

**Roanoke Town Council Minutes
November 18, 2008**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Roanoke Town Council convened on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 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 Michelle Schwieterman, Councilman Brian Young, and Councilman Troy Karshner. Councilman Nick Altman was not present. Also present were Dep. Marshal Jim Wood, Fire Chief Chad Taylor, Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann and JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer.

Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of November 4, 2008 with one correction from President Stoeckley, page two paragraph four. Councilman Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

It was noted by a citizen that Rev. J. Bachman was retiring after 32 years of religious service to the community and well wishes would be appreciated.

Mr. Mark Wickersham, director of HCUED (Huntington County United Economic Development) was present to introduce himself and to discuss the long range strategic plan of the 501-C3 organization. He described the current projects, the several arms of HCUED i.e. Ventureworks, and the new by-laws recently put in place. He also presented a new service agreement contract for 2009 between HCUED and the Town. After discussion, Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the \$1,200 contract, Councilman Young seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Phil Hibbert from DZL was present to comment on the final payment due of \$95,855.12 for the 8th Street project along with the accompanying change order in the amount of \$36,482.72. During discussion, JoAnne pointed out that while it made sense to replace old water pipe infrastructure when doing the mandated sewer projects, the Water Operating Fund would not be able to continue to sustain amounts like the \$144,493.42 from the Water Fund for the 8th Street Project at the current rates. She reminded the Council that a minimum water bill amount was still \$10.48, (excluding sales tax which is sent to the State after 14 years while the minimum sewer bill is \$34.18, more than two-thirds higher. Fourteen years of absorbing cost increases in materials, power sources, fuel, wages, insurance, etc. with no rate increase was becoming more and more difficult for the Water Operating Fund to sustain. After review, Councilman Karshner moved to pay the final 8th Street bill as presented, which included the change order. Vice President Schwieterman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Mark Caesar from Centennial Wireless was present proposing to place three additional antenna on the Town's water tower. The current contract with Centennial which was drafted by Attorney Ted Bendall was dated January 3, 2003 with an initial monthly fee to the Town of \$1085.00. After 5 years in January 2008 the fee increased by 10% to \$1,193.50 a month. Mr. Caesar did not present any written proposals as to fee increases to the Town

for the additional hardware. After discussion, the Council requested that JoAnne inform Attorney Bendall of the Centennial proposal for him to work out financial details, should Superintendent Swain have no issues with the issue.

Fire Chief Chad Taylor gave the fire report and the Council approved by consensus two additional applicants to the volunteer department which would take their roster to 27 persons. Chad also stated an individual wished to donate a 1992 Ford F150 4x4 pick up truck with minimal mileage and excellent condition to the department. Municipal plates and minimal insurance would be the only cost to the Town. The Council approved the donation by consensus.

Deputy Jim Wood reported that next week would be his final week of school in Plainfield, Indiana.

Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann gave the utility report, copies available at the utility garage during normal business hours. President Stoeckley asked that Paul get quotes for 8 lighted poles to hold banners for along Hwy. #24 to advertise Roanoke events throughout the year. INDOT would need to be involved in permission and placement. Mrs. Alice Eshelman volunteered the local Beautification Committee's involvement as well as possible financial help.

John next distributed a copy of monthly average flows through the WWTP along with precipitation amounts from October 2006 through October 2008, copy on file at the Clerk/Treasurer's office.

After discussion, Councilman Karshner moved to approve \$1,800 for the annual purchase upgrade to a new Bobcat skid-steer loader to maintain the rotation of a new model every year. The purchase agreement is not a lease, but \$1,800 for ownership of the new model year. Vice President Schwieterman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Council next considered the \$19,584.27 material cost comparison difference between an 8" and a 12" water main upgrade Roanoke prefers for the Kilsquah subdivision area developed by Mr. Ralph Biggs. Per the July 2, 2007 minutes, copy on file at the Clerk/Treasurer's office, the Council had agreed by consensus to pay for the upgrade in pipe. Councilman Karshner moved to approve the upgrade as presented. Councilman Young seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Council next considered proposed Ordinance 2008-8 to amend the Town of Roanoke official zoning map, copy on file at the Clerk/Treasurer's office. The amendment would re-zone the home at 138 W. First Street from R-8 (residential) to GB (general business). The applicant, Arete Development, was planning to rent the historic home to an individual wanting to open an antique/gift shop. The Roanoke Plan Commission had passed on the request to the Town Council with a unanimous favorable recommendation. After lengthy discussion where resident Mr. Evan Miller of First Street was opposed to the re-zoning, wanting the structure to remain a home and not a business, Councilman Young moved to approve the 2008-8 ordinance as

presented. Vice President Schwieterman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Council next considered as their body appointment a new person to finish the term of a library board member. After reviewing her letter of interest, Councilman Young moved to appoint Mrs. Kathleen Carey to the library seat. Vice President Schwieterman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Council next approved by consensus the additional wording to the salt and sand building agreement between the Town and the County Commissioners as previously discussed at the last Council meeting, copy on file at the Clerk/Treasurer's office.

JoAnne then introduced the utility identity theft prevention program compliance template from the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water which had been amended to suit the size and needs of her office. After review, Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the document as presented. Councilman Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously, copy on file at the Clerk/Treasurer's office.

After discussion the Council next appointed Mr. Chris Jensen, President of the Roanoke Chamber, as the representative from Roanoke to serve on the newly amended HCUED Board of Directors.

JoAnne next stated that after several changes, the dates for the Christmas in the Village event were wrong on the utility bills that had been sent out the previous day. The event is to be on December 5th & 6th and the utility bills state December 12 & 13th.

Last on the agenda was presentation of bills for payment. After consideration, Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the bills for payment as listed on the allowance of claims payable vouchers in the amount of \$89,525.55. Councilman Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Vice President Schwieterman then moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Young seconded and the motion was duly adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer

Council Approve:
