

Town of Roachdale
Roachdale Community Building; 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN 46172
September 15, 2021 Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Roachdale Town Council held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 7:00 p.m. at the Roachdale Community Building, 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN.

Due to the absence of President Holly Cook, Rick Miles Jr called the monthly meeting to order after recognizing that the agenda was posted pursuant to the Indiana Open Door Law and that a quorum was present.

Council Members Present: Katrina Asher, Rick Miles Jr

Council Members Absent: Holly Cook

Clerk-Treasurer, Town Marshal, Town Superintendent, Town Attorney

Guests Present: Rick Miles Sr, Jim Cromwell, James Newcomer, Amanda Newcomer, Rhonda Beck, Trevor Ring, Grace Ring, Brooke Miles, Sandra Miles, Nik Miles, Aaron Miles, Jeremiah Miles

2022 Budget Adoption – Motion by Katrina Asher, second by Rick Miles Jr, vote unanimous, to adopt the 2022 Budget as presented and sign Ordinance 3-2021 Ordinance or Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates.

- I. Approval of Minutes – Rick Miles Jr presented the August 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval. Motion by Katrina Asher, second by Rick Miles Jr, vote unanimous, to approve the August 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.
September 1, 2021 – 2022 Budget Public Hearing – Rick Miles Jr presented the September 1, 2021, 2022 Budget Public Hearing Minutes for approval. Motion by Katrina Asher, second by Rick Miles Jr, vote unanimous, to approve the September 1, 2021, 2022 Public Budget Hearing Minutes as presented.
- II. Approval of Claims 08/19/2021 – 09/15/2021 Motion by Katrina Asher, second by Rick Miles Jr, vote unanimous, to approve Claims 08/19/2021 – 09/15/2021 as presented.

Approval of Payroll 08/19/2021 – 09/15/2021. Motion by Katrina Asher, second by Rick Miles Jr, vote unanimous, to approve Payroll 08/19/2021 – 09/15/2021 as presented.
- III. Approval of Bank Reconciliations and Financial Statements
Rick Miles Jr presented the August 2021 Bank Reconciliations and Financial Statements as prepared by Suzy Bass, Local Government Services, as part of our Internal Control. Motion by Katrina Asher, second by Rick Miles Jr, vote unanimous, to approve the August 2021 Bank Reconciliations and Financial Statements as presented.

Katrina Asher introduced Rhonda Beck, Wa-Pe-Ke-Way Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, to speak about their military banners program. Rhonda Beck gave background

information on the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and explained their banner program. The military banners are for any veteran or active military individual, living or deceased. The banners will be displayed from May 2022 to May 2023 on street light poles in Roachdale. If the individual was killed in the line of duty, a gold star will be placed on the banner. When the banners are removed, they are given to the participant. Banner orders are taken on a first come, first serve basis, with approved photo in uniform and payment. Rhonda Beck explained that the process of accepting orders and producing the banners is a lengthy process and stated that the deadline for orders is November 12th. The DAR will organize the banner program and do the leg work with the Town only being responsible for putting the banners up. Rick Miles Jr and Katrina Asher both stated that they thought it was a good idea. Debbie asked if the participants have to live in the town limits of Roachdale and Rhonda Beck replied that they need to have a connection to Roachdale. Katrina Asher asked what the due date for applications would be and Rhonda Beck said that she could extend the deadline to November 12th. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous to allow the DAR to proceed with the banner program. Katrina Asher stated that she would take on the project. Debbie will send a Reach Alert notice and will also do a mailing to customers giving them the information for the program.

IV. Old Business

- A. Proposed Water/Wastewater Project – Grant Administrator Mike Kleinpeter, Kleinpeter and Associates, stated that OCRA announced that they will be doing a second round of grant funding with project applications due in 4 weeks. Mike Kleinpeter stated that the current HUD data map is not correct and stated if there are any customers outside of the blue boundary line on the data map, the Town would need to do an income survey. Rick Miles Jr stated that the south side of Oak Street is not included on the data map. Mike Kleinpeter explained the process for doing an income survey and asked that Debbie send him a current list of wastewater customers. Katrina Asher asked that the potential project be explained and Derick Wiggins, Midwestern Engineering, explained the potential wastewater project and stated that it is being done to meet the IDEM requirements to reduce I & I and stated that the project would include pipe lining, an equalization basin, manhole repairs and repairs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mike Kleinpeter stated that the Town can apply for \$700,000.00 by December 17th and Derick Wiggins stated that the total cost will be \$4,650,000.00 if the full project is done, however, the project can be adjusted. Mike Kleinpeter stated that we would need to have a Public Hearing by October 15th if we wish to proceed with applying for an OCRA grant. Mike Kleinpeter gave the publishing requirements and stated that there are lots of steps that need to be done including reaching out to rate consultant Pat Callahan to have the current rates reviewed. Rick Miles Jr asked if we could go with the full amount to advertise and then reduce if needed and Mike Kleinpeter stated that we could. Attorney Peebles and Debbie both stated that we need to look closer at financing and Debbie asked when the next round of OCRA grants would be and Mike Kleinpeter stated that the next round could be February 2022. Mike Kleinpeter stated that an income survey would cost \$3,000.00 and Katrina Asher asked if we should have a rate analysis and Debbie suggested that Pat Callahan look at the water and wastewater rates when he does the analysis so would we have a current water rate study done if we apply for a water grant in 2022. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to

