

January 6, 2024

The Town Council of the Town of Fowler met at the Town Hall on the 6th day of January, 2025 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: Jason Fisher, Lisa Sarault, Mike Sanders, Mike Brewer, Michelle Sarault

Also Present: Lee Klemme, John Budreau, Nate Besse, Sean Heim, Brad Lane

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 Lisa Sarault for Jason Fisher to become President. Mike Sanders seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried. A nomination was made by Jason Fisher for Lisa Sarault to be Vice President. Mike Sanders seconds the motion. All in favor motion carried.

Department Liaison were then decided as follows:

Clerk's Office and Event Coordinator – Jason Fisher

Police Dept. – Lisa Sarault

MVH & Park – Mike Sanders

Utilities Dept. – Mike Brewer

Fire Dept- Michelle Sarault

The Council also needs to make a motion to accept Jud Barce as the Town Attorney. Mike Brewer motions to accept the Department Liaisons and Town Attorney. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Disconnect Hearing

No one was present for the disconnect hearing. Mike Brewer motioned to proceed with disconnects. Lisa Sarault seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Prior Minutes

Mike Sanders made the motion to approve the Dec 30th minutes. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Jason asked if there was any update on the unsafe building order on 809 E 5th St. Jud stated that there was a certified letter sent to the owner to be at the meeting. There are three things that needed to be done with the unsafe building order and that was to remove the back porch, garbage bags on the East side of the house need to be removed and the entire property is overgrown with weeds and vegetation that needs to be cleaned up. The Council can impose a fine, modify the order to give them more time, or have this done and put a lien on the property. After the Council discussed the options, Lisa Sarault made the motion to impose a fine of \$5,000 and have the list of things done by the February 3rd Council meeting.

Wayne Rumsey was asked to be put on the agenda to discuss and ordinance violation at 201 E 2nd St. regarding a non-plated truck, trash and an old couch. Sean Heim, our Ordinance Code Enforcer has sent out violation's letters in regard to this. The truck was supposed to be moved by the owners and it has not been done. After discussion with the Town Council and with Jud Barce, Sean will tag the truck and if it is not moved, it will be towed.

Jason Fisher stated he talked with Kibo for the survey at the location on State Road 52. The survey should be done next week.

New Business

Amanda and Jerry Lanie were present to discuss the Town property located behind them. They said if the Town wanted to sell it, they are interested in purchasing the property. Jason stated the Council would take it under advisement.

Misc. Business

Lisa Sarault discussed the email sent from Latisha Provo in regards to the What's up 24/7 calendar website for communities. Lisa stated there would be a meeting next Tuesday with the Indiana Secretary of State to discuss the benefits from utilizing this service.

Department Heads

Bill Burton stated all is good at the Fire Dept. He welcomed the newest Council Members. Sara Finley asked Bill Burton if he would like to stay on the Alcohol Beverage Commission Board. He accepted. Mike Sanders motioned to approve Bill on the ABC board. Mike Brewer second. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Lee Klemme asked the Council for approval of purchasing 4 sets of stop sticks to replace the ones the Police Dept currently has. Purchase price is \$2,006. Mike Sanders motions to approve the purchase. Lisa Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lee stated that Jeremy Thompson had started the academy today.

John Budreau had a list of roads he would like to get paved this year as part of a Community Crossing Grant. Eight streets were listed with a total cost of the project \$599,607.56 with a 25% Town match and professional services of \$162,401.89. There is also an option for paving the parking lot next to the Community Center with a cost of \$43,750. The Council discussed this and Mike Sanders motioned to approve the roads being paved with the Community Crossing Grant and table the parking lot paving at this time. Michelle Sarault seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Community Crossing Grant application will be due on January 31.

Nate Besse stated that he is waiting on a couple things and the water project will be complete.

Sean Heim stated he may be towing a couple vehicles this week and he would be in touch with Sara if he does.

Sara Finley had the 2025 KIRPC certificate of appointment form. Someone from the Town Council has to be on the board for one year. Lisa Sarault volunteered to do it a second year. Mike Sanders motioned to approve Lisa for the KIRPC board. Mike Brewer seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara had Resolution 2025-0106-1 declaring Town of Fowler Property surplus and authorizing it for donation. There were several old chairs that were replaced from the Conference room. Jason Fisher made the motion to suspend the rules and consider Resolution 2025-0106-1. Mike Sanders seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Mike Sanders made the motion to approve Resolution 2025-0106. Mike Brewer seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara had Resolution 2025-0106-2 for updating the Advisory Plan Commission, The Fowler Board of Zoning Appeals, the Fowler Board of Parks and Recreation, Fowler Stormwater Board and the Alcoholic Beverage Commission Appointee. Jason Fisher made the motion to suspend the rules and consider Resolution 2025-0106-2. Mike Sanders seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Mike Sanders made the motion to approve Resolution 2025-0106-2. Mike Brewer seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sara Finley had a Fleet Safety Program Policy from Hoosier Associates. This program is to detail the policies and procedures the Town of Fowler takes to minimize the frequency and severity of vehicle accidents. The Council discussed this and had several questions concerning it. Sara will discuss these questions with Blake Schoen.

Sara stated we tried to get a grant for an updated comprehensive plan for the Town. It did not make it through the first round of approvals. Gerry White from OCRA will be meeting with Sara and any Council members that would like to discuss the scoring of the grant and what we could do to be beneficial for the next round.

Claims

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

Adjournment


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

Approved:



Jason Fisher, Council President

Attest:



Sara Finley, Clerk Treasurer