

**Town of Georgetown
Regular Meeting
November 20, 2023
6:30 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Council members present: Chris Loop, Ben Stocksdales, Billy Haller and Brandon Hopf. Also attending: Julia Keibler, Haley James, Chief Travis Speece, Reny Keener, Kristi Fox and Bob Woosley.

Members not present: Jason Parrish.

Approval of Minutes

Brandon Hopf made a motion to approve the Regular Town Council meeting minutes from October 16, 2023. Seconded by Ben Stocksdales and approved 4-0.

Clerk Treasurer Julia Keibler

Salary Ordinance G-23-11

Joanne Flick from the Clerk Treasurer's office is in attendance tonight to ask the Town Council if they would consider increasing her salary to \$22.00 an hour instead of the suggested 4%. Chris Loop would like to table this item until December's meeting. He would like time to consider increasing everyone's salary in the Clerk's office to be fair.

Chief Travis Speece

Trunk or Treat at Georgetown Park was a success. The hiring process has stopped. We had seven applicants. The next steps will be a physical agility test on December 22, 2023, then there will be background checks and home interviews. Travis Speece will have an update on the applicants at the December meeting. Officer Terry Lawson will begin basic training at the academy on January 2, 2023. He will be at the academy from January until he graduates in April.

Employee Health Insurance

Travis Speece would like to ask the Town Council to consider changing the health insurance policy for new employees.

Chris Loop made a motion to approve paying the \$603.18 for the previous officers' bill and to reimburse Travis Speece \$378.00 and for this to be paid from the General Fund. Seconded by Brandon Hopf and approved 4-0.

Julia Keibler would like the health insurance policy to change as well. Julia Keibler suggested coverage starting 30 days after their first day of employment.

Public Works - Town Manager - Reny Keener

Community Foundation Grant

The Town did not get approved for this funding. The Town of Borden received the funding for a park that connected to the Monon Trail.

We hit our goal for the Ashely Mariah Park Playground fundraising.

One of the Utility workers, Jeff Bays will go back to the doctor tomorrow, November 21, 2023 to find out if he will be released for work or will require another surgery. Chris Loop would like to address this at a special meeting on November 29, 2023. The final decision will be made at the December meeting.

Public Works

Riley Excavating completed the project for the Roy Street and Mary Collins project. We approved a change work order to widen the road and improve the dip in the road that was causing people's cars to drag the ground. Change Order #1 is for \$7,400.00. This was previously allocated out of Local Roads and Streets.

Ben Stocksdale made a motion to approve and sign Change Order #1 for Riley's Excavating for \$7,400.00 and for this to be paid from Local Roads and Streets fund. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

9150 State Road 64 - The Old Wolfe Hotel

The owners declined all of our offers, will not accept less than \$80,000.00, and terminated their contract with their realtor. Kristi Fox would like the board to make a motion to allow her to proceed with eminent domain.

Chris Loop made a motion to allow Kristi Fox to pursue eminent domain for 9150 State Road 64, The Old Wolfe Hotel. Seconded by Brandon Hopf and approved 4-0.

Bids for Catalpa Ridge

We received two bids to fix the storm basin and curb on Catalpa Ridge.

Dan Cristiani Excavating's bid was \$9,990.00.

Riley's Excavating bid was \$5,925.00.

Brandon Hopf made a motion to approve Riley's Excavating quote for \$5,925.00 to repair the curb and storm basin. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

New Tool Kit for Utilities

Home Depot has a black Friday deal for a Milwaukee 7-piece tool kit. The tool kits cost \$499.00 each and normally cost over \$1,000.00. Reny Keener would like to purchase three tool kits, one for each truck for a total of \$1,497.00.

Brandon Hopf made a motion to approve Reny Keener purchasing three tool kits for \$1,497.00 from Home Depot and for this to be paid from the Sewer Operating Fund, 6201.300.5209. Seconded by Billy Haller and approved 4-0.

Professional Staff Clothing

Reny Keener would like to ask the board to allow each employee from the Clerk's office, Town Council, and himself a budget of \$200.00 to purchase a few professional shirts to wear at town events and trainings. Kellum Imprints in Ramsey was the cheapest option.

Chris Loop made a motion to approve a budget of \$2,000.00 for new town logo gear for staff and council and for this to be paid from the General Fund. Seconded by Ben Stocksdales and approved 4-0.

Employee Handbook

Reny Keener would like to create a committee to dive deeper into it. Overall, it should be more attractive to help us maintain people. Juneteenth is a new holiday that was added in and is a federal holiday. The committee would include Reny Keener, Travis Speece, Julia Keibler, Kristi Fox and two Town Council members. Brandon Hopf and Chris Loop will attend.

New Tables and Chairs for Town Hall

Reny Keener would like approval to purchase new tables and chairs for the meeting room.

Ben Stocksdales made a motion to approve a budget not to exceed \$11,000.00 to purchase new chairs and tables for the meeting room and for this to be paid from the Gaming Fund. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

Agenda Items

Aqua Utility Services Extension Agreement

Aaron Toliver is in attendance tonight. This contract has to be renewed every four years. Kristi Fox has reviewed the contract and Bob Woosley recommends renewing the contract.

Chris Loop made a motion to approve and sign The Operations and Maintenance Services Agreement Extension for Aqua Utility Services. Seconded by Brandon Hopf and approved 3-1. Biller Haller is opposed.

Town Engineer

West Lift Station Pump Repair

One of the old pumps failed and had to be replaced with a spare pump. The failed pump needs new bearings, seals, O-rings and cord installed. The cost for this repair is \$6,450.00 through TNT Technologies. The cost for a new pump is approximately \$15,000.00. Bob Woosley recommends having the broken pump repaired for \$6,450.00

Ben Stocksdales made a motion to approve Bob Woosley's recommendation and for this to be paid from Wastewater Capital Improvement Fund. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

Community Crossing Matching Grant

We have finished all of the road paving but are still waiting on Lois Lane's improvements to be completed before closing the project out. We are waiting on a permit from Norfolk Southern to allow Duke Energy to relocate two of their poles. They anticipate this will take a couple of months. We can apply for a 2024 CCMG as soon as we finish Lois Lane.

Bob Woosley did get our asset pavement management plan approved by LTAP (Local Transportation Assistance Program). This has to be completed annually to be eligible for the CCMG.

Dual Force Main Project at Legacy Springs

Since the improvements have been made and we cleaned the lines, we made some adjustments in working with AUS and TNT. It is operating like it should be. We may still clean the system.

East Knable Lift Station

This project is finished. The developer has corrected the issues found in their collection system. There should not be any more debris found entering the lift station. Jamie Schillmiller will reinstall some of the privacy slats from their fence that we had to remove.

Maplewood Business Lift Station

Bob Woosley and Reny Keener have been meeting and discussing options with the Fire Department on securing an easement. We will have to upgrade this station to ensure we can handle the proposed Gateway Village apartment complex and the old Edwardsville School complex. Plans are now being sent to IDEM for approval. We will open the bidding process in February 2024.

East Lift Station

This lift station has been experiencing problems the past few months. The pumps were pumping at a reduced rate well below their normal operating range. The air release valves were blocking the flow and have now been replaced. As of right now, everything is fixed and working correctly.

Sidewalk Improvements- Extending from the East End of Town

Bob Woosley would like to look into extending the sidewalks from Canal Lane to Copperfield. Bob Woosley would like approval to get a survey completed and to prepare a preliminary plat to identify easements needed. There is a grant through the USDT and if approved we could be reimbursed up to 80%.

Chris Loop made a motion to approve Bob Woosley a budget not to exceed \$25,000.00 for a survey and preliminary design for the sidewalk project and to be paid from Gaming Fund. Seconded by Brandon Hopf and approved 4-0.

Vacant Property near 9475 State Road 64 - Susan Wheeler

Bob Woosley had a potential buyer for this property contact him about connecting into our sewer system. This property is land locked and will need an easement from the neighbor. Bob Woosley will call Susan Wheeler and let her know she will need to secure an easement and have a survey completed to draw up a plat.

Plan Commission

Chris Loop would like Reny Keener to look into the costs of updating and finishing our planning and zoning code.

Redevelopment Commission

Two Facade grant applications were approved at the November 20, 2023 meeting and the secretary's pay will increase to \$400.00 a month.

Kristi Fox

Nothing to report.

New Business

Tax Abatement for 9135 State Road 64

Reny Keener reached out to the Wheatley Group about setting up an ERA. We currently have an EDA (Economic Development Area) in place. We will need a special meeting to create the ERA (Economic Revitalization Area) and then at the next Town Council meeting, the board will be able to pass the Resolution establishing an ERA and the tax abatement at the same meeting. The Wheatley group will work with Reny Keener on this to make sure everything is done correctly, create all notices and resolutions to include all documentation needed.

Chris Loop made a motion to approve a budget not to exceed \$5,000.00 to hire the Wheatley Group to establish an Economic Revitalization Area and for this to be paid from the General Fund. Seconded by Brandon Hopf and approved 4-0.

CreatINg Places- IHODA

The Town was approved for the Indiana Housing and Community Development Matching Grant of \$50,000.00 for the Ashley Mariah Park Playground. We did hit our goal and raised a total of \$52,600.00 but some people did not pay the credit card processing fee. \$2,454.65 will have to be taken from our total to cover those fees. Coming into our account from Patronicity and the Indiana Housing and Community Development Agency will be \$54,710.00. The CreatINg places contract will allow us to receive the money from Patronicity.

