to Invoice Cloud in order to allow customers to accept and pay invoices securely online and automatically each month by integrating the system with the Town's current software provider. Vanek asked Town Attorney if the fee ordinance

would need to be updated in case the customer sets up auto-withdraw and doesn't have the funds, or if the current "NSF Fee" would be adequate. Schramm noted that to spell it out specifically in the Fee Schedule separately would be wisest.

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe present PO 1505 to H.J. Umbaugh & Assoc. in the amount of \$1097.50 for Inv. 154812 – Professional Services through August 20, 2018 including financial and data analysis, meeting time, follow-up related to the Town's 5-Year Capital Planning and Budget Form 1's.

Councilmember Brown made a motion to pay PO 1505 to H.J. Umbaugh & Assoc. in the amount of \$1097.50 for Inv. 154812 – Professional Services through August 20, 2018. Councilmember Felchuk seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Legal Updates– Town Attorney Schramm: Noting to Present

Additional Business Deemed Necessary by Council: No Additional Business

Claims for Payment – Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented the Claims for Payment packet for APV's totaling \$106298.29. Council Member Brown made a motion to approve APV's date range 9/5/2018 – 9/17/2018. Council Vice-President Rowe 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.

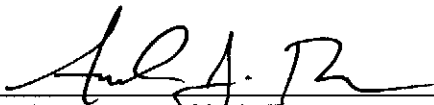
Meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

Next regular scheduled meeting – Monday October 1, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

Attest:



Wendy J. Hoppe, Council President



Andrew Rowe, Clerk-Treasurer