



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

December 26, 2018 7:30 A.M.

The North Judson Town Council met in a Special Meeting at the North Judson Town Hall at 310 Lane St. North Judson, IN on the above date and time with the following present: Council Members Felchuk, Brown, Young, Council Vice-President Rowe and Council President Hoppe were in attendance. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe was in attendance as well.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council President Hoppe asked for approval of the agenda. Council Vice-President Rowe made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Brown seconded the motion. All members present concurred.

Recognition of Guests

No guests present.

Business:

Town of North Judson Ordinance 2018-18 – 2019 Salary Ordinance

Councilmembers addressed the establishment of salary rates of Town employees, both full-time and part-time, for the year 2019. Discussion was held on each Town position with salaries being weighed and agreed upon by the Council as a whole. Also discussed were the dynamics of longevity pay - \$75.00/year after five years of continuous full-time employment for full-time employees and, with the Town Clerk-Treasurer being a full-time employee, the Town's Clerk-Treasurer. Council President Hoppe proposed allowing utility employees to purchase up to \$200.00 boots at the beginning of the year via purchase order to which all Councilmembers agreed. Councilmembers also discussed Town utility employee, Randy Schwartz, who handles the Town phone and addresses all calls or emergencies while Town Superintendent Horstmann is on vacation or off work throughout the year. Proposed was naming Schwartz the Assistant Town Superintendent which would, as with the Police Department's Chief Deputy position, enlist Schwartz as second in command to Horstmann. Councilmember Brown proposed requiring all four available certifications to obtain the title and also requested by Councilmembers was adding a \$0.25/hour raise to the position as well. Town Attorney Schramm will be drafting a Town Resolution in order to create the position of Assistant Town Superintendent which Schwartz will then fill. Councilmembers discussed including language in the ordinance that utility employees will obtain full position pay after two continuous years of service. Considering the number of changes to the proposed 2019 Salary Ordinance, the Council elected to convene an Emergency Meeting at 7:30am on Wednesday, December 27, 2018 to allow for the changes while passing the ordinance before year-end.

Town of North Judson Ordinance 2018-19: Establishing Policy for Collection of Service Fees from Property Owners for Tenant Delinquencies

Reading of Ordinance 2018-19 was conducted. Town Attorney Schramm discussed the specifics of Ordinance 2018-19 which requires that property owners transfer utility bills that are currently in the tenants name back to the owner of the property. Schramm noted that most municipalities have this via practice or established ordinance as a way to protect landlords & property owners when their tenants fail to make payments. No motion was made on the matter as verbiage in the final version of the Ordinance is still being specified and, in turn, tabled until a further meeting.

Councilmember Felchuk moved to accept the reading and adopt Town of North Judson Ordinance 2018-19. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

2019 Town Property & Casualty Insurance – 1st Source Insurance Policy Premium Quote

Received was the 2019 premium quote from 1st Source Insurance which totaled \$75,932.00, an increase from last year's cost of \$63,244.00. Brief discussion was held on the contrasting cost from ONI Risk Partners quote of \$50,623.00 and 1st Source Insurance's proposal.

Councilmember Brown made a motion to accept the proposal for 2019 Property & Casualty Insurance from ONI Risk Partners. Councilmember Young seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

2019 Town Employee Short-Term & Long-Term Disability Plan

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe informed the Council that the Employee Health Insurance Plan for 2019 through Anthem does not include Short or Long-Term Disability, and that as we already have a UnitedHealthcare profile and account we would be able to acquire that coverage through UHC with little difficulty.

Councilmember Felchuk made a motion to select the 2019 Town Employee Short or Long-Term Disability plan through UnitedHealthcare. Council Vice-President Rowe seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Sol Shepherd – 402 E. Arlington Ave. Petition for Suspended Utility Billing Due to House Fire

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented a petition delivered by Sol Shepherd who experienced a house fire in November. Discussion was held and Council President Hoppe will be notifying Shepherd he'll be responsible for December utility billing and charges due in January but his charges will be taken down to the Debt Service limit for the following billing cycles.

2019 Town of North Judson Attorney Contract – Justin Schramm

Councilmember Brown moved to retain attorney Justin Schramm as the Town Attorney for 2019. Councilmember Young seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Councilmember Felchuk moved to set the 2019 Town Attorney retainer fee at \$5000.00. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

Additional Business

Discussed were 2019 Town Council Appointments for Starke County Economic Development Foundation (SCEDF) and Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC). Councilmember Brown proposed Town Superintendent Horstmann as the Town's appointed representative for KIRPC for 2019, to be addressed at the first meeting of the year.

Councilmember Felchuk moved to make Town Clerk-Treasurer Rowe the appointee to the Starke County Economic Development Foundation Board. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion and all members present concurred.

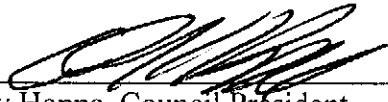
Town Attorney Schramm addressed what he's learned about the recent Town elections process ordinance recently proposed by a resident and party official related to the 2019 election and going forward. After some discussion, no action was taken.

Adjournment

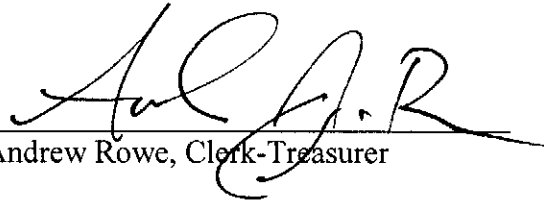
Councilmember Felchuk made a motion to adjourn. Council Vice-President Rowe seconded the motion.

Adjourn: 8:49 A.M.

Attest:



Wendy Hoppe, Council President



Andrew Rowe, Clerk-Treasurer