

September 19, 2022

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 19th day of September, 2022 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, Town 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, Jason Fisher

Absent: Mike Sanders

Also Present: Jud Barce, Lee Klemme, Brad Lane, Gail Lange, Laura Fisher, Nate Besse, Bill Burton, Rodney Clark with Everside Wellness Clinic

Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer opened the meeting. A Caucus was held September 8th to decide who would fill Steve Sorenson's Council chair. Linda Brouillette resigned from her Council seat prior to the Caucus and filed to fill Steve Sorenson's seat. Linda Brouillette and Tom Collins filed. Linda Brouillette won. Motion was made by Pat Claire to nominate Linda Brouillette President. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion was made by Linda Brouillette to nominate Pat Claire for Vice President. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Linda Brouillette finished with the meeting.

Approval of Prior Minutes

Jason Fisher made the motion to approve the September 6 minutes and Special Meeting on September 12th. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Jud Barce was present for the Unsafe Building Hearing. Present to discuss the property at 706 S Park Place was Karen Bothwell. Jud asked Karen if she received the letter to come to the UBO Hearing and Karen stated yes. Jud then asked Brad Lane to come up to the Council table and Jud would place him under oath. Jud asked Brad several questions regarding the condition of the home at 706 S Park Place. Karen does not believe the house should be torn down and she would like to have time to fix it up or sell it. After a lengthy discussion between the Town Council, the Town Attorney, and Karen Bothwell, Pat Claire made the motion to modify the Unsafe Building Order and allow 28 days to either repair, according to the September 2021 order, to get a realtor, or find a buyer. The hearing is continued until October 17, 2022 at 6 pm. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Laura Fisher was present to discuss the Sidewalk sale. She stated it went well. There were 34 vendors and made \$110.

Laura also discussed Trick or Treat and Fright Night. Business trick or treat will be Friday Oct 28 from 3-6 and Residential Trick or Treating will be Monday Oct 30 from 6:30-8:30. She is asking for \$1000 budget. As well as a \$1000 budget for the Christmas Stroll. Linda Brouillette motioned to accept \$1000 budget for Halloween and \$1000 budget for the Christmas Stroll. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jud Barce gave the Council an update on the fence issue at 507 N Van Buren Ave. The resident is willing to pay court cost and Town fines and is currently removing the fence. The Council decided the total fee would be \$600.

New Business

Rodney Clark was present, as well as, employees of the Everside Wellness Clinic to discuss the benefits for using the Clinic for the Town employees.

Misc. Business

Stan Rider addressed the Council about the ordinance violation he received. He had received a violation of inoperable cars at his residence. He stated that he is working on removing some of the cars.

Jud Barce had Ordinance 2022-0919 amending Chapter 10 and Chapter 91 regarding regulation of nuisances within the Town of Fowler. Jason Fisher made the motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2022-0919 on its first reading. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Pat Claire motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-0919. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Michel Roberts had a quote from Aquatic Control for treatment of the Fowler Pond. Quote is for \$3653.99. Pat Claire motioned to accept the quote. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara Finley presented to the Council the 2023 Budget for adoption. Linda Brouillette motioned to accept the 2023 budget. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara Finley asked the Council if she and Deputy Clerk Kim Bratton could attend the Aim Summit from Nov. 1-4. Cost for all classes and rooms would be around \$1600. Pat Claire motioned to accept. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Nate Besse addressed the Council and would like to have 3 windows installed at the Wastewater Plant. Cost would be around \$2322. Pat Claire motioned to accept the installation of the 3 windows. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Nate also asked the Council if he could purchase a larger locator for Sewer pipes and a 5" inductor clamp. Cost would be around \$3550 for both. Jason Fisher motions to accept the purchases. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Nate also told the Council that he is getting a quote for the inspection of the water tower.

Bill Burton was in attendance and wanted to thank Laura Burton for all she does for the Town and for the Fire Dept. She wrote a grant for the Fire Dept. to the Benton Community Foundation and was able to accept it for fire prevention. The amount was for \$2000. Bill said they also received a grant from NIPSCO for \$5000.

Bill also wanted to let the Council know that the Fowler Fire Dept was called to Oxford for a medical assist over the weekend. Oxford was paged twice and did not show. Bill stated he had no problem running with EMS to another town if no one else could come.

Chief Lee Klemme told the Council that Paden's car is in transit and that Don's repairs to his car should be done in November.

Michael Roberts stated that she would be interested in getting a committee started to help improve downtown Fowler. Discussion was held about having a committee with possibly 6-8 people that included business owners, Council members and Realtors. Jason Fisher said that Gerry from OCRA is willing to come talk about it but it has to be from a committee. More discussion about this will be held.

Claims

Pat Claire made the motion to approve and pay all claims. Jason Fisher seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Adjournment

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

Approved:



Linda Brouillette, Town Council President

Attest:



Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer