
TOWN OF NEW RICHMOND

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Minutes of the Meeting

February 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Board Members Present, President Minnie Howard, Council Member Shelly Wulfers, Clerk/Treasurer Alaahea Foust and Attorney Rob Reimondo. Council member Luke Martin not present.

Alaahea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Minutes of Meeting on January 4, 2022 at 7:00, Shelly W. made the motion to approve the minutes, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaahea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Minutes of Work Session on January 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., Shelly W. made the motion to approve the minutes, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaahea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Minutes of Work Session on January 20, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., Shelly W. made the motion to approve the minutes, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Amendments/Additions to Agenda: None

Streets/Maintenance: Luke M. not present.

Water/Sewer: Earl Heide not present.

Town Marshal: Jeremy Minor not present.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Darren Foreman gave a report on their runs for the month. He also asked if the Fire Station can be used as an Emergency warming station for the bad weather. Shelly W. made the motion to approve the fire station as a warming station, Minnie H. second the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Report from Attorney: Rob said he tried to contact Justin Froedge, Roof Masters Attorney, through emails there was no response from Justin, so Rob will sign a Contempt Petition to be filed by tomorrow or by next Monday. This will be the second time to file a Contempt Petition, they did pay the Attorney fees, but not on the judgement fees. Rob said we will ask for more fees and for the Court to do some things.

Rob talked about the meeting at his office over the Coal Creek contract, because there was a miscommunication about the time of the meeting, we were not able to talk directly with everyone, but we did put together a proposal and sent that to Stu Weliever, the attorney for the Coal Creek Township.

Clerk/Treasurer: Alaathea F. presented Accounts Payable Voucher Register for February 1, 2022 to the Board, Shelly W. made the motion to approve the APV Register, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented the January 2022 Billing Adjustment Report. Shelly W. made the motion to approve the Adjustment Report, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented the bank reconcilements for December 2021.

Alaathea F. presented the Board with the Fund Report, Appropriation Report, Revenue Report up to date.

Alaathea F. asked permission to pay Town Attorney Rob Reimondo's bill for \$1972.50 for investigating the dual office holding and disqualification of board members. Shelly W. made the motion to approve paying the bill, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. asked permission to pay EJP out of the ARP Fund for parts for sewer meter at the park in the amount of \$1020.00. Shelly W. made the motion to approve paying the bill out of the ARP Fund, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. asked permission to pay PEN Innovative Consulting for service in the amount of \$300.00. Shelly W. made the motion to approve paying the bill, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. asked the Town Attorney on who the Town should hire for a Bond Attorney for the SRF Loan from the list of names that Steve Brock recommended. Rob R. advised the Council to go with Krieg DeVault from Carmel Indiana. Shelly W. made the motion to go with Krieg DeVault, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. reminded the public that there was a survey in February's billing regarding getting natural gas in the Town of New Richmond.

Old Business:

Sewer Meter at the Park: Busse who is working with Earl Heide on the sewer meter said they have all the parts just waiting on good weather to work in.

Harrison Street Lift Station: Busse said waiting on some parts and the next step will be Tipmont bringing power down to the new electric panel.

Property Change from Commercial to Residential: Rob R. said regarding the 402 East Washington property, Jebadiah Lind asked about changing it from commercial to residential, I talked with Marc Bonwell from the Montgomery County Planning Department and he said Town of New Richmond is an incorporated area and the Montgomery County Zoning rules only apply to the unincorporated areas. Mr. Lind only needs to get a permit from the County and something from the Town to show the mortgage lender about the property changing from commercial to residential.

Shelly W. made the motion to change the property to residential, Minnie H. second the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

New Business:

2022-2 Resolution for Outstanding Checks Considered Void: Alaathea F. was asked to read the resolution to the public. Shelly W. made the motion to approve the Resolution 2022-2, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

2022-3 Resolution for Town Superintendent Job Description: Alaahea F. present the resolution and said there are copies for the public and asked the public if they would like her to read it aloud, no one requested it to be read aloud. After some discussion and public comments Town Attorney Rob R. suggested that the public send their comments to the Clerk/Treasurer. Shelly W. made the motion to table Resolution 2022-3 and consider public comments until next meeting, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Discussion on the 2022 Resolution for Opposing Legislation Regarding the Business Personal Property Tax: Minnie H. asked Alaahea F. to talk about this. Alaahea F. said AIM (Accelerate Indiana Municipalities) is an organization that pays attention to what the State Lawmakers are doing. The Lawmakers are trying to pass a bill reducing business personal property tax which will have an impact on our revenue as a Town and many other government entities. Replace Don't Erase is a Resolution to make lawmakers replace the revenue that will be lost through the business personal property tax. I have asked the Montgomery County Auditor if she would give me the figures on how this would impact the Town of New Richmond. When I get the numbers then I can finish the resolution so the Town Council can pass it in the next meeting.

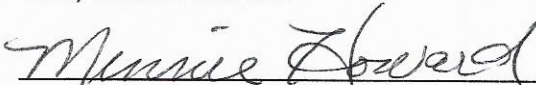
Renew Reach Alert: Alaahea F. presented the Council 2022 Annual contract for Reach Alert in the amount of \$280.00. Shelly W. made the motion to approve the contract, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Street Work for 2022: Alaahea F. said we did not make the first round for Community Crossing Grant, but we can get ready for the second round. We were looking at overlaying and not milling;
West Madison Street from Clough to South Wabash.
South Prairie Street from West Washington to West Ralph Kunkel Pkwy.
Patch work on West Detchon Street where the water line was replaced.
Shelly W. made the motion to approve the streets to be done for 2022, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Rob R. said he wanted to point out that he sent a letter out on December 10 to the Board that outline some issue that he had as an Attorney for the Town with regards to the dual office with Luke Martin and disqualification with Carmine Azzato. Mr. Martin is not here, but I would tell him if he were here, he has a ^{choice} chose to make and he has not made it. There was a meeting in January and no decision was made. There was a meeting in February and no decision was made. It is in my opinion it is incompatible for him to have these two positions. I have been inclined to allow him to have counsel to chart his on course I have not heard from any attorneys. He was elected as a Town Board member and that has to be respected. The Town has a decision in regards to his Town Superintendent position that they can make at anytime, it does not have to be tonight, however, one needs to be made if he does not make a decision. The Town cannot continue to have this cloud over its head. If Luke Martin wants to come forward with a letter from his attorney or point out some statue that we have missed I will be happy to look into it, but we cannot continue like this. The Town President or myself needs to send him a notice about making a decision before the next meeting.

Shelly W. made the motion to have Rob R. write a letter to Luke Martin about making a decision by a certain time, Minnie H. second the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

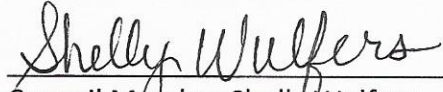
Shelly W. made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.



President Minnie Howard



Attest: Clerk/Treasurer Alaahea Foust



Council Member Shelly Wulfers

Council Member Luke Martin