

Waterloo Town Council Meeting December 8, 2020

A meeting of the Waterloo Town Council was held on December 8 at 6:00pm at the Historic Depot.

Members present were:

David Bolton	Jess Jessup
Josh Caudill	Ken Surber
Pam Howard/Town Manager	Renee Duszynski/ Clerk Treasurer
Katherine Hobbs	Andrew Kruse/ Town Attorney

The following business was discussed, and action taken: Unless specified all votes were unanimous.

Communication from The President

President Bolton wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

Communication from the Town Manager

Howard explains that Dave Kurtz from KPC will not be here but has a phone conference the following day to discuss the topics that were presented.

Howard announces that her Certified Public Management classes have ended and that she passed. She thanks council for allowing her to attend. She explains that she has met a lot of good people and resources.

Howard states that the Tree Lighting went great. She also states that Dave Kurtz attended, and it was in the newspaper. Pastor Merle Holden told the Christmas story for the lighting. Covington Box donated \$250. She expresses that Main Street would like to go bigger next year.

Main Street will be doing a Christmas light contest. January 8th with be the deadline for nominations. There will be a chili supper later due to the COVID restrictions.

Howard gives an update on the Center Street project. She explains that the town has hired A & Z Engineering. The original estimate was \$400,000 over a six-year period with a federal grant. The final report from A & Z found the cost to be \$667,000 over six years. It would be hard pressed and there would be no ability to do any other projects. She also states that she received a lot of great letters from the community in support of the project. There is still need for sidewalks with kids walking to school more frequently now.

RP Wakefield is getting new machinery, a lathe, tool and die. They want to come to council to get a tax abatement. She gave them the paperwork to get started.

Howard attended the 2021 AIM legislative preview online. She expresses that it was very informative. She explains that you can also go online and watch the video. One of the takeaways is that the State is down \$550 million. Jessup asks which account specifically if it is from taxes? He also asks what are the ramifications for local government? Howard states she is not sure specifically what account, they just stated the whole state was down that much. She also explains that MVH is taking a hit with gas taxes.

Jessup asks about the roundtable that was held at the Depot. Howard states a lot of nonprofits came. Community Foundation is refocusing to move Dekalb forward in involvement and development. She explains that there was also a discussion about the issue of homeless. Howard states it is a problem here in Waterloo. People get off the trains here with nowhere to go and they must go to Fort Wayne for assistance. Hopefully, the community foundation will take a lead in this.

Howard asks council to open the park for 5:30pm to 7:30pm every day for the community to be able to enjoy the Christmas trees and decorations from the tree lighting event. Bolton states to have the police officers drive by to check it out.

Howard gives an update on allowing alcohol at the depot. She explains that in Dekalb county there is not a requirement to have police present. If children are present, there must be a partition to keep them out of the area where alcohol is being served. The server must show licenses. The liability is on the person who holds the licenses, not the town. Surber asks what about personal consumption. Howard states that would not be allowed. Howard explains that there must be an ordinance stating that the town will allow it and the requirements. Jessup asks to get a copy of a model ordinance.

New Business-

1. Minutes/ Claims- Minutes- Jessup notes that #8 Tree Removal needs to have the motion removed. Council did not vote on that until they got more information. Hobbs also points out that in #1 Minutes and claims the figures do not add up. Caudill notes that there was also some topics that were missing. Duszynski explains that something must have gotten deleted accidentally and will relisten to the meeting to make sure that the details are corrected.

Claims- Jessup asks who is the vendor Mt. Vernon? Duszynski explains it is Fire Insurance. Jessup asks if they go through Insurance Trustees. Duszynski explains that the Fire Department has its own liability and property insurance. They still go through Insurance trustees, but it is not lumped in with the town's policies. The townships then pay the town for compensation of the fire departments insurance policies. Jessup wants to look into a fire district. Jessup wants to know the payee. Bolton states they are their own entity and have their own assets. Duszynski explains talking to fire chief Kirby Hobbs about a Fire District previously. Jessup wants to see how it would be organized. Caudill asks why is the KSG bill so high? Duszynski explains that the fire department wi-fi was compromised and someone made phone calls to South Africa. KSG shut the calls down as soon as possible and notified us what happened. They also adjusted the bill so that the town was only being charged their cost for the calls. Caudill asks why the town was paying Tim Kummer. Howard explains there was issue with tiling, it goes under our road into his field. Caudill asks if Duszynski found out if there was a contract with Media Com for the Depot. Duszynski confirms that there is. Motion to approve claims made by Jessup (Caudill 2nd) passed.

