MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA October 13, 2020

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:40 p.m. on Monday, October 13, 2020, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council members William Daily, Mike Leman, Rick Graverson and James Leeper were present. Also present were: Trend Weldy, Director of Operations; Jay Stoneburner, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Alex Mikel, Superintendent of the Street and Water Department; Chief Brad Kile, Police Department; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department and Janet Anglemyer, Clerk-Treasurer. Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

MINUTES: Mr. Leman made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims without amendment; Mr. Graverson made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer presented Ordinance 13-2020, which clarified a portion of the Cemetery Code relating to the weekend gate times, and requested that the Council declare an emergency and pass it on three readings so that it could be implemented immediately. Mr. Graverson made a motion to declare an emergency and approve Ordinance 13-2020 on all three readings, which was seconded by Mr. Leman and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented an invoice summary for the first draw down from the OCRA grant for the downtown streetscape project. Mr. Leeper made a motion to approve the invoice, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner presented a revised draft of the Park Ordinance and explained the course of action that the sub-committee had chosen to take. He asked the Council to review the draft and provide any comments before the next meeting; he also advised them that he would have additional edits depending on further research. Mr. Wagner then addressed the Council regarding the potential executive sessions for the division of employees for the Street and Water Departments. Mr. Wagner explained that he had advised that an executive session could be held to review the employees and discuss where to assign them, but that the decision to split the Street and Water Department would need to be made at a public hearing. The Council deferred the issue of splitting the department to Mr. Mikel's portion of the Department Head Reports.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mike Clinger appeared and presented a petition and online comments regarding having chickens in the municipal limits. Mr. Weldy reported back to the Council that Bourbon is the only community in the immediate area that allows chickens in town. Mr. Daily expressed some concern that allowing residents to have chickens within the Town limits might increase the coyote problem that was brought up at the previous meeting. The Council discussed some of the restrictions that would be considered for allowing chickens. Mr. Leman suggested that the Council set the matter for the agenda at an upcoming meeting to allow the public more of an opportunity to comment. The Council asked Mr. Weldy to publicize the issue through the Town's social media channels.

Ashley Sumpter appeared to ask the Council what could be done about the coyote sighted in the north east part of Town. Mr. Weldy explained to the Council what his investigation had found and told the Council that he was hiring a hunter to remove the animals in the near future.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Weldy submitted his report, and told the Council that he had held a progress meeting on downtown streetscape project and that November 21, 2020 had been identified as the final date for the project for all work except the installation of the stoplights. He added that Plymouth Street would continue to be closed until November 21, 2020. Mr. Weldy told the Council that he was still working on the appraisal for the Bi-County property. Mr. Weldy presented Resolution 2020-17, regarding the abatement of \$2.8 million dollars in equipment for Patrick Industries, which Mr. Weldy explained was moving into the former International Wire building. He explained that Patrick was moving a business from Elkhart and that it would have 40-50 employees working out of the facility. He added that the total amount of equipment was approximately \$2.8 million dollars. Mr. Leeper made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-17 as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays with Mr. Leman abstaining.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mr. Stoneburner submitted his report on behalf of the Electric Department.

Mr. Mikel informed the Council that his department had obtained a state training grant for an employee. The Council then discussed the separation of the Street and Water Departments. Mr. Leman asked how the department would be divided, and Mr. Mikel explained that he envisioned four (4) employees in the Street Department and four (4) employees in the Water Department. The Council discussed adding an employee back into one of the departments that had been lost due to attrition in a previous year. Ms. Anglemyer expressed concerns that the utility rates would need to be adjusted to account for the changes. The Council tabled the issue while Ms. Anglemyer sought input from Baker Tilly.

Chief Kile submitted the packet from the Board of Police Commissioners, and told the Council that two (2) squad cars were nearly ready for duty.

Mr. Cunningham submitted his report on behalf of the Wastewater Department.

Mr. Leman made a motion to approve the Department Head Reports, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: No Council comments were offered.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Leman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:

Janet M. Anglemyer

Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen

William Daily, Presider