

Roanoke Town Council Minutes

May 20, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Roanoke Town Council convened on Tuesday, May 20, 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 Troy Karshner and Councilman Nick Altman. Councilman Brian Young was absent. Also present were Town Superintendent Paul Swain, Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann, Marshal Kip Rupert, RVFD rep Kasey Platt and JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilman Karshner moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 6, 2008 as written. President Stoeckley seconded and the motion was approved with Vice President Schwieterman and Councilman Altman abstaining.

As advertised, the Council considered the recommendation of the Town Engineer, Andy Dodzik, regarding the 8th Street Project bids. Based on that recommendation, Vice President Schwieterman moved to award the 8th St. Project to Earth Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$359,015.85. Councilman Troy Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. A copy of the bid documents and specifications may be obtained from the Clerk/Treasurer's office during normal business hours.

President Stoeckley next stated that he had asked Attorney Bendall to draft a proposed wastewater rate ordinance based on municipal consultant Greg Guerrattaz second recent rate study(#B, copy on file at the Clerk/Treasurer's office). The study included proposed revenue to pay for mandated IDEM wastewater improvements through the year 2011 at a recommended 47.52% rate increase. After consideration the Council agreed by consensus to proceed with the proposed ordinance, copy on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's office. Vice President Schwieterman moved to waive the first reading of proposed Ordinance 2008-3. Councilman Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. There would be a public hearing at the June 3, 2008 regular Council meeting, as advertised on May 22nd, on the ordinance, after which the Council may vote on the issue. Wastewater utility customers outside

the Town limits will also have notices of that public hearing mailed to them on May 22, 2008 per Indiana Code.

The BZA appointment was again tabled as no one had expressed interest in the position.

RVFD rep Kasey Platt presented two quotes for fireworks, 1) \$3,500 plus liability insurance and 2) \$4,000 assuming liability. JoAnne stated the Town had never had to budget for fireworks before and the funds were in no way budgeted for in 2008. She stated that with everyone needing to “tighten their belts” and property tax distributions to the Town dwindling, the Council would “have to think about where the funds could come from”. Kasey said not many persons contributed to the fireworks in the past, netting about \$500 as the department solicited door to door for contributions, however Councilman Karshner stated that was \$500 they wouldn’t have otherwise. The issue was tabled with Vice President Schwieterman stating she may be able to get some donations in the meantime.

A controlled burn in Roanoke Village was discussed and Kasey would be checking with the DNR regarding run off into the retention pond. Michelle stated she would also be checking with Attorney Hartburg regarding pool fills by the RVFD and the liability involved, as well as previous issues in years past.

Marshal Rupert stated that Deputy Woods would be attending the police academy in September. Kip stated he wanted to amend the local ordinance fees and was asked to do a spreadsheet on that request for future Council consideration. There had been a noise complaint from a resident regarding the speaker phone at the Subway Restaurant and lights from the parking lot. The department would speak to the owners, but thought little could be done.

There was some discussion regarding continuing to distribute the police department schedule to the Clerk/Treasurer’s office for various reasons as outlined by JoAnne per a memo, to further facilitate non-emergency help to local residents and those not familiar with the Town. JoAnne stated as the Police office door is always shut and locked during the day time hours, persons constantly go to her window where a series of questions take place. All the other small Towns in the County distribute the schedule to the C/T and Marshal Rupert stated “it was not a secret”, however he was not willing to continue the practice, while not specifying exactly why. John requested that

Kip and JoAnne get with the police department liaison, Brian Young, and “work it out”.

Superintendent Swain gave the utility report, copy on file in the utility garage during normal business hours. He also reviewed a handout in the Council packets for possible small street paving projects for 2008,

(copies also on file upon request).

There were also copies of future well drilling sites data, tabled from 6 years ago in 2002, that Paul re-distributed to the Council. John asked that Paul invite residents who own potential well drilling property sites to a special Council meeting for discussion.

Paul also copied the Council regarding IDEM’s request for the Town to increase it’s water storage capacity and wanted a detailed plan for future growth. John asked Paul to obtain quotes for a new storage tank with the same caveats as the current tank. Paul also reminded the Council that the current iron filter “could blow” at any time.

John then asked exactly what certifications the two younger utility employees had, and stated certain requirements may need to become part of job descriptions.

Councilman Karshner discussed complaints from several residents with back yards on CR 850 in Roanoke Bluffs regarding significant water swales in their yards. The Council agreed it was a developer issue and there was no tile for the natural swales along with bad plot designs. John stated Granite Ridge needed to “step up” to the problem for the residents and address the issue.

JoAnne stated that one of the County Commissioners at a meeting the previous Monday on property tax caps had suggested allowing Umbaugh & Associates to do a Countywide study on budgeting, with each government entity paying the fees proportionately for their share of the study. She felt it was a good project to participate in and the Council agreed by consensus to spend up to \$4,000 without further request from JoAnne, as she had no idea how much Roanoke’s share would be.

President Stoeckley requested an executive session on Tuesday, June 10th at 6:00 P.M. for employee evaluation discussions. JoAnne was to appropriately advertise. He also stated no purchases were to be made unless absolutely

necessary until property tax distributions were received (probably in late August).

Last on the agenda was the presentation of bills for payment. Vice President Schwieterman moved to pay the bills as listed on the allowance of claims payable vouchers for \$84,351.89. Councilman Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer