

# Town of Hamilton

900 S Wayne St – PO Box 249

Hamilton, In 46742

DRAFT – NOT YET ADOPTED

May 7th, 2018- Town Council Meeting

7:00pm

## **1. Council President Tina Bosse called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.**

Roll call: Councilors Mary Vail, Tina Bosse, Danny Lingo and Steve Blum were present. Councilwoman Sandra Biegas was absent. The Clerk Treasurer, Hester Stouder was present to record the meeting. Town Attorney Dan Brinkerhoff and Town Manager Brent Shull were both present. Attached is a list of audience members.

Council President Tina Bosse regretfully accepted Councilwoman Sandra Biegas resignation effective immediately. Her resignation included her position on the Plan Commission. Council President Tina Bosse appointed Steve Blum to fill her seat on the Plan Commission.

**Reading and approval of the April 2nd, 2018 minutes** – Councilman Steve Blum motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried.

## **2. Clerks Report - *The clerk has submitted financial EOM statements and payroll to the Council.***

- A. Claims – Councilman Steve Blum made a motion to approve the claims. Councilwoman Mary Vail seconded the motion, motion carried.
- B. Delinquent Accounts – Danny Lingo motioned to approve the delinquent accounts, Mary Vail seconded the motion, motion carried.
- C. Rieke – Abatement compliance forms –The Council opened discussion regarding the number of actual Hamilton employees versus those commuting from the Auburn plant. They wanted more information on the breakdown of employees and county, state and out of state tax being paid. Steuben EDC director Isaac Lee spoke on behalf of Rieke, saying the recent labor crisis may have some bearing on their ability to hire, requiring them to transfer employees between plants. Plant representative Ed Allen confirmed this statement, saying they wouldn't be able to meet production demands without sharing employees. He also assured the Council he would get the information they requested. Councilman Danny Lingo motioned to approve their compliance forms as presented. Mary Vail seconded the motion, motion carried.
- D. AAA – Abatement Compliance Forms – The Council requested the same breakdown of Hamilton employees and asked that it be considered a future standard for anyone requesting a new abatement or filing compliance forms. Without any additional questions, Steve Blum motioned to approve AAA compliance forms as presented. Mary Vail seconded the motion, motion carried.

#### **4. Reports**

A. *Town Manager* – In light of the recent Marine memo posting from the School regarding graduation, the Council advised Town Manager Brent Shull to link the Hamilton School website and facebook page to the Town’s site, but not directly re-post material.

Brent has been hosting strategic plan meetings and will make sure the Recreation Board is included in the discussion and plans.

The concrete for the basketball courts is scheduled to be poured in early May and should be ready by Memorial Day.

There is a committee for the new electronic sign who will provide guidelines for use. Training will take place at the Town Hall where messages will be inputted.

*Please see attached report*

B. *Street Department* – The department is requesting approval to purchase a grapple attachment for the payloader, citing it will help remove trees during storms and move or remove large items such as brush piles, etc. The total cost is around \$14,895.00. The Council denied the request and stated they would like to see the equipment placed into their budget plan for rotation. The Council felt there were other pieces of equipment such as the leaf vac and truck that would take a higher priority. *Please see attached report*

C. *Police Department* – *Please see attached report.*

D. *Water Department* –Due to the increase in water loss, the utility will monitor the rate and may look into a leak study. The department will update the Council at the June meeting.

The department requested approval to purchase a line locator, which has been budgeted in their annual improvement plan. Councilman Steve Blum motioned to approve the purchase for \$13,400. 00 from EJP. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried. *Please see attached report.*

#### **5. Old Business –**

A. Stop Signs at the 4-way- Brent got approval from the State to put flashing lights at the 4 way stop. The only liability they Town will have is for the actual flashing lights themselves. INDOT provided a contract regarding the signs and lights, which has been reviewed by the Town Council President and Town Attorney. Councilman Steve Blum motioned for the INDOT contract regarding the flashing lights at the 4-way to be signed by the Council President. Mary Vail seconded the motion. Motion carried without opposition.

