

Town of Hamilton

900 S Wayne St – PO Box 249

Hamilton, In 46742

DRAFT – NOT YET ADOPTED

March 4th, 2019- Town Council Meeting

7:00pm

1. Clerk Treasurer Hester Stouder called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll call: Councilors Mary Vail, Gerry Martin, Danny Lingo, Steve Blum and Nancy Renner were present. The Clerk Treasurer, Hester Stouder was present to record the meeting. Assistant Town Attorney Darrick Brinkerhoff and Town Manager Brent Shull were both present. Attached is a list of audience members.

Reading and approval of the February 4th, 2019 minutes – Councilman Danny Lingo motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Nancy Renner seconded the motion, motion carried.

ISAAC LEE – TRITON presentation regarding new abatement/quarterly presentation – Mr. Lee presented the review of 2018, outlining their action plan. He highlighted 4 major objectives; Business Retention and Expansion, Attraction of New Businesses, Workforce Development, Public/Private Partnership. He detailed each of the categories, stating they had 23 projects during the year, 65+ abatements, over \$46.8 million in total investment, were awarded a \$20,000 grant and they continue building relationships with schools to raise awareness of local job opportunities.

They are also working closely on a large project, that could include a rail spur in the Hamilton area. Mr. Lee will discuss this further with the Council when he can provide more details, timeline and estimated cost.

Mr. Lee thanked the Council for their continued support and involvement, saying he appreciates Brent's service as the President of the EDC board.

Mr. Lee then presented an abatement request from TRITON industries for an expansion project. They are requesting a 5-year, 100% abatement with a total investment of \$1.5 million in real property, \$1,976,000 in equipment and 5 new jobs, averaging \$15.00 per hour. He said Triton is committed to Hamilton and that can be shown by their investment over the years. The total savings for Triton is estimated to be \$178,651.00 over the 5 -year period.

The Council discussed the "super" abatements and the benefit on both sides. The Clerk said she spoke with other communities who have awarded them for various reasons. They seem to be gaining more momentum due to the immediate benefit and shorter reporting requirements. The Council discussed the investment and overall benefit for the community. Before the Council takes any action, a resolution needs to be prepared, and Triton is waiting to hear back on a State incentive. When they have confirmation from the State they would appreciate the Council moving forward with the local abatement.

The Council will table the request and schedule a meeting after Isaac and Triton confirm they are ready for the Council to take action.

HAMILTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Request for funding –

Chamber board member Justin Stouder presented a request from the Chamber asking the Council to increase their annual contribution from \$5,000 to \$10,000.00.

The Chamber provided annual expenses and revenue for the last 3 years along with information on how surrounding communities fund their 4th of July festivities. The Chamber board was able to show how the community supports the event thru volunteers and donations, however with increasing expenses and decreased donations at the gate the board is having a hard time making ends meet.

Justin Stouder explained how the Holiday weekend supports local business and is well attended by many. He further explained that Hog Hill donates their facility for the cost of insurance and most businesses discount their services for the weekend, helping to keep cost down.

Going forward the board decided to hire off duty officers to manage the parking and vehicles leaving the facility. Saying the number of cars and various exits really need handled by those trained in traffic control. With this change, expenses will only increase.

The Council discussed the event, efforts made by the Chamber and how the event benefits the community. The Clerk treasurer provided information on where the additional funding would come from if the Council approved the increase. She said the Council has a budget line specifically designed for things like this. The annual amount budgeted was \$25,000 and include, the annual Lake Association contribution, Garden Club, Steuben Humane Shelter and the \$5,000 for the fireworks.

Following further discussion, Nancy Renner motioned to approve the increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000.00 beginning in 2019 and budgeted annually thereafter. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried. Steve Blum opposed and Mary Vail abstained from voting.

2. Clerks Report - *The clerk has submitted financial EOM statements and payroll to the Council.*

- A. Claims – Councilman Steve Blum made a motion to approve the claims. Councilwoman Nancy Renner seconded the motion, motion carried.
- B. Delinquent Accounts – Steve Blum motioned to approve the delinquent accounts, Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried. The Clerk explained the trash liens on several accounts and how those balances will continue to increase until the property sells or the lien is satisfied.
- C. Declare Warrants Void – The Clerk presented 4 warrants totaling \$1273.81 that needed the Council's approval to void. For two warrants, the Clerk explained they were never cashed and never returned. Therefore, the Council needed to approve voiding them so there is a paper trail for audit purposes. Following the explanation Councilman Steve Blum motioned to approve the warrants as void. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried.
- D. Transfer Resolution 2019-1 – The Clerk provided 3 funds that needed transfers approved, closing out 2018. They included the Fire, General and Local Road and Street fund. Councilman Steve Blum motioned to approve Resolution 2019-1 as presented. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried.

3. Reports

A. *Town Manager* – The power outage has been rescheduled for April 6th & 13th. The times will be from 6am – 11 am.

Town Manager Brent Shull requested the Council's approval to purchase a new lap top for \$817.00. Danny Lingo motioned to approve the expense for the lap top. Steve Blum seconded the motion, motion carried.

