



## Town Council Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2020

Town Hall and Zoom– 7:00 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

- Council Members: Barry Wood and Greg Brewer were at Town Hall; Tom Strayer, Branden Williams, Larry Longman were on Zoom
- Employees: Paul Casey, Tonya Galbraith, Ron Crider, Mark Witsman, Ryan Crum
- Clerk-Treasurer Staci Starcher
- Town Attorney Gregg Morelock

### **Approval of Minutes**

- Motion by Mr. Longman to approve the minutes of April 14, 2020. Strayer. 5-0.

### **Clerk-Treasurer's Report**

- Posted on-line.

### **March Financial Report**

- Posted on-line.

### **Police Report**

- Continuing to adjust training schedule, postponed at this time. Restarting the last hiring process on May 30, 2020. We started with 60 applicants and down to 24 now.
- The Academy has not given us firm dates to start training the 2 Officers scheduled for May. Hopefully training will start September/October.

### **Public Comment- Non-Agenda Item Only**

- None

### **Revenue Shortfall and Capital Projects Plan**

- Revenue Shortfall
  - Mr. Witsman stated staff has been working for at least a couple of weeks. State has let local municipalities COVID-19 will affect revenue payments.
  - The gas tax distribution in May might be affected first at about 40%.
  - Property taxes might be affected by 15-20%.
  - The letter is just letting you know Staff is monitoring distributions.
- Amendment to Capital Projects Plan
  - Based on the estimated decreased distributions from the State, staff thought the most appropriate place to make cuts were to the Capital Projects Plan.



- Mr. Crum stated the top tiered projects will not be affected, which includes all Community Crossings Grant projects.
- Middle tier projects will be on hold until at least 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
- Remaining projects will be delayed until 2021.
- Savings of \$375,000 to the Capital Project budget with the delays. This estimate is ultra-conservative.
- An additional appropriation needed for the Median project and a Rainy-day transfer of \$50,000 totals savings of \$732,000.
- Adjustments to the plan may be made if distributions are not affected as estimated.
- Motion by Mr. Brewer to accept the amendments to the Capital Projects plan. Williams. 5-0

### **Riverfront District**

- State legislation allows municipality to issue alcohol permits for restaurants in a Riverfront District.
- The definition of River is loose, the Stansbury Ditch qualifies.
- We need to make Town Center more attractive to potential businesses and this may be one tool to help do this. Standard alcohol permits are very expensive, these will not be as expensive.
- Mr. Longman stated the Redevelopment Commission has already talked about this concept and is supportive of the District. Surrounding municipalities are also pursuing districts in their areas and we need to be able to compete for the businesses.
- Mr. Morelock stated no motion on the Ordinance tonight. Staff wanted to get the language in front of the Councilors tonight, but staff still needs to work on the legal language.

### **Noise Ordinance Amendment Special Events Permit**

- No Update

### **Old Business**

- Update on Fire Territory
  - Mr. Morelock stated he received a proposed fire territory agreement draft prepared by Jeff Bellamy.
  - Flory May, Vernon Township Trustee, started starting a sub-committee would be a good idea to work out the details of the agreement for budget and management of the fire territory.
  - Amanda Fronek, Vernon Township Trustee Deputy, stated per statue, the provider unit is the one who approves the budget.
  - Mr. Wood asked about the Township Board. Ms. May stated the three members are Tim Plank, Gary Sharett, and Mary Beth Sears.
  - Mr. Brewer volunteered to be on the committee.
- Sewer Bond Interest Rate Update
  - Baker-Tilly had a call with staff earlier today. There were 5 bids. Baker Group had the lowest bid at 2.206. Closing on the bond is May 26, 2020.



### **New Business**

- None

### **Other Committee Reports**

- **Redevelopment Commission:** Discussed the Riverfront District.
  - Talked about a couple of RFP's for the Town Center development. Hired a firm from Arizona to do study on economic development.
  - Set the Annual meeting for June 23, 2020 at 6:00 pm.
  - Town Center drainage plan is to construct a pond on the SW corner.
- **Plan Commission:** Did not meet.
- **Architectural Committee:** Did not meet.
- **Parks Board:** Did not meet.
- **Public Works Committee:** Town Hall parking lot sealing and striping paid with encumbered funds from 2019. Scheduled for May 18 and May 19 for sealing and May 26 for striping.
  - Design services contract of 500 N with Crossroad Engineering. The project was budgeted in Capital Projects was \$145,000 for 2020. Contract estimate was \$324,000. Scope has not been completely determined. Mr. Strayer stated Public Works recommends the \$145,000 to the Council. It would be paid out of MVH.
  - Motion by Mr. Strayer to approve contract with Crossroad Engineers not exceed \$145,000 for design of 500 N and to authorize Mr. Wood to sign contract. Longman. 5-0
  - Mr. Morelock advises Crossroads submits a revised contract for \$145, 000 for 2020.
- **Vernon Township Fire Committee:** Ms. May had a meeting by Zoom with the Mt. Vernon School Corporation Board today. The Board is affected tremendously monetarily by the Vernon Township Territory proposal.

### **Town Manager's Report**

- Nothing

### **Public Works Commissioner's Report**

- Nothing
- Mr. Brewer asked about the big ditch created by trucks on the Northeast corner of Carroll Road and W 650 N. Mr. Crider stated it was Marion County's responsibility.

### **Planning and Building Director's Report**

- Nothing

### **Public Comments**

- None



**Voucher Approval**

- Motion by Mr. Brewer to approve the vouchers. Strayer. 5-0.

**Adjournment**

- Motion by Mr. Longman to adjourn. Williams. 8:20 pm

**Minutes Approval**

These minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Barry A. Wood, Council President**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Staci A. Starcher, Clerk-Treasurer**