

**Town of Georgetown
Regular Meeting
November 16, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Council members present: Chris Loop, Ben Stocksdales, Gary Smith, Kathy Haller and Billy Haller. Also attending: Kristi Fox, Bob Woosley, Julia Keibler, Jessica Alexander and Chief Travis Speece.

Approval of Minutes

Gary Smith made a motion to approve the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes on October 18, 2021. Seconded by Kathy Haller and approved 4-0. Ben Stocksdales abstained.

Clerk Treasurers Report

The State Board of Accounts has changed all of our GL account numbers. This change will be effective January 1, 2022.

Chief Travis Speece

Ringwood Motors, that bid on and was awarded the 2014 Charger, no longer wants the vehicle. They are a little north of Chicago and do not want to come down to get this car. Chris Loop said to rebid this Charger. Kristi Fox will draft another resolution for the next meeting.

Officer Fulkerson's graduation date has been moved to December 9, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. in Plainfield, Indiana. Chief Speece has one additional ticket if a council member would like to attend.

24 hours of mandated training has started this month and will continue through next month. This is a requirement by Indiana statute. In October there were four separate trick-or-treating events we attended.

Town Attorney

Kristi Fox sent out a draft of the ARP ordinance. There is one item that needs to be fixed. "C" was added to number six for the park balances. This ordinance will be brought to the December meeting.

Town Engineer

Quotes for Town Ballpark Ballfield Drainage Project

Bob Woosley reached out to several contractors and requested quotes to repair the drainage problem with the ballfield. He received six quotes.

Lambs Lawn Service	\$ 6,346.00
Fulkerson Contracting	\$11,850.00
Merrel Bierman	\$16,790.00
Cornell Harbison Excavating	\$18,279.00
Temple & Temple	\$28,138.00
E-Z Construction	\$58,465.00

Bob Woosley recommends the award to Lambs Lawn Service.

Chris Loop made a motion to accept the quote from Lambs Lawn Service for \$6,346.00 and for those funds to come from Gaming. Seconded by Billy Haller and approved 5-0.

The work must be completed by March 1, 2022.

Community Crossings Grant – Libs Paving was finished with the paving project. Bob Woosley asked them to pull Church Alley behind Town Hall from the contract. They were asked to pull the road because Merrel Bierman was running behind on the Town Hall Parking Lot Project. It will now be completed in the spring of 2022. The likelihood of damaging Church Alley would be high during the Town Hall Parking Lot Project.

It was brought to our attention that the State required the road to be put back in or the grant money would be forfeited. As a result, Libs Paving will probably be paving Church Alley tomorrow. All other work has been completed and we have turned in our preliminary close out documents. Our roadway asset inventory has been approved. We probably will not make the deadline for the first submission in January because this round is not closed out yet.

Lakeland Lagoon – We continue to have problem after problem on the east side of the lake. The contractor has hit some rock with the rest of the lines they are replacing. They hope to be fully finished before Thanksgiving next week and if not, it will be the following week. We might have one more change order for rock removal. They are tracking that now and Bob will let the Council know if that is the case.

Copperfield Stop Signs – Two new stops signs are being added at Hidden Springs Drive and Copper Passage. Bob Woosley talked to the HOA President and the Treasurer today. They will be ordering the decorative poles and will coordinate with the Public Works Department.

Waste Water Treatment Plant – There have been a few issues at the treatment plant. There is an air valve in the digester on the new side that was leaking. It has now been fixed. There are a couple of leaks in the tank walls that are weeping water. The contractor has been made aware and is going to get this fixed as well.

There is also another leak under the stairs where the flow comes into the plant. This leak is where the old and the new tanks connect. The only thought here is that when they drilled and added the new wall, it probably disturbed some old cracking and has now caused it to weep through. They have made some efforts to do the repairs but the contractor is bringing in a coating chemical expert to come up with a coating or some other repair we can make.

There are three blowers at the plant. This time of the year we only use one blower. Blower number two is the one we had issues with after they rebuilt it during construction. This blower is under an extended warranty since we had issues with it. The company is sending a technician down to diagnose the problem. The concern is the blower room is very tight and this is the middle blower. This will be hard to fully replace it if that is needed.

The plant is running well but we are getting some corrosion in the bar screen area. It appears to be due to the high sulfides.

8670 State Road 64 – Water has been getting into the garage at 8670 State Road 64 via the alley, Lawrence Moore Way. The whole alley slopes towards the houses on State Road 64. The idea would be to add an asphalt curb. There is a concern with the fences that have a gate and how they would open. This might be completed during the next paving contract.

Aqua Utility Service Contract – We have been talking with Aqua Utility Services about operating and maintaining our lift stations. They would complete all preventative maintenance as well. During the telemetry systems installation, it appears some of the pumps are not functioning properly. It would make sense to have our plant operator operate and maintain the lift stations. They have the technicians and know how to be proactive in identifying any issues. Aqua Utility Services has agreed to give us a proposal.

Chris Loop said this will be better for the entire collection system and long term will bring the costs more in line with where they should be. If we did act on this, the first year we will probably pay more because we will have to do a lot of maintenance. The monthly baseline fee is \$4,500.00 a month and that does not include pulling any pumps. The last couple of years we have paid roughly \$150,000.00 to one vendor for this service. Aqua Utility Services has done a great job in handling the plant. We would like to get the lift stations working in a better manner than they are now. The intent of this agreement is to reduce the cost if we are already spending the money.