Brent will purchase 8 flashing lights at \$150 each. They will also place a “stop ahead” sign and lights in appropriate locations.

B. Relocation of 150 – Award Bid – These bids were opened at the April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 meeting. Town Attorney Dan Brinkerhoff stated they were all responsive and responsible bidders. With that being said, the Council asked Street Superintendent Mark Gerardot if there were any reason not to accept the lowest bidder, Brooks Construction. He did not state any reason why they shouldn't be awarded the bid. Councilman Danny Lingo asked why the two projects, 150 and the parking lot, were bid as a package deal. Bill Etzler from Engineering Resources was present and said the two projects are different in nature and one is eligible for Community Crossings and the other is not. These were the 2 main reasons they chose not to bid them together.

There was discussion between the Council, Street Department and Town Manager regarding set up costs, road closures and how some of the companies that bid both projects might have altered their bidding based on the possibility of being awarded both. Some Council members wanted more consideration taken on package bidding in the future.

The Council then deferred questions to the Town Manager and Street Superintendent asking if they had any experience or reasons as to why the Council should award the bid to anyone other than the lowest bidder. The only response was from Town Manager Brent Shull who said regardless of who wins the bid, he will not approve any change orders that would increase the cost. Street Superintendent Mark Gerardot had nothing else to add.

Without further discussion Steve Blum motioned to accept the lowest bid from Brooks Construction, Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried with Councilwoman Mary Vail voting opposed.

C. Zip Spider – Councilwoman Mary Vail motioned to approve the Zip Spider Internet contract with the minor changes that were made regarding the length of contract, cancellation policy, payment terms if the equipment remains on the Towers, etc. Steve Blum seconded the motion, motion carried. It was noted that attorneys for both parties have approved the contract with the changes mentioned.

## **6. New Business –**

A. Opening of Downtown Parking lot bids – Town Manager Brent Shull opened the bids, they are as follows; Brooks Construction \$106,947.00, E&B paving \$69,626.00; API \$94,708.00 and T&E \$94,800.00. These bids will be taken under advisement and awarded at the June meeting.

B. Triton Abatement request – Triton industries is requesting a 10 year abatement on equipment calculating a \$2,040,000 equipment investment and 6 new employees. The total estimated abatement benefit to them over the 10 years is calculated at \$66,639.00 per the Steuben EDC. The Council discussed their involvement in the community, existing abatements and their commitment to the community.

Following the positive review Councilwoman Mary Vail motioned to approve their request for a 10-year abatement. Councilman Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried. The resolution will be presented at the June meeting.

C. Farmers Market relocation – Due to the lane 150 project the Farmers market will need to relocate. The Council approved the Police department parking lot or Town Hall parking lot for use. The Clerk will communicate the options to the organizer and update the Council once a location has been selected.

D. Garbage Contract Extension – The current provider Allied Waste would like the Council to consider an extension of the existing contract that will expire 12/31/2018. Due to a lack of providers and being happy with the current service the Council approved engaging in a discussion regarding the extension of the contract. The Clerk will communicate with the account manager and provide an update if any to the Council at the June meeting.

**Public Comments/Questions concerning ADA or other items of Business –**

Mr. Timothy Applegate and several other residents from Lane 221 spoke to the Council regarding safety concerns on their lane that has several blind corners. They know traffic increases in the summer and with the lane being narrow in addition to the blind spots, they were hoping the Council could offer some help or suggestions on how to make it safer. After discussing speed limits and several ideas, the Council referred to the Ordinance that delegates responsibility to the Marshal to study the area and then make a recommendation to the Council.

Town Manager Brent Shull will get with the Marshal and update the Council once a recommendation is available.

Mr. Applegate thanked the Council for their help and looked forward to a response.

With no other comments or items of business, the motion to recess and ease into executive session was made by Steve Blum and seconded by Danny Lingo, the meeting recessed at 8:17 pm.

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Hester Stouder - Clerk Treasurer

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Tina Bosse –Council President