Ben Stocksdales made a motion to approve Chris Loop signing the CreatINg Places contract. Seconded by Brandon Hopf and approved 4-0.

Holiday Party

Reny Keener would like approval to host a holiday party for the Town's staff and Town Council. Reny Keener would like the party to be on Saturday, December 9, 2023, from 5-7 P.M. at The Spot in Copperfield. Around 50 people would attend. The spot will allow us to rent their drink fountain for \$5.00 a person and 812Pizza offered 10 pizzas for \$150.00, 72 wings for \$84.00, bringing the total to around \$250.00.

Brandon Hopf made a motion to approve hosting a holiday party at The Spot planned by Reny Keener and for this to be paid from the General fund. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

2024 Events

Reny Keener would like approval for a 2024 events document to be approved to allow Reny Keener to go after sponsorships and to help with advertising. Chris Loop is fine with this document.

Resolution R-23-05, A Resolution for Sale of Personal Property

Reny Keener would like to sale a few items not being used at the shop. Those items are: Flink Spreader, Ladder Rack, Global Industrial 2 Drum Spill Containment Modular Platforms (total 5), spill dollies poly-dolly (total 2), and a 40-gallon regular diesel rear tank for 1999-2010 Ford F Series Super Duty.

Ben Stocksdales made a motion to approve Resolution R-23-05, A Resolution for Sale of Personal Property. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

Travel Reimbursement Ordinance G-23-11

Reny Keener would like to update the current travel Ordinance. With the cost of everything increasing, the current policy is not very reasonable. The meal reimbursement will increase to \$50.00 and include a gratuity (20%). The employee going out of town will also have the option to drive their own vehicle or a town owned vehicle.

Brandon Hopf made a motion to approve Ordinance G-23-11, An Ordinance Repealing G-16-03 and Establishing a New Travel Reimbursement Policy. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

2300 Henriott Road - Fence/Neighbor Dispute

Craig Woycheese is the renter of this home and in attendance tonight to explain his property violation. His privacy fence is currently out of code. Kristi Fox suggested to Craig Woycheese that he remove the fence, get it into compliance or to apply for a variance through the Board of Zoning Appeals. If he does not, the Town can take legal action to get it into compliance.

Karen Beaton- 1475 Greenville- Georgetown Rd

Karen Beaton is in attendance tonight to ask the Town Council for a sewer request. She had problems with Indiana American Water that took a lot longer than expected to fix and would like more credit that she was approved for since there was no water from her home going to the treatment plant. Indiana American Water had to replace the meter and lines.

Chris Loop made a motion to adjust Ms. Beaton bill for the months of August 2023, September 2023 and October 2023 to her 6-month average with a look back period from July 2023. Seconded by Ben Stocksdale and approved 4-0.

Cyberdome

Cyberdome is in attendance tonight to give a presentation about their visit at Town Hall and with a price for their services. They have agreed to match the current price we pay with Appsalute.

Chris Loop made a motion to approve Solution 1 from Cyberdome USA for 1 year with an annual managed services costs of \$1,960.80. Seconded by Brandon Hopf and approved 4-0.

John Beams - Destination Georgetown

Stan Walk announces he will be resigning from Destination Georgetown and Kara Schroeder will be the new president. Kara Schroeder plans to eventually light up and decorate the town for the holidays. Kara Schroeder and Reny Keener will contact Lanesville to see how they do their holiday lighting with Duke Energy poles.

Claims Docket

Billy Haller made a motion to approve the claims docket. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.

Miscellaneous Business

The Town Council would like the December 18, 2023, Town Council Meeting to start at 4:00 P.M instead of 6:30 P.M.

The Town Council will have a special meeting on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at 6:30 P.M to establish an EDC (Economic Development Commission) and a Resolution for the ERA.

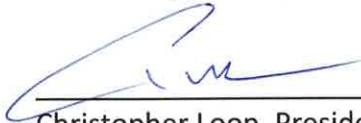
Reny Keener would like to congratulate Chris Loop for being nominated for the Community Leader of the Year Award.

Charles Logsdon would like the Town to get the street sweeper scheduled. Reny Keener will get working on this.

Adjournment

Ben Stocksdale made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chris Loop and approved 4-0.


Minutes approved by:




Christopher Loop, President



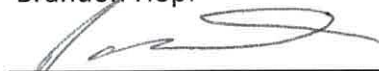
Ben Stocksdales, Vice President



Billy Haller



Brandon Hopf



Jason Parrish

Attest:



Julia Keibler, Clerk Treasurer