2. Fund Report- Jessup asks if the December settlement came? Duszynski explains that it has not yet, that usually comes around the 15th of the month. She also states that the town received the money from the CARES act, and it has been put in the general fund.
3. Nepotism and Contracting Policies- Duszynski explains that these are policies that the state requires elected officials to sign every year. Jessup asks if they just need signed or if they need voted on. Duszynski states that it is individual and is to be retained in their file in the Clerk's office. Howard asks if this will affect Katy Hobbs being the fire liaison. Hobbs states that brother-in-law is not one of the types of family members listed in the policies.

4. Resolution 20-15 Transfer of Funds- Duszynski explains that at the last meeting it was decided that the Cemetery Endowment principal was \$15,112.63 and that \$30,000 was interest. In order to transfer the interest into Cemetery Operating there needs to be a resolution passed. Motion to approve resolution made by Jessup (Hobbs 2nd) passed.
5. Town Attorney Contract- Jessup asks is it the same as the contract with David Kruse. Andrew Kruse confirms that it is. Jessup asks if the pay go up with salary ordinance. Kruse states it gone up over time based on hourly rate. Jessup asks do we give a cost-of-living raise. Duszynski states we do not run it through payroll, so she did not apply the cost-of-living raise. Kruse states that is not necessary. He also states that he is not as experienced and appreciates the idea of retaining him in his father's place. Motion to approve Town Attorney contract made by Jessup (Surber 2nd) passed.
6. Cemetery Ordinance Update- Duszynski explains this is to stop putting funds into endowment. Jessup states strike item #3 since the town is no longer adding to the endowment. After that is removed the other items would need renumbered. Jessup motions to approve with changes (Bolton 2nd) passed.

Jessup also states that he would like things in his box sooner, that the cemetery ordinance was not in there when he picked his packet up. Bolton states the goal has always been Friday with last minute exceptions. Kruse explains that it was just sent over that day. Duszynski states that is the goal, but some things come in late.

7. Trees- Howard explains that she spoke with Street Superintendent Dave Wolfe. He said Zeedyk looked at the tree in front of the Lions Club and it is at the end of its life. Zeedyk reported that there is a lot of it dead, and the roots are pushing it up making it a hazard. Surber states the Lions Club would like to donate a new tree and use it as a community Christmas Tree. Jessup inquires if the tree is a hazard? Howard states yes, Zeedyk reported this two years ago and Tena Woenker, former Town Manager, would not pursue it. Motion to approve made by Hobbs (Caudill 2nd) passed.
8. Cyber Security- Jessup asks for clarification on the subject. Duszynski explains that it is the quote on cyber security insurance that has been tabled. Bolton states that it seems like the likelihood is slim to none. He also adds that there is so many variables looking at this from a taxpayer standpoint and that it is potentially is paying for nothing. Bolton asks to speak with our IT and find out how many others have made a claim and what they would recommend based on the security they provide to us. -Tabled

Other Business-

Howard explains that the Water Department took some old meters to Metal X and received some money. They would like to donate the money to the people who are on the payment plans due to the pandemic. Duszynski explains she reached out to the State Board of Accounts, and they will not take exception due to the pandemic if council does a resolution. Bolton suggests getting the resolution drawn up for a special meeting Friday December 11 at 1 p.m. at the Waterloo Town Hall.

Bolton explains that Janet Ordway-Surber is our DeKalb Co Council on aging representative. He also explains that he received a letter stating it is time to appoint someone. Bolton spoke with Ken Surber to see if Janet would still be interested in the next year.


Suber comments that he would like committee updates more frequently, maybe make it a quarterly routine.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m

I, Renee Duszynski, the duly qualified Clerk/Treasurer, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and exact excerpt of minutes of the meeting of the Waterloo Town Council, Waterloo, Indiana, at which a quorum was in attendance and acting throughout, and held December 8, as such appears in the official minutes of said Waterloo Town Council, in my custody.



David Bolton, President



Renee Duszynski, Secretary