January 8, 2024

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 8th day of January, 2024 at the hour of 6:00 P.M., for a meeting pursuant to call in accordance with the rules of the Council. The meeting was called to order by Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer. On call of the roll of the members of the Council were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Linda Brouillette, Pat Claire, Mike Sanders, Jason Fisher, Lisa Sarault

Also Present: Nate Besse, Brad Lane, John Budreau, Lee Klemme, Bill Burton, Dave Pitstick, Gail Lange, Ken Smith, Jennifer Lowery with PERF

Sara Finley, Clerk-Treasurer, brought the meeting to order. Sara stated there needed to be a nomination for a Town Council President. A nomination was made by Pat Claire for Linda Brouillette to remain President. Mike Sanders seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried. A nomination was made by Linda Brouillette for Pat Claire remain as Vice President. Jason Fisher seconds the motion. All in favor motion carried.

Department Liaison were then decided as follows:

Clerk's Office and Event Coordinator – Linda Brouillette

Police Dept. – Pat Claire

MVH & Park – Mike Sanders

Building Commissioner and Code Enforcement – Pat Claire

Utilities Dept. – Jason Fisher

Fire Dept- Lisa Sarault

Pat Claire motioned to pass the Dept. Liaisons. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

Disconnect Hearing

No one was present for the disconnect hearing. Mike Sanders motioned to proceed with disconnects. Jason Fisher seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Prior Minutes

Jason Fisher made the motion to approve the Dec 28th minutes. Mike Sanders seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business

Ken Smith was present to discuss the Community Crossing Grant. He had a list of the selected streets and the cost for the grant. John Budreau stated that the cost increased due to the concrete that would be used by the Nursing Home. John and Ken gave the Council a map of where the streets were located along with the list of all the streets and pricing. Total Project will be $836,028.08 with the Grant paying $627,021.06 and the Match for the Town would be $209,007.02.

John Budreau stated that the Indiana Vector Control Association is having their annual Conference in March 17-19 that he would like to attend. Mike Sanders motion to approve the Conference. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Misc. Business

Jennifer Lowery with PERF (Public Employees' Retirement Fund) was at the meeting and had a presentation for the Council. The Council listened to the information provided and will discuss this more with all the Employees to see if this is what they would like to do.

Linda Brouillette stated that the Council met with a gentleman from Kibo Business Development from Indianapolis about a possible option to purchase property the Town owns. Linda received a sample option agreement for this and sent this to Town Attorney Jud Barce to look over. Jud did have a few changes for the agreement and Linda sent Kibo Business Development Jud's information to contact him regarding the agreement. There will be more meetings with the Council and Kibo Business Development on this.

Pat Claire asked Linda if there were any updates on Atlas. Linda stated that the Mediator proposed that we could offer $62,500 as a settlement. The Council had discussed this and they did not want to propose that offer. This is still being discussed.

Pat Claire asked if there were any updates on how much water was used from the leak on Washington Ave/St. Rd. 55. Nate had stated that the leak used 942,000 gallons.

Linda Brouillette asked if there were any updates from the walk through the Council had done with Milestone, regarding the Punch list that was given to Milestone and INDOT, for the issues from the project on Washington St/St. Rd. 55. Sara Finley stated that INDOT would not fix any issues from the punch list until Spring.

Jason Fisher asked if anyone had found out if the tress that were planted on Washington St/St. Rd 55 were the Towns responsibility or INDOT's. INDOT has stated that their responsibility is from the street to the curbs and it's the Town's responsibility is from the curb to the beginning of sidewalks/easements. Sidewalks are the property owner's responsibility. John Budreau discussed that future visibility problems would be INDOT's issue since they were the ones that planted them. Sara Finley will be sending a letter out to INDOT stating visibility concerns with the tress that were planted. Linda stated she would sign the letter.

Department Heads

Bill Burton stated that he has a fireman that would like to take an EMT class. The Council stated he could and to get an invoice for the Clerk Treasurer.

Sara Finley discussed the Sewer Debt Reserve CD that is up for renewal. Sara had called and received quotes for varies months and from 3 different banks. The highest quotes from the three banks were: Fowler State Bank for 5 months at 4.56%, Alliance Bank for 7 months at 3.95% and Farmers and Merchants for 5 months at 4%. Mike Sanders made the motion to approve Fowler State Bank for 5 months at 4.56%. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Linda Brouillette stated that Don Moyars had given Police Chief Lee Klemme his letter of Retirement that would be effective Jan. 31. However, Don reached out to Lee and Sara Finley to see if he could change his retirement date to Feb. 29. The Council discussed this and decided to extend his retirement to Feb 29, 2024, with the agreement there would be no more extensions of retirement dates. Pat Claire made the motion to accept Don Moyars retirement letter for Feb. 29, 2024. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Claims

Mike Sanders motioned to accept the claims. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Adjournment

With no further business, Linda Brouillette motions to adjourn. Jason Fisher seconds the motion. All in favor motion carried.

Approved:

Linda Brouillette

Linda Brouillette, Council President

Attest:

Sara Finley

Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer