

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA
February 26, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, February 26, 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; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Brian Main, Superintendent of the Park Department; Nate Lockwood, Cemetery Sexton; Dan Byam, Town Engineer, and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

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

PICKLEBALL PROJECT BID OPENING: Mr. Wagner opened and read aloud the following bids:

| <u>Contractor Name</u> | <u>Base Bid</u> | <u>Alt. 1</u> | <u>Alt. 2</u> | <u>Alt. 3</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| - The Robert Henry Corp. | \$342,000.00 | \$39,900.00 | \$22,564.00 | \$ 6,284.00 |
| - Brown and Brown | \$288,000.00 | \$30,000.00 | \$12,000.00 | \$ 6,000.00 |
| - Ziolkowski Const., Inc. | \$362,900.00 | \$29,390.00 | \$17,550.00 | \$10,800.00 |
| - Thomas Excavating | \$394,697.00 | \$21,310.00 | \$13,827.00 | \$ 4,879.00 |
| - Schrock Commercial | \$289,000.00 | \$20,250.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$ 8,000.00 |
| - Premium Concrete Svcs. Inc. | \$364,529.00 | \$35,800.00 | \$17,900.00 | \$ 4,500.00 |
| - R. Yoder Construction | \$314,279.00 | \$40,988.53 | \$10,333.98 | \$ 5,177.52 |
| - Skip's Custom Concrete | \$345,500.00 | \$26,500.00 | \$10,800.00 | \$ 2,650.00 |

Mr. Daily made a motion to take the bids under advisement, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

MINUTES: Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims without amendment; 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 then presented a slate of outstanding checks to be voided, dating back to March 15, 2021. She told the Council that the total amount between the checks was \$208.96 and requested approval to write off the amounts. Mr. Daily made a motion to write off the checks as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Ordinance 1-2024, amending the 2024 Wage Ordinance to change the wage for the part-time cemetery foreman position. She asked the Council to declare an emergency and pass the ordinance on all three readings. Mr. Miller made a motion to declare an emergency and pass Ordinance 1-2024 on three readings, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer also told the Council that she had completed the 2023 financial report and had already uploaded the report into the Gateway system.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner asked the Council how they wished to gather public input regarding changes to the animal ordinance. The Council discussed having a special meeting or incorporating public comments in a future regular meeting. The Council change the time for the March 25, 2024 meeting to 6:00 p.m. and asked Mr.

Fraine to advertise for interested persons to attend the meeting or submit written comments regarding the animal ordinance. Mr. Wagner then told the Council that he and Mr. Fraine had four (4) residents willing to join the Unsafe Building Commission and that they would have a fifth before the next meeting.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jeff Rowe appeared on behalf of Baker Tilly to provide an update on the wastewater treatment plant and interceptor line projects. He provided his analysis regarding the financing for the projects, between split SRF and USDA funding for both projects or SRF funding for both projects. Mr. Rowe explained that the USDA funding had a lower interest rate and a longer term, but the conditions of the USDA funding were proving to be unreasonable. He explained that the impact of using SRF funding for both projects would be approximately \$2.00 for the most common users. The Council discussed the problematic USDA requirements. Mr. Leman asked for more information regarding the increase for users and Mr. Rowe explained that it was approximately 5% over the first proposal. Mr. Wagner asked where the new rates would rank among other communities in the state and Mr. Rowe stated that he had not compared the new rates in that way but that he believed they would be roughly average. Mr. Miller asked if the Council could see the result on large users first, but Mr. Byam stated that the projects needed to be bid to be included in the spring SRF pool. Mr. Mikel asked if the projects would be bid separately, which Mr. Byam confirmed. Mr. Mikel made a motion to advertise both projects for bids, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Byam explained that the project schedule would have the closing in June or early July. Mr. Mikel asked Ms. Anglemyer if she knew the remaining balance on the existing wastewater bonds, and Ms. Anglemyer replied that she did not know that information immediately but could provide that to the Council later that week. Mr. Byam offered additional information as to why he thought the SRF process would be faster than the USDA application.

Matt Davis, Bill Davis and Jason Nine appeared on behalf of One Marshall County. M. Davis explained how the group formed as a continuation of the Marshall County Crossroads Group, and talked about the recent County Council meeting, as well as a board organization meeting on February 20 that Mr. Fraine and Mr. Wagner had attended. The group explained that the board was still in the process of being organized and requested that the Council appoint a member to the group. The Council Members expressed their concerns with the group. After discussion, Mr. Mikel made a motion to appoint Mr. Fraine to the One Marshall County Board, 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 provided two compliance statements for Indiana Carton, which Mr. Leman signed. Mr. Fraine gave the Council a proposal from JPR to study and design a remodeled Council chamber, for an estimated cost of \$8,650.00. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the agreement, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Fraine then told the Council that the fire pit propane tank must be removed, and that he was working with the Troyer Group on other options for a new above-ground tank. The Council discussed other options, including natural gas and an electric fire pit. The Council asked Mr. Fraine to pursue a wider range of options with the Troyer Group.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

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

Mr. Aguayo submitted his report on behalf of the Water Department.

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

Chief Neher submitted the year-end report on behalf of the Fire Department.

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

Mr. Cunningham had no new information to report on behalf of the Wastewater Department.

Mr. Main told the Council he would be talking to them in the near future regarding additional funding for the pickleball project.

Mr. Lockwood asked the Council to promote Pete Shorter to part-time Cemetery Foreman. Mr. Daily made a motion to promote Mr. Shorter to part-time Cemetery Foreman as of February 26, 2024, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

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.


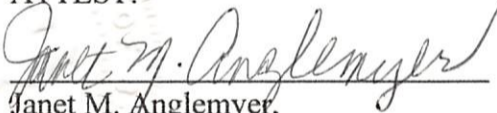
TOWN ENGINEER: Mr. Byam told the Council that he would be submitting a PER Amendment for the SRF application, as that portion of the project could be re-added back into the application since the SRF approval process is faster than the USDA funding. He told the Council that the bids would be due on April 8, and scheduled a pre-bid meeting with Mr. Fraine and Mr. Daily to attend.

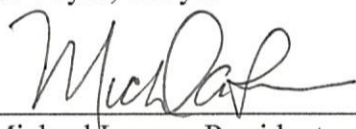
COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mr. Mikel told the Council Members he would be absent from the March 11, 2024 meeting.

Mr. Daily asked Mr. Fraine if the Town had set its trash days. Mr. Fraine told the Council that the event had been scheduled for May 10 and May 11, but that portions of the event were becoming prohibitively expensive. The Council discussed changes to the event, as well as alternative funding options. They asked Mr. Fraine to gather more information during this year's event.

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

ATTEST:



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


Michael Leman, President