Bids were opened for the Community Crossings Grant. Three bids were received and read aloud. Because not all of them had a grand total, Town Manager Brent Shull read each of the 5 groups. After totaling them by hand, the bids were as follows; API Construction \$494,570.28, Brooks Construction \$545,129.00, E&B paving \$539,023.75. After each bid was opened, they were turned over to the Assistant Town Attorney, where they will be shared with Engineering Resources. Both parties will review them and provide a recommendation for awarding the bid. This will be determined by the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Please see attached report

B. *Street Department* – The department has been using the new grappler on the payloader to remove the large piles of brush from the recent ice and wind storms. They will officially begin Spring Clean Up in April.

The catch basin at the corner of S Wayne Street and Railroad Street is still not working properly.

Please see attached report

C. *Police Department* – New lights have been installed on the 2016 truck that will help officers see further distances at night. They will be installed on the other vehicles later this month.

Officer John Geyer submitted his letter of resignation, effective March 18th, 2019. Marshal Jerney Warner will work on advertising the vacancy.

Please see attached report.

D. *Water Department* –The plow had been installed and is working fine.

The water loss has gone down, a leak survey will not need to be conducted. The department will continue monitoring water usage and look for standing water now that the weather is staying above freezing temperatures.

Please see attached report.

4. Old Business –

A. No old business was brought before the board

5. New Business –

A. Pay raise for the Town Manager – Council President Mary Vail said the board met in executive sessions to discuss the Town Manager's job performance. Based on those discussions Councilwoman Nancy Renner motioned to increase the Town Managers pay to \$2,230.77 biweekly. Making the new biweekly pay effective March

4th, 2019 for the March 22nd, 2019 payroll. Gerry Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried with Steve Blum abstaining.

B. Community Picnic – Deputy Clerk Treasurer Jenna Steigerwald would like to host another Community Picnic, after having a good turnout in 2018. She asked the council to approve \$500 to cover the cost. Clerk Treasurer Hester Stouder explained they would not be asking for any type of donations this year and formal invitations will be sent to local organizations that serve our community throughout the year. She described the event as a way to thank those people who work hard for Hamilton all year. This will be the Town’s opportunity to serve them.

Councilman Danny Lingo thought the event was well received last year and would like to see it continue. With that being said, he motioned to approve the \$500 budget for the Community Picnic. Steve Blum seconded the motion, motion carried.

C. Ordinance 2019-1 – 1st reading – Amending Title XV, Chapter 153.41 – Mobile Home (R-4) district by adding a new subsection (E) – Town Manger Brent Shull said this ordinance creates the minimum 5’ setback between mobile home or similar units in Hamilton’s trailer park/campgrounds. Brent verified this would apply to new units only. Steve Blum motioned to introduce Ordinance 2019-1 on 1st reading. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried.

Steve Blum then motioned to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance 2019-1 on 2nd & 3rd reading. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried with unanimous approval.

D. Ordinance 2019-2 – 1st reading – Amending Title XV, Chapter 153.18 – Non-Conforming uses and structures – Town Manager Brent Shull said this ordinance will help when people are adding on. Making only the addition conform to the requirements of the district in which it is located, rather than the entire structure. The Council agreed with the change and favorable recommendation from the Plan Commission. Steve Blum motioned to introduce Ordinance 2019-2 on 1st reading. Gerry Martin seconded the motion, motion carried.

Steve Blum then motioned to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance 2019-2 on 2nd & 3rd reading. Gerry Martin seconded the motion, motion carried with unanimous approval.

E. Ordinance 2019-3 – 1st reading – Creating Motor Vehicle Highway fund – restricted 203 – Clerk Treasurer Hester Stouder explained the new fund would help track money for the new requirement that 50% of MVH distributions must be spent on road repair, construction or maintenance. It will not take anything away from the current cash balances for the Street Department, only separate the amounts into 2 funds.

Steve Blum motioned to introduce Ordinance 2019-3 on 1st reading, Mary Vail seconded the motion, motion carried.

Steve then motioned to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance 2019-3 on 2nd & 3rd reading. Mary Vail seconded the motion, motion carried with unanimous approval.

F. Triton Compliance Forms – The Clerk presented Tritons compliance forms for multiple ongoing abatements. Steve Blum motioned to approve the compliance forms as presented. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried.

G. Town Manager Brent Shull asked the Council to approve the Resolution 2019-2, opposing the Michindoh Aquifer. The Council quickly reviewed it and agreed with Assistant Town Attorney Darrick Brinkerhoff when he suggested adding additional language regarding the Lake and the importance it holds for the community. The Council wanted to approve the Resolution subject to inclusive language regarding the Lake. Steve Blum motioned to do so, Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried. The final draft will be sent to the Council for record keeping.

Public Comments/Questions concerning ADA or other items of Business –

With no other comments or items of business, the motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Renner and seconded by Mary Vail, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Hester Stouder, IAMC - Clerk Treasurer

Mary Vail –Council President