MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA June 12, 2023

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, June 12, 2023, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council members William Daily, Rick Graverson, Mike Leman 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; 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; Ken Jones, Town Engineer; Janet Anglemyer, Clerk-Treasurer; and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

MINUTES: Mr. Leman made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2023 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Leman also made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2023 work session, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims without amendment; Mr. Graverson made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer also presented the allowance docket for review. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Ordinance 7-2023, regarding additional appropriations for several different funds, for first reading. Mr. Leeper made a motion to approve Ordinance 7-2023 on first reading, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Ordinance 8-2023, regarding revisions to the employee handbook, and asked the Council to approve the amendments on three readings so that the changes could take effect on July 1, 2023. Mr. Leman made a motion to declare an emergency and approve Ordinance 8-2023 on three readings, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner asked the Council if they had received the information about a housing study proposal from the Troyer Group and how they wished to proceed. The Council asked him to refer it to the Redevelopment Commission. Mr. Wagner told the Council that he was working on an ordinance to adopt a spending plan for the ARPA funds, and also told them that a resolution to create a public question on the November general election ballot for the addition of a fifth Council Member would be available at the next meeting. Mr. Wagner told the Council that he and Mr. Fraine would be attending the next county development meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Wagner also updated the Council Members on the apartment building committee and confirmed that the Council meetings were not required to be available online until 2025.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Daily asked Mr. Wagner about the status of the golf cart ordinance, and the sub-committee set a meeting for Friday afternoon to review it.

<u>PUBLIC COMMENTS:</u> Danny and Ruth Thornton appeared and asked Mr. Weldy for an update in regard to their concerns regarding a neighboring property. Mr. Weldy and Mr. Wagner explained that the evidence that they had submitted was not conclusive, but Mr. Weldy described the actions he had taken in the meantime.

Joe Blakley appeared and asked why there no American flag was hanging at the softball diamond for the parade, and Mr. Wright and Chief Neher confirmed that a flag had been placed there for the festival. Mr. Main added that he had fixed the flagpole, and

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each league decided whether to fly a flag during their games. Mr. Blakley also asked whether the parking lines would be painted soon, and Mr. Langdon explained that he had requested for it to be completed prior to the parade but the contractor was not able to comply.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Weldy asked the Council Members to keep Mike Venable, a Redevelopment Commission member, in their thoughts and prayers as he had been injured in an accident. Mr. Weldy told the Council that the elevator in the apartment building should be fixed on Wednesday, and that the Jackson Street project would start on the following Monday. He also told the Council that the Cemetery Sexton position had not been filled and that he was still looking for a suitable hire. Mr. Weldy presented Resolution 2023-8, regarding a personal property tax abatement for Southwire on equipment worth \$82 million dollars. Mr. Weldy confirmed that the abatement would be for the standard 10-year length and that the project involved over 200 jobs. Mr. Weldy also presented Resolution 2023-9, regarding a real estate tax abatement for Southwire in the amount of \$36 million dollars. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-8, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-9, which was seconded by Mr. Graverson and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Weldy thanked the Street and Fire Departments for cleaning up around Bremen prior to the parade.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mr. Wright told the Council that the apartment building wall was being waterproofed, and that his department was otherwise ready for the fair.

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

Chief Kile told the Council that the Department had extended conditional offers to Taylor Sahlhoff and Jarrett Martin for the open officer positions, but that the Department was still working on hiring a new dispatcher.

Mr. Main told the Council that he was still working on the aquatic center design with the engineers, and explained that they had determined the pool was not long enough to properly slope to a 5-foot depth. The Council discussed changing the depth to 4 feet based upon the engineer's recommendation. Mr. Leman made a motion to approve the design change to a 4-foot depth, which was seconded by Mr. Leeper and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Langdon submitted his report on behalf of the Street Department.

Mr. Cunningham submitted his report on behalf of the Wastewater Department and told the Council that 17 catch basins were scheduled to be replaced and that the replacements should be done before major street repairs had begun on the respective locations.

Chief Neher submitted his report on behalf of the Fire Department and encouraged everyone to purchase their tickets for the fair before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Mr. Leman asked about the fireworks launching location as he had received some recent concerns from residents regarding debris. Chief Neher explained that the state permit for the firework launching was based on a precise location that could not be changed, but consideration could be given next year. Chief Neher and Mr. Main acknowledged that the weather was the biggest factor for potential problems.

Mr. Leman 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 wastewater project was making good progress and that the permits should be approved in July. He also told

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the Council that notices were going out to the owners in the path of the interceptor project. He asked Mr. Wagner to meet in the near future to discuss easements for the new and existing lines and told the Council that JPR was still looking at USDA and SRF funding for the project.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mr. Graverson told the Council that he would not be able to attend the June 26, 2023 meeting.

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

ATTEST:

Janet M. Anglemyer,

Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen

William Daily, President

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