MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA October 15, 2024

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council Members Michael Leman, William Daily, Bryan Miller, and Alex Mikel were present. Also present were Keith Fraine, Director of Operations; Janet Anglemyer, Clerk-Treasurer; Ben Wright, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Henry Aguayo, Superintendent of the Water Department; Chief Brad Kile, Police Department; Austin Langdon, Superintendent of the Street Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department; Nate Lockwood, Cemetery Sexton; Ken Jones, Town Engineer and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2024, meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims with the payroll allowance docket; Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer presented pay application number 8, regarding the aquatics facility, payable to Brown and Brown in the amount of \$145,421.86. She noted that it included a change order for \$4,200.00 for a rolling gate upgrade. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve pay application 8 as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then told the Council that they needed to address the bond anticipation notes for the prior wastewater treatment plant project. Jeff Rowe from Baker Tilly appeared and told the Council that they were currently seeking a oneyear extension of the note at a 5% rate. Mr. Rowe explained that the note had been drawn down to approximately \$800,000.00. The Council discussed the options proposed by Mr. Rowe, and Mr. Leman suggested that the Council should seek to extend it for at least 2 years if there would be no additional cost or penalty. Mr. Jones added that with the current rate adjustment in place, the BAN could support a \$5 million dollar project. Mr. Mikel requested that Baker Tilly prepare a 2-5-year schedule of upcoming projects and issues that the wastewater project would need to address. The Council discussed the proposal further and directed Baker Tilly to pursue a 2-year extension. Ms. Anglemyer then presented a Master Service Agreement from Baker Tilly regarding the Lake of the Woods Sewer District Wholesale Customer Analysis. Mr. Rowe explained what Baker Tilly would show in their models and reports, and the Council discussed the structure of a possible contract with the Lake of the Woods Sewer District. Mr. Rowe also offered some information on how to score better in certain SRF funding pools. After Mr. Rowe explained the agreement, Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the agreement, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Wright left the meeting early.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner explained the order that future ordinances would need to be approved at the next meeting and gave a brief description of upcoming annexation and TIF expansion activity.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was brought before the Council.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business was brought before the Council.

<u>PUBLIC COMMENTS:</u> Annette Haining, the interim director of Project Hope, appeared before the Council and explained that the organization had changed its name to Marshall County Hope and introduced several program participants in attendance. She asked that the Council make a contribution to Marshall County Hope from their Opioid Settlement Restricted Funds. Mr. Leman asked how much money was available from the restricted funds, and Ms. Anglemyer replied that the restricted funds total \$33,368.37. Mr. Mikel made a motion to contribute all of the Opioid Settlement Restricted Funds in the amount of \$33,368.37 to Marshall County Hope, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Fraine submitted his report and asked the Council to consider restructuring the job description for David Kapke to utility tech, given that he works several utility departments. He also requested that his pay be increased to the equivalent of a AA operator. Mr. Mikel told the Council that he would abstain from the discussion and the decision as Mr. Kapke is his relative. The remaining Council Members discussed sources of funding for the petition. Ms. Anglemyer told the Council that she would need to prepare an amended wage ordinance to reflect the changes.

Mr. Fraine asked the Council for direction regarding the trash contract. He recommended pursuing an extension of the current agreement with Republic and explained his rationale. The Council told Mr. Fraine to pursue an extension with Republic. Mr. Fraine asked the Council to appoint Elbia Hundt to the open position on the Redevelopment Commission. He explained that Ms. Hundt was a suitable replacement for Dennis Bilinski given that she took over his position at First Federal Savings Bank upon his retirement. Mr. Mikel made a motion to appoint Elbia Hundt to the Redevelopment Commission, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mr. Aguayo submitted his report on behalf of the Water Department and told the Council that the hydrant flushing was ongoing.

Chief Kile had no new information to report on behalf of the Police Department.

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

Mr. Lockwood had no new information to report on behalf of the Cemetery Department.

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

Chief Neher submitted his report on behalf of the Fire Department.

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

TOWN ENGINEER: Mr. Jones asked the Council to officially remove the obligation of the USDA funds from the wastewater treatment plant application so that the agency could use them for other projects. Mr. Miller made a motion to de-obligate the USDA funds, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Leman executed a letter regarding the funds. Mr. Jones told the Council that JPR had submitted the application for the standpipe grant funding. Mr. Leman asked questions and expressed concerns regarding traffic issues at the intersection of Elm Road/Center Street and US 6 with the new Southwire development. Mr. Jones discussed how to raise the issue with INDOT, and Mr. Jones ultimately stated that he would send a letter conveying the concerns to INDOT to begin the process.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mr. Mikel asked Mr. Wagner if the electric territory would be expanded with the upcoming annexations, and Mr. Wagner stated that he believed it was intended as long as the Electric Department was so willing. Mr. Wagner told the Council they would be in conversations with outside counsel to expand the territory.

Mr. Daily told the Council Members that he had received a request to recognize Chief Neher and Greg Welborn for the care they provided to the Town planters downtown this season. The Council thanked Chief Neher and asked him to express their gratitude to Mr. Welborn as well.

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

ATTEST:

Janet M. Anglemyer,

Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen

Michael Leman, President