

TOWN OF FERDINAND

REGULAR MEETING

September 17, 2019

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, September 17, 2019, in the Town Hall. Present were President, Ken Sicard, Vice-President, Deb Johnson, Council Member, Ron Weyer, Clerk-Treasurer, Tamara Miller and Town Attorney, Sharon Bohnenkemper. Ron moved to approve the Minutes of the August 20, 2019 meeting. Deb seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Froman gave the Police Department report. Hopkins completed the instructor class for Defensive Tactics and the Reserves are in the final stage of the FTO program. They have worked out the Folk Fest police schedule. Brian Seffernick reached his 20-year anniversary of dedicated service to the Town.

Sicard recognized the Forest Park Seniors in attendance.

John Hoppenjans reported the fire department had 3 fire and 9 EMR runs in August. The department will be hosting the District 18 Meeting on Thursday at 7:30 PM at the Community Center.

Becher reported the electric department had three power outages due to two blown transformers and one bad arrester.

Lueken reported the Street Department is doing road patching, catching up on limb collection and replacing faded road signs. They cleared the viewing area at the Old Town Lake. He requested the media remind residents that grass clippings are not to be blown into the streets.

Schaefer reported for the Sewer and Water Departments. They installed the water and sewer lines at the Old Town Lake for the future restroom site. On September 24th, he will attend the Patoka Water presentation from 2-5 PM at the Community Center. He explained the State now requires municipal water departments do an audit on their systems to measure water loss. The report will be due August 1, 2020. He requested permission to attend the AIM "Municipal Utilities & What Community Leaders Need to Know" Conference in Zionsville, on Tuesday, October 8th along with one night at a hotel, meals and transportation. Deb moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The Stand Pipe water level is lower than required and must be filled manually. He continues to work with Patoka Water to maintain the proper water level and improve the pressure. A plan is being developed to address the Patoka

Water pit at the stand pipe location.

Matt Weyer reported the Rosenvolk Festival will be held at the 18th Street Park on October 18th - 20th. He will meet with John Emmons to set guidelines. Mike and Don Foerster have been approved to build a soccer rebound wall at the 5th street park. Plans are to plant additional trees at the 18th Street Park next month.

James gave a Folk Fest update which will be held September 21st. He thanked all of the Town employees who are working to prepare for the Fest. He thanked Best Home Furnishings and Masterbrand Cabinets for co-sponsoring the event and NextEra for sponsoring the main stage. He continues to work with New Focus to update the Employee Policy Manual. James and Sicard attended the AIM Ideas Summit in French Lick on August 27nd-29th. On behalf of Vince Luecke, he requested approval of the route presented for the Sprint for the Sisters 5K scheduled for 8 AM on October 12, 2019. Deb moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 8:00 PM, the 2020 Budget Hearing was held. Miller reported the Advertised 2020 Budget was \$2,087,668 with a tax rate of .8025 per \$100 of assessed value of \$101,950,108. The 2019 tax rate was .6659. Ron moved to close the hearing. Deb seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Matt Weyer presented a slide show of the Old Town Lake project. The dredging of the lake finger was done in late August. 40%-50% of the trail is complete noting the crushed rock being used for the trail was recycled concrete from the 23rd Street repaving project. The foundation for the bridge over the spillway is underway.

Becher reported the electric infrastructure is progressing. The aluminum structure is complete and the cracked insulator on the transformer has been repaired.

Sicard is working on the Old Town Lake Dam – ER & Maintenance Plan.

Miller reported she worked with Merlin Groves of Alpha Engineering on the Municipal Electric Abbreviated Rate Design study. She prepared a report for the Council including a recommendation for revised electric rates. Sicard stated the last rate increase was 11 years ago in 2008 and in 2019 the 40-year-old substation is being replaced at a cost of \$1,500,000. In addition, the Power Cost Adjustments (PCA) mainly MISO (Midwest Independent System Operator) charges that are a significant part of the monthly power supply invoice have increased. Miller explained the PCA is a pass through, known as a tracker, in addition to the rate increase. Miller reported the average Residential customer can expect an increase of \$9 a month, for a total bill of \$82. The average Commercial customer can expect a 18.5% increase or \$25 a month, for a total bill of \$160. The average Industrial customer can expect a 16.5% increase or \$152 a month, for a

total bill of \$1,072. The average Large Industrial customer can expect a 11.9% increase. The rate increase will improve the cash flow, allow capital reserves to be rebuilt while maintaining a sufficient operating cash balance. Ordinance 2019-22, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10.20 of the Ferdinand Municipal Code Regarding Electric Rates and Charges, was introduced and set for a public hearing at 8:15 PM on October 15, 2019.

Lueken reported the paving of 20th, 21st, Krampe Dr. and Scenic Hills Dr. will begin on September 25th after the Folk Fest weekend.

Bohnenkemper reported the Economic Development Commission is moving forward on a revolving loan application and promotional packet.

Ron Weyer reported that after the committee's review, the recommendation is to accept Altec's bid for \$137,480 for the electric bucket truck without a trade-in. The other bid did not meet the required specs. Deb moved to approve the recommendation and authorize Bohnenkemper to issue a purchase order. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Deb reported the Town has provided additional information to our insurance provider and insurance rates should be available soon. The committee will then meet to discuss options.

Mike Steffe requested approval of the 2019 YMCA Monster Dash 5K route presented which is the same as the previous 8 years. The 5K will be held at 9AM on October 26, 2019. Deb moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Bohnenkemper reported the General Utility Ordinance reflecting changes to the utility deposits and applications, as well as other utility fees, will be addressed at the next meeting.

Bohnenkemper stated that in 2011, the Town passed Resolution 11-04 designating the real estate where the Wollenmann House is located as a blighted spot allowing the town to secure grants in order to rehabilitate the house. Resolution 2019-05, Rescinding Resolution 11-04, was introduced. Ron moved to adopt the Resolution. Deb seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Bohnenkemper introduced Ordinance 2019-23, An Ordinance Amending the Ferdinand Municipal Code Chapter 1.10 Entitled Policy and Procedure for Use of the Ferdinand Senior Citizens Center. The Ordinance states there will be one user fee of \$75.00 plus tax of \$5.25 = \$80.25 for the day's use. Deb moved to adopt the Ordinance at the meeting it was introduced and allow Bohnenkemper to advertise the Ordinance. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Deb moved to set the Town Halloween hours for 6 PM – 8 PM on October 31, 2019. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Deb stated she has worked with a representative of Thryv, a website design firm, and

recommended Miller meet with her to discuss website options.

Ron moved to approve regular claims. Deb seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The following announcements were read:

Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	October 15, 2019 at 7:30 PM
Town Council Budget Adoption	Tuesday	October 15, 2019 at 8:00 PM
BZA	Wednesday	September 25, 2019 at 6:30 PM
Plan Commission	Wednesday	September 25, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Park Board	Wednesday	October 2, 2019 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Commission	Monday	October 21, 2019 at 6:00 PM

Ron moved to adjourn. Deb seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.

ATTEST:



Clerk-Treasurer

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL




