

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA
December 22, 2022**

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 22, 2022, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council members Mike Leman, Bill Daily, and James Leeper were present. Also present were Trend Weldy, Director of Operations; Ben Wright, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Henry Aguayo, Superintendent of the Water Department; Austin Langdon, Superintendent of the Street Department; Chief Brad Kile, Police Department; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Brian Main, Superintendent of the Park Department; Janet Anglemyer, Clerk-Treasurer; and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

MINUTES: Mr. Leeper made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2022, meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims without amendment; Mr. Leeper made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Ordinance 14-2022, regarding year-end transfers and encumbrances, which Ms. Anglemyer explained in detail. The Council members discussed setting up a meeting with John Pfeiffer to resolve his claim. Ms. Anglemyer asked the Council members to declare an emergency and pass the ordinance on all three readings. Mr. Leeper made a motion to declare an emergency and pass Ordinance 14-2022 on three readings, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Ordinance 15-2022, regarding an amendment to the BAN ordinance for the wastewater plant project adopted in October as Ordinance 10-2022. Ms. Anglemyer explained that the amendment changed the maximum interest rate to 7.0%, and asked the Council members to declare an emergency and pass the ordinance on three readings. Mr. Daily made a motion to declare an emergency and approve Ordinance 15-2022 on three readings, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and approved by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer confirmed that the Council members had received an email that she had forwarded from a County Council member regarding the Blue Zones program, and thanked the Fire Department for the new chairs in the Council chamber.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner told the Council that he, Ms. Anglemyer, and Mr. Leman would get the documents for the Wastewater plant project signed after the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments were offered.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Weldy had no new information to report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mr. Wright had no new information to report on behalf of the Electric Department.

Mr. Aguayo had no new information to report on behalf of the Water Department.

Chief Kile told the Council that Officer Rodriguez would be attending the academy between May 1 and August 18, 2023.

Mr. Main had no new information to report on behalf of the Park Department.

Mr. Langdon had no new information to report on behalf of the Street Department.

Mr. Cunningham asked the Council to execute the permit renewal form for the wastewater plant, which Mr. Leman signed.

Chief Neher had no new information to report on behalf of the Fire Department.

Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the Department Head Reports, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

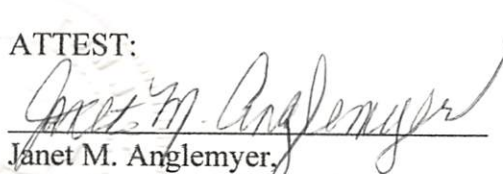
REORGANIZATION: Mr. Daily made a motion to close the regular meeting for reorganization, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper. Ms. Anglemyer opened the reorganization session as chair, and requested nominations for president. Mr. Leman nominated Mr. Daily, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then asked for nominations for vice-president. Mr. Leeper nominated Mr. Leman, which was second by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Leeper made a motion to close the reorganization session, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Daily acted as chair for the remainder of the meeting, and directed the Council members' attention to the proposed slate of appointments for 2023. Mr. Leman objected to the removal of Jeff Byrd from the park board and his replacement by Matt Neher. Mr. Leman asked Mr. Wagner if any nepotism had occurred given that Mr. Byrd's spouse was employed by the park department, and Mr. Wagner explained the difference between the literal definition of nepotism and nepotism as defined by state statute; Mr. Wagner stated with opinion that the employment of Mr. Byrd's spouse did not constitute nepotism under state law. He also added that he believed both Mr. Byrd and his spouse were well qualified for their positions, that the concern he discussed with Mr. Weldy did not consist of any matter of wrongdoing, and that the only issue was the appearance of nepotism. Mr. Wagner concluded by asking the council members to clarify their expectations for him as to reporting the activities of other council members and employees to the Council. Mr. Leman expressed disappointment that he, as the park board liaison, had not learned of Mr. Byrd's replacement until earlier in the week. Mr. Leman allowed Mr. Byrd to share his opinion and concern regarding his activity on the board, including any concerns over the appearance of nepotism, and stated that he would have liked the opportunity for he and his spouse to choose who would retain their position. The Council decided to table the matter of the appointment to Mr. Byrd's park board position. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve the amended slate of appointments, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer noticed that Mr. Aguayo had been omitted from the slate as superintendent of the Water Department; Mr. Leman made a motion to appoint Mr. Aguayo as Superintendent of the Water Department for 2023, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mr. Daily asked if a new agenda item for Old Business could be added to future meetings, and Mr. Weldy said he would add it to the form.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Leeper made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:


Janet M. Anglemyer,
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen


Michael Leman, President

