

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
January 10, 2022  
7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President J. Fisher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called by Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvare; present were Council Member J. Ton, Council Member D. Lafata, Council Member S. Darnell, Council Member L. Kittredge, and Council Member J. Fisher.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2021 meeting, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the claims as presented, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to add to the agenda an ordinance to amend the salary ordinance and an agreement regarding Police Chief Richardson, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Richard Riley- 123 4<sup>th</sup>. Street- Riley asked the Council if he could be put on the next meeting's agenda under the petitions section for a 12-15 minute discussion regarding the name change of Thomas Centennial Park. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to add this to the agenda for the next meeting, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

**A. Police—Vacation Payout Request-** Police Chief T. Richardson referred to a letter that was in the council packet for review regarding a vacation payout request for the police department.

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve Assistant Chief Rocha's 2021 vacation time payout of 60 hours, motion seconded by Council Member S. Darnell; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Chief Richardson also introduced two new officers, Arwen Lamotte and Justin Frever. Officer Lamotte comes with 8 years of experience on the Michigan City Police Department and several years of part time police department experience at Indiana University. Officer Lamotte also as a Master's degree in criminal justice and was named police officer of the year during her time with Michigan City. Officer Frever comes with 13 years of experience on the Michigan City Police Department and 3 years at the Scottsdale Police Department in Arizona. Officer Frever has worked as an officer, supervisor, and with the drug task force. He also studied criminal justice at Ball State University. Officer Frever was named officer of the year in 2016.

**B. Fire** – Chief Camel gave a recap of 2021 reporting that 1,812 calls were received, 593 of which were fire calls. The average was 5 calls per day.

**C. Clerk Treasurer-** Clerk Treasurer C. Udvare reported that the vacation, sick and personal time buy out summary was included in the Council's claim packet for review. Clerk-Treasurer Udvare also requested that the community crossing and paving bid opening be added to the agenda. Lastly, Clerk-Treasurer Udvare reminded the Town Council to make the President Appointments official. Council President J. Fisher appointed Dan Marchetti to the Plan Commission, Richard Riley to the Board of Zoning Appeals, John Schnadenberg to Utility Service Board, Sharon Darnell, Dane Lafata, and Lloyd Kittredge to the Redevelopment Commission, and Jim Ton to the Chesterton Economic Development Commission. There were no objections to the presidential appointments from the Council.

**D. Streets, Sanitation, & Central Service** – Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg reported that they have received a \$2,000 donation for the tree gift fund from James Giannini & Associates. Also, Commissioner Schnadenberg reported that the first snow storm after New Year's was handled well.

**E. Engineering**—Town Engineer O'Dell reported that he has been working with NIRPC on their 2050 plan. Also, he reported the department is reviewing phase 5 of the Villages of Sand Creek. Council Member Ton commented that the 2050 plan is a major plan and that it is great for O'Dell and Ton to be representing the Town during this process.

**F. Building** — No report.

**G. Parks** –Superintendent Griffin reported that the department has been taking down Christmas decorations. Also, a \$1,000 grant from Bass Pro was received for rehabbing the Coffee Creek pond.

**H. Attorney**—No report.

**I. Utilities**—Superintendent D. Ryan commented hats off to his team for working during this weather.

**J. Town Manager**—No report.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS, & REMONSTRANCES

**Bid Opening for Broadway, Calumet, and Texas Street Paving Bids-** Town Attorney Lukmann presented the following sealed bids which were received for these projects:

The first was from Milestone Contractors North, Inc. of 1700 E. Main St. in Griffith, IN. in the amount of \$371,339.35 for South Calumet Road to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, \$193,782.30 for the paving of Calumet Rd. South from 200 ft. North of Broadway to W. Porter Ave., \$94,870.00 for Texas Street from South 23<sup>rd</sup>. St. to Griffin Lake Rd., and \$37,444.00 for the Texas Street Loop. Total bidding for the above mentioned projects by Milestone Contractors North, Inc. was \$697,435.65. The second was from Rieth- Riley Construction Co., Inc. of 7500 W. 5<sup>th</sup>. Avenue in Gary, IN in the amount of \$328,665.95 for the paving of Broadway from South Calumet Rd. to 8<sup>th</sup>. St., \$174,092.50 for Calumet Rd. South from 200 ft. North of Broadway to W. Porter Ave., \$77,338.80 for Texas Street from South 23<sup>rd</sup>. Street to Griffin Lake Rd., and \$31,425.70 for the Texas Street Loop. Total bidding from Rieth-Riley for the above mentioned projects was \$611,522.15

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to take the bids under advisement, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Bid Opening for 2022 Asphalt Paving Projects -** Town Attorney Lukmann presented the following sealed bids which were received for these projects:

The first was from Milestone Contractors North, Inc. of 1700 E. Main St. in Griffith, IN in the amount of \$764,500.00. The second was from Rieth-Riley Construction Co. Inc. of 7500 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave in Gary, IN in the amount of \$712,135.00.

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to take this bid under advisement, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

**Ordinance 2022-02- Amending Ordinance 2021-10 regarding Police Chief 457b**

**Contributions-** Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the ordinance on 1<sup>st</sup> reading, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to suspend the rules, motion seconded by Council Member S. Darnell; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, motion seconded by Council Member S. Darnell; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Regarding the agreement related to the ordinance, Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve an agreement regarding payment of 457b contributions with Police Chief Richardson, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

**Quiet Zone-** Town Manager Cincoski reported that there will be a presentation from the consultant on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm on the topic.

XI. NEW BUSINESS AND/OR UPDATES

NONE

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member S. Darnell:	No comment.
Council Member J. Fisher:	No comment.
Council Member L. Kittredge:	No comment.
Council Member J. Ton:	Member J. Ton encouraged the Council to use the extra time from the delay of the quiet zone presentation to read the feasibility study.
Council Member D. Lafata:	No comment.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK-TREASURER C. UDVARE