put off applying for an OCRA grant for the wastewater project until the second round in Spring 2022. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to have Mike Kleinpeter complete an income survey at a cost of \$3,000.00. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to have Pat Callahan to do a rate study for wastewater and water depending on the additional cost to do both. Derik Wiggins asked if the Town wanted to apply for the SRF loan or wait until Pat Callahan does the rate study for wastewater and water. Derick Wiggins explained the process and stated that the PER requires a Public Hearing which could be done between now and the OCRA application. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to submit a SRF application. Katrina Asher asked what the cost would be and Derick Wiggins explained that the cost was included in the work that Midwestern Engineering has already done.

- B. State Water Infrastructure Fund (SWIF) Update – Mike Kleinpeter stated that over 700 applications were submitted with a total of over \$7M requested in funding. The whole state had a total of 22 funded and Roachdale was not on the list. Mike Kleinpeter stated there is a possibility that another \$50M will be available in June or July 2022. Mike Kleinpeter explained the scale that was used and Rick Miles Jr asked if the same scale would be used in 2022. Mike Kleinpeter stated that there is contact information on the SWIF website for further information. Katrina Asher stated that the Town has received a lot of grants and can't be upset that we didn't get this one. Derek Wiggins stated that if the town has SRF and a PER in place it could help with the next round of SWIF.
- C. Town Marshal's Contract – Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to table the Town Marshal's contract until the next meeting.
- D. Community Crossings Update – Debbie stated that the Town will need to return funds to INDOT for the recently completed project since the completed amount came in lower than what Milestone bid. The Town is still waiting to hear if they have received funding for their recent Community Crossings Matching Grant application.
- E. Board of Zoning Appeals Update – Tabled until next meeting when President Holly Cook will be present to give an update on her meeting with Zach Bowers regarding the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- F. Trick-or-Treating Date and Time – Katrina Asher stated that Halloween falls on Sunday this year. Rick Miles Jr stated that the majority of people that he spoke to preferred that trick-or-treating be moved to Saturday. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to have trick-or-treating on Saturday, October 30th, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Debbie stated that Trunk-or-Treat at North Putnam will be on Tuesday, October 19th, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

V. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

VI. Public Comment

James Newcomer thanked the Police Department for doing a good job and states that he feels

they sometimes take unnecessary crap from people. James Newcomer asked what the cap was on the income survey and Mike Kleinpeter explained the income survey and stated that the surveys will be returned to him and not the Town.

Grace Ring stated that the drain on the north end of Walnut Street stays full and during the torrential rains that lasted 45 minutes she had water go into her basement. Superintendent Miller stated that he has been trying to look at the situation and Grace Ring stated that she can show him where the flow is coming into the basement. Superintendent Miller told her that he will stop by tomorrow to meet with her and her husband.

- VII. Town Marshal Report – Marshal Lepine presented his monthly report and reported that he had attached a progress report of property cleanups. Marshal Lepine stated that the two new police vehicles have been purchased, there were a couple of minor hiccups that have been resolved and he is very satisfied with the vehicles. Marshal Lepine gave the breakdown of the costs of the vehicles and stated that he has one of the new vehicles sitting in the parking lot if anyone would like to see it. Marshal Lepine reported that he has not been thrilled with the response for hiring a full-time Deputy Marshal. Only 8 applications have been received and only two of those are qualified by having attended the Police Academy and having the required 40 hour pre-basic. Marshal Lepine stated that he does not have anyone qualified for the position. Katrina Asher stated that he could run the advertisement for the position again. Marshal Lepine stated that the problem is that we are competing against a very aggressive market right now with higher wages and benefits. Marshal Lepine stated that he had initially hoped to be able to get someone that is already an officer that is ready to retire but has had no such applicants apply. Katrina Asher stated that we should not settle, we should take our time and find someone who is right for the position. Marshal Lepine stated that he would like to have the final interviews for the three candidates he has and then include then include the Council in their next interview and decide if we pursue one of those candidates or advertise again. Rick Miles Jr said that he agrees if the current applicants are not clicking that we should continue the search. Katrina Asher stated that we could do both and that if we repost we could get more applicants. Rick Miles Jr stated if Marshal Lepine does the next interview on the three current candidates and he does not like any of the candidates that the Council does not need to interview them. Marshal Lepine asked for permission to close Railroad Street from Indiana Street to Meridian Street for RibFest from 6:00 p.m. September 24th – 6:00 p.m. September 26th. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to close Railroad Street from Indiana Street to Meridian Street for RibFest from 6:00 p.m. September 24th – 6:00 p.m. September 26th. Katrina Asher asked if time had been spent on property cleanups and abandoned vehicles and Marshal Lepine stated that was included in his report he presented to the Council. Katrina Asher stated that she has been receiving complaints on the race car that is sitting at the corner of Indiana and Washington Street. Katrina Asher asked if Marshal Lepine can have his officers give him a list of abandoned cars and properties that need to be served cleanup notices. Grace Ring stated that her home is one of the homes that has been served a cleanup notice and stated that she has gotten rid of a bunch of the scrap items that were in the yard. Grace Ring stated that her son has been working on mowers and he is constantly taking mowers to repair and then moving them. Katrina Asher

stated that neighbors complain about properties and Grace Ring stated that her neighbors do not complain and Katrina Asher stated that they complain to the Council. Grace Ring stated that the items in her yard are moving and going away. Katrina Asher stated that as long as there is process that is fine, however, lots of people move in and out and leave items. Katrina Asher stated that the Council is trying to keep the town clean and look presentable. Grace Ring stated her family is trying to be positive role models in town and are using the mowers to teach others how to do small engine repairs. Rick Miles Jr stated that residents that are served cleanup notices should come and tell the Council they are working on it and keep Marshal Lepine informed of their progress. James Newcomer stated that he felt that people that are making comments about the new police vehicles are being ridiculous because the town got good assets at good prices. Katrina Asher stated that the biggest issue has been miscommunication and that we need to get the information out to the public. Marshal Lepine stated that he will have the vehicles at the RibFest along with a breakdown of the costs per vehicle.

- VIII. Town Superintendent Items – Superintendent Miller stated that he and Debbie had had a conversation about replacing the shingle roof and guttering on the Community Building and he presented two quotes for metal roofing, gutters, and downspouts. The quote from TJD was \$7,890.00 for the metal roofing and \$980.00 for the guttering and the quote from King Kong Roofing was \$8,124.00 for the metal roofing and \$1,335.00 for the guttering. Superintendent Miller stated that he has inquired with another company and their quote was \$1,000.00 higher. Katrina Asher stated that she likes the way the building was painted and asked if there would be a second coat. Superintendent Miller stated that there will be a second coat and that he has to order more gray paint. Rick Miles Jr stated that he agrees that the building looks nice and needs a second coat. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous to approve the quote from TJD for \$7,890.00 for the metal roofing and \$980.00 for the guttering. Superintendent Miller stated that Emminger Concrete will be doing the sidewalk in front of Off the Rails for a total cost of \$1,850.00 and that Ron Spencer will remove the walk on Friday of next week and then the sidewalk will be replaced. Superintendent Miller stated that their street light has been installed on the dead end of Grove Street and the electric bill for the street light will be \$12.00 per month. Superintendent Miller gave an update on the new street signs that have been ordered and stated that the company is having a hard time getting the protective films for the signs from 3M and they hope to have what they need in sixty days. Troy Elless, UMAC, stated that North Salem should have their new water filtration up and running in 2 -3 weeks if the Council would like to see it when it is completed. Rick Miles Jr asked if any other towns had done the same type of water infiltration and Troy Elless stated that North Montgomery had done a larger unit and are pleased with it. Debbie asked about Peerless and Troy Elless stated that they are using the new pump that was installed last year until the work on the other pump is done. Rick Miles Jr stated that Debbie had sent everyone a copy of the thank you note Kathy Harbison had sent after the tree in front of her house was removed and said that the employees and J & D Tree Surgery had done a good job.
- IX. Clerk – Treasurer Items – Debbie presented adjustments totaling \$294.85 for approval. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the adjustments totaling

\$294.85 as presented. Debbie stated that ten dumpsters are being delivered tomorrow for the cleanup days September 17th – 19th and stated that she had put a message on the billing cards and will send another Reach Alert out to remind customers. Debbie stated that Marshal Lepine will be having a car seat safety check at the park on September 25th and Marshal Lepine explained the program and stated that he had received a shipment of free car seats to distribute. Debbie stated that Hoosier Heartland State Bank, Tri County Bank & Trust, Roachdale Christian Church, and Emmanuel Baptist Church will be providing free breakfast and lunch during the two day Street Cop Training hosted by the Police Department at the Community Building on September 23rd and 24th. Katrina Asher asked if all of the officers from our department would be attending and Marshal Lepine stated that at least four would be attending as well as himself at no cost to the Town since we are hosting the event.

X. Items from Town Council Member
Katrina Asher – No items.

Rick Miles Jr – No items.

Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

TOWN COUNCIL:

Holly Cook, Council President



Katrina Asher, Council Member



Rick Miles Jr, Council Member

Attest



Debbie Sillery, Clerk Treasurer