

**December 2, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 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 Linda Brouillette, Town Council President. 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, Mike Sanders, Lisa Sarault**

**Also Present: Lee Klemme, Brad Lane, John Budreau, Ken Smith, Jud Barce, Kim Bratton, Landon Happ, Bill Burton, Laura Fisher, Nate Besse, Wayne Rumsey, Brandon & Charlotte Burton, John Casey Holscher, Kieth Clute, Shawn Nower, Mark Bowell, Jerry & Amanda Lanie, Art Rodriguez.**

#### **Disconnect Hearing**

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

#### **Approval of Prior Minutes**

Linda Brouillette asked the Council if they looked over the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and if there needed to be any corrections. No changes were needed. Mike Sanders motions to approve the November 4<sup>th</sup> minutes. Pat Claire seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Unfinished Business**

Mark Bowell with Kibo was present to discuss their business and the Town property on 8<sup>th</sup> St. Before Mr. Bowell spoke, the Council showed a video discussing the Quantum Corridor. Quantum computing is an emerging field with computer science that uses quantum mechanics to perform calculations and solve problems faster than regular computers. Indiana is making a bid to be a leader in the quantum field by establishing a high-tech super highway called the Quantum Corridor. From a data center in Chicago with plans on traveling through Fowler, Purdue, Indianapolis and then the Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center in Southern Indiana. This has potential for super charge innovation, investment and infrastructure. Mr. Bowell discussed the building that would possibly be built on 8<sup>th</sup> St. Several residents were in attendance and spoke their concerns on having a business in a residential area. Other

concerns were security, hours of operation, drainage, lighting and electricity. All residents who attended were able to speak and ask questions.

Linda Brouillette stated that the Plan Commission had their meeting in regards to zoning of this property. The Plan Commission voted for an unfavorable recommendation. Linda asked the Council what their vote would be. The majority of the Council decided to table this for a later discussion.

### **Unfinished Business**

There were concerns of a property on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street that has trash and a couch outside. There is also a truck on the property that is not plated. Sara Finley stated that Sean Heim, the Code Enforcer had sent a letter to the property owner in regards to the violations.

### **Department Heads**

Brad Lane spoke to the Council and stated that he had talked to Gordon Sheffield about the property at 809 E 5<sup>th</sup> St. Gordon had done some cleaning and repairs to the property, but there was still vegetation, overgrowth and bags of trash outside. After discussion, the Council decided to amend the Unsafe building order to remove the back porch and garbage bags and clean up and remove the overgrown weeds, bushes and trees. This will be reviewed at the January 6 Council meeting.

Lee Klemme stated that the new SUV was back and that Grant will be driving it. Jeremy will be going to the Academy starting January 6. Lee also addressed the Council with Jeremy going to the Academy and Landon will be taking time off for their new baby this will be leaving the department with two police officers. These two officers will be getting extra hours. Lee requested to receive overtime pay with the option of buyback of vacation time if he is not able to use it. Pat Claire motioned to approve overtime pay and buyback of vacation time. Mike Sanders seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Laura Fisher discussed the upcoming Christmas Stroll. She stated she is still having issues at Monarch Commons with the electric and she is going to have Terry Deno look at it for her. She also addressed there were concerns with the carriage ride route. There were issues in the past with people driving by the carriage and could create a safety issue. The Council discussed different routes they could use.

Bill Burton stated the porter tank he ordered should be here in the next couple weeks and that they were planning on picking up the new fire truck soon.

Nate Besse asked the Council for a new gauge valve at the Wastewater plant. Quote was for \$5,050. Mike Sanders motions to approve a new gauge valve. Jason Fisher seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

John Budreau said that the Street Department will be picking up leaves until Dec. 27.

### **Miscellaneous Business**

Ken Smith was present and wanted to thank Nate, John and Sara for going above and beyond for all the time and effort in the water, street and park grants this year. DNR would like to do a site visit at the Park and have a ribbon cutting ceremony. We will get the dates and times scheduled. Sara Finley had the close out letter for the Community Crossing Grant. Linda Signed. Sara had the last invoice for the retainage and added expense for Rieth Riley in the amount of \$84,052.13. Pat Claire motioned to approve the invoice. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara Finley had Hamstra Pay app #6 in the amount of \$172,800. Pat Claire motioned to approve Pay app #6. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara Finley had the 2025 Firefighter Equipment Lease and the 2025 Fire Contract. Pat Claire motions to approve the 2025 Firefighter Equipment Lease and the 2025 Fire Contract. Lisa Sarault seconds. Jason Fisher abstains. Motion carried.

Bill Burton asked if we could check with Goodwin Fire Equipment in Remington. The Fire Dept currently uses Hoosier Fire Equipment and seems to be higher.

Sara Finly had Resolution 2024-1202 Access to Public Records. Pat Claire made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2024-1202 for the Access to Public Records. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Pat Claire motions to approve Ordinance 2024-1202. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Shawn Nower and Keith Clute was in attendance and discussed their new business Ladybugs fresh farmer's market. It's located at 108 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street. They have produce, baked goods and craft items. They have a Facebook page and their hours are Monday through Friday 10-6, Saturday and Sunday 10-4.

Kim Bratton had an invoice for Leslie Coatings for the resurface of the tennis courts for the Summer of 2025 in the amount of \$14,445.00. Kim would like to encumber this invoice with funds from the 2024 budget for 2025. The Council approves.

Kim also had an invoice for Spear Corporation for pool chemicals in the amount of \$5,901.68 and Aquatic Control quote for maintenance of the pond in the amount of \$4,066.24. Pat Claire motions to approve both Spear Corporation quote and Aquatic Control quote. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Council reviewed the letter they received from Diane Hocking regarding the library being ADA compliant. This issue should be addressed at the County and not the Town.

Sara Finley stated that their will be a Council Seminar in a couple weeks and she will send out the information to the Council in an email.

Sara Finley stated she received a letter from Gretencord's Lawn and Garden. They are no longer providing mulching service. They recommended if the Town needed any mulching in the future we could contact Blue Line Construction.

Sara Finley had a Resolution electing to join the Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF). Jason Fisher motions to approve the Resolution for PERF. Mike Sanders seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

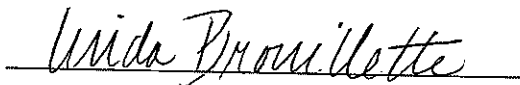
### **Claims**

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

### **Adjournment**

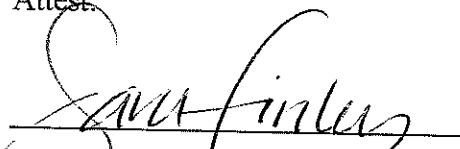
With no further business, Linda Brouillette motions to adjourn. Pat Claire seconds the motion. All in favor motion carried.

Approved:



Linda Brouillette, Council President

Attest:



Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer