

## BOURBON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

A regular meeting of the Town Council for Bourbon, Indiana was held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, with Council Members, Ward Byers, Terry Clemens, Les McFarland, Attorney Alex Hoover, and Clerk-Treasurer Kimberly Berger present in person. The meeting was opened to the public and livestreamed via You Tube.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES: Member McFarland, made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2023, meeting, Member Clemens seconded and carried by a vote of 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

PUBLIC HEARING: President Byers asked for motion to open the 2024 Budget public hearing. Member McFarland motioned to open, Member Clemens offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays. Clerk-Treasurer Berger gave an overview of the budget and stated that the 2024 budget had an increase of 9.5% over the Town's current budget. Berger asked Member McFarland to give an update on the Redevelopment budget which is a new requirement this year. President Byers read the individual amounts of each budgeted fund for a total of \$1,889,960.00. President Byers asked if there were any questions referring to the proposed 2024 budget, being none, Member Clemens motioned to close the public hearing, Member McFarland offered the second and the hearing closed with 3 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Member McFarland motioned to open the public hearing, Member Clemens second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays. Plan Commission Member Jonah Best presented a subdivision plat to erect a pole structure for Gretchen and Wes Rettinger on 11<sup>th</sup> Road. The Plan Commission made a favorable recommendation to allow this plat to the Council. Being no public comments, Member McFarland voted to close the public hearing, Member Clemens offered the second and the hearing was closed with a vote of 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Member McFarland made a motion to accept the Plan Commission's recommendation, Member Clemens offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes 0 Nays.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business to come before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS: Clerk-Treasurer Berger presented a request from Pastor Larry Shutske of the United Church of Christ to hold a block party on Sunday, October 8, 2023, from 2 pm to 5 pm. They are asking permission to close down Liberty Street between Thompson and Main Street. Member Clemens motioned to allow the closure, Member McFarland seconded the motion, and it passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Adam Sitka, of Wessler Engineering was present to submit Pay Application #4 from Crosby Construction in the amount of \$308,349.52 and Change Application #1. Member McFarland

motioned to approve, Member Clemens offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays. Wessler Engineering Amendment #5 was presented to add damp proof coating to the water plant. Member McFarland motioned to accept, Member Clemens seconded the motion, and it passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Ms. Berger presented Amendment #1 from VS Engineering due to Archaeological services needing to be completed along our pathway for the Safe Routes to School INDOT project in the amount of \$6,540.00. Member McFarland motioned to accept, Member Clemens seconded the motion, and it passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Resolution 2023-6 was presented to adjust the hourly rates on town equipment in the event that they are needed for private assistance. Member Clemens motioned to accept Resolution 2023-6, Member McFarland seconded the motion and it passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS: Ms. Berger asked for approval of claims 5704-5795 in the amount of \$431,960.78. Member Clemens motioned to approve the claims, Member McFarland offered the second and the motion passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Berger presented a request from the Marshall Council on Aging in the amount of \$2000.00. Berger informed the council that the Council on Aging presented a request in 2021 and therefore it was budgeted in 2022 and paid out in 2022. The 2023 budget did not have a line item for this expense payable in 2023. Member McFarland asked that we provide the \$2000.00 funding this year and add it to the 2024 budget, Member Clemens seconded the motion, and it passed 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Berger reminded the Council that the 2024 Budget adoption meeting will be on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Chief Martin submitted the Police Department's monthly report. Chief Martin advised the council that they have seven applicants for the open patrolmen's positions and that testing will take place on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Chief Martin stated that due to the short staffing he feels that vacation days will not be able to be used in 2023 and is seeking a payout at the end of the year. Member McFarland moved to award the payout. President Byers asked that it is tabled until the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting so that he could see the financial impact on the budget. Member McFarland again stated that it should be decided now, Member Clemens agreed with President Byers that he would like to see the numbers at the next meeting.

Roger Terry, Supervisor of Public Works, presented the activity reports of the departments. Terry stated that fall leaf pickup will begin around October 18th.

Chad Stepp, Fire Chief, advised the council that the department had 7 calls in August. He stated that the tanker is awaiting the installation of light bars and should be in service within the next several months.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Hoover stated that there would be an upcoming court hearing in Superior Court 3 concerning the Karen Holm and Jan Lemler cases.

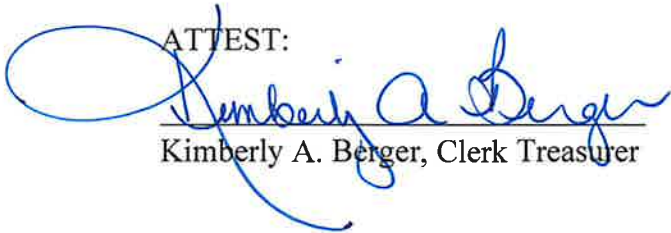
PATRON'S COMMENTS: Patron, Spencer Standley, questioned the policy on vacation days and why they couldn't roll them over because his place of employment allows that. President Byers stated that our policy states that you use them or lose them.

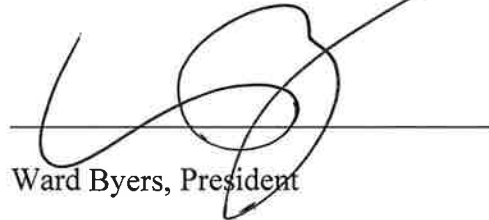
COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Member Clemens addressed the issue of retaining Police Officers. Clemens suggested that the Police Officers receive a \$5,000.00 pay Stipend this year to their annual pay and another \$5,000.00 added in 2024, resulting in a \$10,000.00 pay increase. Member McFarland voiced his concerns over being able to retain officers and suggested that they provide take home vehicles for the Full-time officers. President Byers stated that an amendment to the Salary Ordinance was not prepared, and this will be voted upon at the October 10, 2023, meeting.

Member McFarland requested an executive session to be held on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business to come before the Council, Member McFarland made the motion to adjourn at 6:37 p.m., a second was offered by Member Clemens and carried by a vote of 3 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ATTEST:

  
Kimberly A. Berger, Clerk Treasurer

  
Ward Byers, President