Aqua Utility Services currently does this same work at the Harrison County Plant. Bob Woosley said at each lift station they will visually inspect pumps each month and monitor the read outs in the control panel. They will be able to troubleshoot before a pump goes bad.

Chris Loop proposes an amended contract that breaks out additional rates and fees. This could be presented at the December meeting with a possible start date of January 1, 2022. The current contract expires April 1, 2024. Kristi Fox asked Bob Woosley to have Steve Toliver prepare the new contract and send it to Kristi Fox for her to review.

Old Business

Salary Ordinance for 2022

Ben Stocksdales and Billy Haller met to discuss the salary ordinance. They have both agreed on a five percent raise. The Redevelopment Commission secretary rate is still the same at \$50.00 per meeting, as well as, the \$60.00 stipend for the BZA, Plan Commission and Stormwater Board members. The hire in rate ordinance from 2015 is still in place. The Council has agreed to a five percent raise. This will be brought back to the December meeting.

New Member on Redevelopment Commission

We received one cover letter and resume from Brandon Hopf. He currently lives in the Brookstone Subdivision and is a firefighter who works for Jeffersonville. This is a non-partisan position.

Chris Loop made a motion to appoint Mr. Brandon Hopf to the Redevelopment Commission. Seconded by Kathy Haller and approved 5-0.

Agenda Items

Railroad – Keith Dempster

Keith Dempster is concerned about the trains blocking Baylor Wissman Rd. There have been several times the trains parked across the road for four to five hours. Keith has called the railroad several times and nothing has happened. This is a safety concern.

He wants to know who to contact? Does anyone know what the agreements are and with who? Are they breaching the original agreement? How can the local fire department, school system be alerted in advance of them sitting there all day? Does anyone here know who and how to get a hold of anyone to get answers? Can we stop this from happening?

Chris Loop said the railroad is federally regulated. The State statute allows them to block a crossing for up to 30 minutes. If they are there longer than 30 minutes, a police officer has the right to write them a \$200.00 ticket. The law also says if there is a mechanical issue, they can sit as long as they need to. Chris Loop has reached out to Norfolk Southern. Chris Loop and Kristi Fox also met with the Floyd County Commissioners tonight trying to partner together to solve the problem.

The solution they came up with was to involve the two state senators and the local congressional representative and ask them to apply pressure from the federal level to help us. Long term, we are going to see if there is any grant money available to either connect to the new fly-over at Novaparke or maybe a longer-term solution of how Baylor Wissman Road connects.

Chief Speece has personally talked to an engineer and conductor on their train. Their suggestion was to call the 1-800 number on the pole. The Supreme Court said in 2018 that they can block a road as long as they want as long if there is an alternate crossing. Chief Speece has also instructed his officers that work evenings and night shifts to monitor the fire and EMS channels. They will be alerted if Baylor Wissman Road is blocked.

Chris Loop asked Keith Dempster to reach out to Representative Trey Hollingsworth, Senator Todd Young and Senator Mike Braun.

Claims Docket

Ben Stocksdales made a motion to approve the claims docket. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 5-0.

Miscellaneous Business

Billy Haller stated there are people living in some RVs at 8615 State Road 64 and Ecotech will not pick up their trash anymore because it is not contained properly. We had a similar notice that we sent last year concerning a property on Kepley Road.

Chris Loop made a motion to mirror the letter sent to Kepley Road last year on this property. He also asked Kristi Fox to draft a letter and let them know they are in violation of the Town's R-2 zoning code and have 20 days to fix it or we will file a lawsuit against them. Seconded by Kathy Haller and approved 5-0.

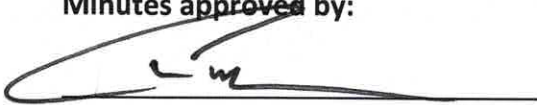
Kathy Haller said the tree lighting at the Optimist Club will be December 4, 2021. December 11, 2021 will be breakfast with Santa at the Optimist Club and there is a decorating contest that will be judged between December 15, 2021 and December 17, 2021. The winner will receive the prize at the Optimist Club on December 18, 2021.

Zach Fox lives at 1670 Walts Road. The Town did some work on the ditch recently and installed riprap up to the telephone pole at his driveway. The culvert on his side of the road has rusted away and is now gone. His property takes all the water from Georgetown Elementary School. Is there a way to get a concrete barricade on his culvert, as well as, a concrete ditch so he does not have to pick up trash and solve the problem in the future? Bob Woosley will look into this.

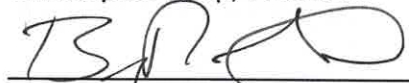
Adjournment

Gary Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 5-0.

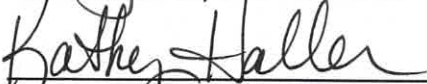
Minutes approved by:



Christopher Loop, President



Ben Stocksdale, Vice President



Kathy Haller



Billy Haller



Gary Smith

Attest:



Julia Keibler, Clerk Treasurer