

January 19, 2010

Roanoke Town Council Meeting Minutes

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Roanoke Town Council convened on Tuesday, January 19th, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall in accordance with this Council's rules and applicable laws. Those present from the Council were President John Stoeckley, Vice President Troy Karshner, Councilman Brian Young, Councilman Nick Altman and Councilwoman Ann O'Briant. Also present were Marshal Kip Rupert, Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann, Fire Chief Chad Taylor Town Street/Utility employee Eric Parker and JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer.

President Stoeckley moved to approve the minutes of the regular Town Council meeting of January 5, 2010 as written with two corrections. Councilman Young seconded and the motion was approved unanimously with Councilman Altman abstaining.

Mr. Nate Schacht and Mr. Bryn Keplinger, both from the Huntington County Planning Commission were present referencing the County sign fee ordinance amendment. Nate stated the Plan Commission had met and would be getting a packet to the Town Council with a declaratory ruling stating that they would eventually "get to" the wording regarding temporary signs per the Town Council suggestion. The Commission would then forward the fee schedule to the Council again with the amended wording in the ordinance for approval.

Mr. Larry Davis from The Source was present to review the Town employee health insurance rates/policy due to expire on March 1, 2010. Per a distributed printout, (copy on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's office) Larry explained that the employees in 2009 had only utilized 18.3 % of their total HRA dollars which was 2% better than 2008, thus saving \$23,515 to the Town Budget. The employees had adapted well to the HRA plan and were being more pro-active in preventative health options and lifestyle. The projected increase of 26% was due to three factors: 1) five (5) of the nine (9) employees moved up into a five year age bracket for a 7% increase, 2) change in membership the last quarter of 2009 for a 7% increase and 3) a general market increase of 12%. The last two years had held steady or came in at only a 2% increase. After discussion, the Council asked that Larry receive new applications from the employees and take the data to market for Council consideration during the February 16, 2010 regular Council meeting. Larry stated the employees were extremely happy with PHP and the HRA program and would like to renew with the company due to the familiarity and good service, however renewal "shopping" is always a good practice.

Attorney John Molitor from Indianapolis was present to update the Council on the A7 Corridor Overlay District for the Hoosier Heartland Highway, (copy on file at the Clerk/Treasurer's office). Lengthy discussion followed in considering an ordinance to protect the ground to facilitate the highway at some future point. President Stoeckley mentioned how the project would prevent semi trucks from tearing up the County roads, especially C. R. 900 and that it all ties in with the expanding extra territorial jurisdiction. The Council took no action on the issue and Mr. Molitor advised he would keep

the Council apprised of ongoing progress after presenting the material to the Huntington County Plan Commission.

Fire Chief Chad Taylor requested permission to spend up to \$7,000 for new air packs to be paid out of the budgeted fire maintenance line item.

Councilman Young moved as such, Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Chad also informed the Council that Pro-Air Services company had basically doubled their fees. For the department to be OSHA compliant, it would cost \$200 extra out of the same maintenance line item for 2010. He stated the tanker truck also needed eight (8) items replaced at an estimated cost of \$2,000 from the same budget line.

Chad stated the department would be participating in a “training burn” across Highway #24 again the following Saturday and the third burn would be in March.

Marshal Rupert and President Stoeckley had met with Charlie Crain at the Ford dealership in Warren regarding a lease/purchase of a 2010 Ford Explorer for three (3) years, with ownership after \$1.00 payment. The cost would be \$25,550 with \$4,663.45 paid twice a year, first payment on delivery and second payment six (6) months later, no mileage restrictions. After discussion, Vice President Karshner moved to purchase the vehicle as presented according to contract to be paid out of the General Fund line item for that purpose as budgeted for 2010, small balance to be paid from the CREDIT Fund as planned. Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. The oldest police car could either be sold in a silent bid process or kept as a municipal vehicle, decision to be made at a later date. Marshal Rupert expected delivery some time in March.

Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann gave the utility report stating there were now six (6) recycle dumpsters across the highway. There would be a meeting with the Jackson Square Senior Apartments developer and their engineer, Andy Dodzik Town engineer, and the utility department the next morning at 11:00 A.M. to discuss and review preliminary infrastructure plans. Councilpersons were welcome.

John H. also stated that Mr. Lindeman was planning to erect a decorative fence between his property and the elementary school in the Spring. President Stoeckley asked that John keep the Council apprised.

President Stoeckley stated the EMS quarters contract between the Town and Huntington Parkview Hospital had been edited and was ready for signature that evening. John noted that the contract specified that the hospital was responsible for the first \$250 on any needed repairs or replacement item. After consideration, Vice President Karshner moved to sign the contract as written, copy on file in the Clerk/Treasurer’s office. Councilman Young seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

President Stoeckley advised the Council on the recent phone conference regarding the Vera Bradley proposed wetlands project. Their attorneys had proposed a motion to dismiss, but John S. stated he was hoping for a face to face meeting to attempt some compromise in the near future. He would keep

Council apprised.

Upon review and discussion of a letter/invoice from the Hoosier Heartland committee requesting \$1,000, Vice President Karshner moved to not pay the invoice. Councilman Young seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Resident Rick Hartley spoke in praise of the 911 fire and first responders from the local department, having recently needed their assistance, as well as the street department for their efficient snow removal and following sand clean-up.

Last on the agenda was the presentation of bills for payment. After review, Councilman Altman moved to pay the bills as listed on the allowance of claims payable vouchers for \$121,546.64. Vice President Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Councilman Young then moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was duly adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer

Council Approve:
