MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA March 13, 2023

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 2023, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council members Mike Leman, William Daily, Rick Graverson and James Leeper were present. Also present were Trend Weldy, Director of Operations; Ben Wright, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Henry Aguayo, Superintendent of the Water Department; Chief Brad Kile, Police Department; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Brian Main, Superintendent of the Park Department; Ken Jones, Town Engineer; Brad Thornton, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer; and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

MINUTES: Mr. Leeper made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2023 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Mr. Thornton appeared on behalf of Ms. Anglemyer and submitted the docket of claims along with the allowance docket. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve the docket of claims as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Thornton told the Council that Ordinance 1-2023 was set for public hearing and second reading. Mr. Wagner reminded the Council that Ordinance 1-2023 contained changes to the Town Code pertaining to the Electric Department, and asked Mr. Wright to explain the changes in more detail. Mr. Wright explained that the changes in the ordinance altered certain rates for on-peak/off-peak rates for large users. Mr. Wright told the Council that IMPA had changed its rates, and that the Town's rates needed to be modified accordingly. Mr. Wagner asked if this would affect any residential users, and Mr. Wright answered that it would only apply to industrial customers. Mr. Daily called for public comments regarding the ordinance, but none were offered. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve Ordinance 1-2023 on second and third readings, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner told the Council Members that he had provided each of them with a clean copy of the proposed Golf Cart Ordinance update, as well as a red-lined copy showing the amendments to the Town Code. The Council discussed some of the proposed changes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments were offered.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Weldy submitted his report and then submitted Resolution 2023-4, seeking a personal property tax abatement on behalf of Indiana Carton. He explained that Indiana Carton had purchased a label printer applicator in order to remain competitive in their marketplace, and noted that the purchase did not create any additional jobs. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-4, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Weldy told the Council that the Town clean-up days were scheduled for May 12 & 13 from 6:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Mr. Weldy noted that the shredding service would only be available on Friday. Mr. Weldy asked for permission to advertise for the Director of Operations position, and proposed that the advertisement call for applications from March 14 through April 5. The Council asked him to proceed with advertising the position. Mr. Weldy also asked whether anyone would like to make a trip to the IMPA Plant in Illinois to see its operation, and that anyone interested should let him know.

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<u>BID OPENING:</u> Mr. Wagner opened the following bids for the 2022-2 Community Crossings Project:

Reith-Riley: \$834,091.00
 Milestone Contractors North, Inc.: \$869,300.00
 E&B Paving: \$764,647.75
 Niblock Excavating, Inc.: \$972,756.50

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Shannon McLeod appeared before the Council to provide updates on the Jackson Street and pool projects. She reviewed the Town's matching contributions and grant components for each project. The Council discussed that the projects appeared to be under-funded, particularly the pool. Ms. McLeod explained that she would need to have two public hearings for the pool project, but she needed to advertise the source of all funding as part of the notice. Mr. Leman asked whether the Jackson Street project could be halted so that its funding could be redirected to the pool. Ms. McLeod explained that the Town would need to obtain permission from the County Commission as well as the State Grant Office. Mr. Wagner asked what kind of a time frame the Town had to make such a request, and Ms. McLeod explained that it would need to be done quickly, but that she would call the state office for an informal discussion to see if it is feasible. The Council discussed both projects further, and kept the work session date scheduled for March 16, at 9:30 a.m. Ms. McLeod recommended that Mr. Daily not execute the Jackson Street agreement if it arrived before the next meeting and told the Council that she would be back for the April 10 meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mr. Wright had no new information to submit on behalf of the Electric Department.

Mr. Aguayo had no new information to submit on behalf of the Water Department.

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

Mr. Main had no new information to submit on behalf of the Park Department.

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

Chief Neher had no new information to submit on behalf of the Fire Department.

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

TOWN ENGINEER: Mr. Jones told the Council that the South Street project performed by Haskins Underground was all completed at this point. He reminded the Council that it had pulled money from the Contract to pay for re-paving of some of the areas in the project, but also noted that Haskins had paid for some of that cost as well. Chief Neher expressed concern that Jackson Street was in poor shape, and Mr. Jones replied that the street was going to be redone as part of the Jackson Street project, so another fix would need to be found if that project did not move forward.

Mr. Jones also gave the Council and update regarding the wastewater treatment plant project. He explained that he had met with USDA officials, who had suggested that the project move forward with 100% USDA funding. He told the Council that his office was working with Baker Tilly to see if it would be advantageous to the Town to do so. He also expressed some concerns regarding the interceptor line issues in that the line ran underneath a mobile-home park. Mr. Jones also mentioned that the mobile home park owner had been cooperative regarding the project to date.

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<u>COUNCIL COMMENTS</u>: Mr. Daily asked Mr. Wagner for an update regarding the Council reconfiguration issues that had been raised in January, and Mr. Wagner gave a brief explanation and offered to re-send his response on those matters by email. Mr. Daily also asked if Mr. Wright had started attending the IMPA meetings yet, and Mr. Weldy said that he would be approve to begin those in May.

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

ATTEST:

Janet M. Anglemyer,

Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen

William Daily, President