

# Town of Hamilton

900 S Wayne St – PO Box 249

Hamilton, In 46742

DRAFT – NOT YET ADOPTED

December 30th, 2019- Town Council Meeting

7:00pm

## **1. Council President Mary Vail called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.**

Roll call: Councilors Mary Vail, Steve Blum, Gerry Martin, Danny Lingo and Nancy Renner were present along with Town Manager Brent Shull. The Clerk Treasurer, Hester Stouder was present to record the meeting. Town Attorney Dan Brinkerhoff was absent. Councilors Steve Blum and Gerry Martin were absent. Attached is a list of audience members.

## **Reading and approval of the December 2, 2019 minutes – Councilman Danny Lingo**

Motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Nancy Renner seconded the motion, motion carried.

## **2. Claims – A motion to approve the claims as presented was made by Councilman Steve Blum. Gerry Martin seconded the motion, motion carried with unanimous approval**

The Clerk also brought one encumbrance before the board. It was for King Concrete in the amount of \$18,750.00 for sidewalks at the park. This will be encumbered in the general fund and paid out in 2020.

Councilman Danny Lingo motioned to approve encumbering the funds. Nancy Renner seconded the motion, motion carried.

## **3. 2020 Employee Raises – Council President Mary Vail said the Council has had plenty of time to look over the material and consider the options available for raises; she would like to get each members input before making a final decision.**

Gerry Martin said he would be in favor of the 5% increase as he wants to treat employees fairly and make sure the Town is staying competitive with surrounding communities.

Steve Blum said he is on the fence about the percentage amount and would also like to see the Town stay competitive. He knows it will take time to bring everyone to where they should be.

Nancy Renner said she was comfortable with 5% across the board

Danny Lingo had mixed feelings and wants to be fair, but also mindful of taxpayers. He knows we are behind in our pay scale and would agree with the 5%. However going forward he thinks there should be an annual percentage budgeted for cost of living and merit based raises, not to exceed 10%. He would like to see them all

discussed and decided on before each new year so employees know what to expect and when.

Having merit-based increases included in the conversation would also help the Clerk paint a more precise picture of the cost. Right now, any amounts that are given for the Council to consider exclude class or merit-based increases.

Without further discussion, Councilman Danny Lingo motioned to approve a 5% increase for all employees effective January 1 of 2020. He felt this amount would help with employee retention and bring us closer to surrounding communities' pay rates. Gerry Martin seconded the motion, motion carried with unanimous approval

**4. Discussion of Water Department** – This was tabled until the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting.

**5. Approval of New Reserve Officer** – Marshal Jeremy Warner recommended Kayla Turner as a new reserve officer. Brent and Jeremy have both spent time interviewing her and feel like she will be a good addition to the list of reserve officers.

Councilman Steve Blum motioned to approve Kayla Turner as a new reserve officer. Danny Lingo seconded the motion, motion carried.

**6. Maintenance Agreement from Armstrong's Heating and Air** –

Town Manager Brent Shull presented a 2-year maintenance agreement for Armstrong's Heating and Air. At a total cost of \$700.00. This would include 4 total visits both in Spring and Fall.

Councilman Danny Lingo motioned to approve the agreement as presented. Nancy Renner seconded the motion, motion carried.

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

No Additional comments were made regarding this topic or others.

With no other comments or items of business, the motion to adjourn was made by Danny Lingo and seconded by Steve Blum the meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

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Hester Stouder, IAMC - Clerk Treasurer

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Mary Vail –Council President