
TOWN OF NEW RICHMOND

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Minutes of the Meeting

June 7, 2023 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present, President Minnie Howard, Council Member Linda Forbes, Rachelle Cowherd, Clerk/Treasurer Alaahea Foust, Attorney Rob Reimondo, Town Superintendent Jay Busse, Water/Sewer Superintendent Earl Heide and Town Marshal Jeremy Minor.

Pledge of allegiance was in the Public Hearing.

Alaahea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Public Hearing Meeting on May 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Linda F. made the motion to approve the minutes, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaahea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Minutes of Meeting on May 3, 2023 at 6:08 p.m., Linda F. made the motion to approve the minutes, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaahea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Minutes of Work Session on May 22, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., Linda F. made the motion to approve the minutes, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Montgomery County Emergency Management & Homeland Security: Jessica Burget talked about the Montgomery County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; it is not required but can be beneficial to the town. It is a five-year plan and it does not cost anything to the town. It would help the town to receive certain kinds of grant if there were a disaster in the town.

Resolution 2023-5 Adopting a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan: Rachelle C. made the motion to approve the Montgomery County's Emergency Plan, Linda F. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Open Bids for Water System Project: Eric Smith from HWC Engineering said we have received one bid for the Town's Water Project. Eric said the Town has receive the \$700,000.00 grant from the (OCRA) Office of Community and Rural Affairs, the Town is in line for loan funding for the remaining balance of the project from the (IFA) Indiana Finance Authority (SRF) State Revolving Fund Program. The Town is also in line to receive grant money from SRF for the water project.

Eric said we will open the bid and recommend that the Council take it under advisement pending our reviewed of the bid. We will give you the review and then the Town will make a tentative award, at that point your financial advisor will start working with IFA with the funding package. There will be some other steps and meetings before closing on the financing, that will likely take 2 to 3 months. Construction could take place in September.

Eric said we have one bid from Graves Construction Services, Inc., the bid is broken out into two sections, Division 1 being the Water Treatment Plant and the well fields for \$1,212,121.00 and Division 2 is the Water Distribution System for \$282,828.00 with a total of \$1,494,949.00. We will have our review ready for the Council next week.

Updates and Questions for the Water Project: Keegun Dunn with HWC Engineering gave a brief description of the water project and opened it up for comments from the public.

There was a question on how much the water rate will increase, the answer was that it is unknown at this time and dependent upon a final rate analysis of the total project costs based on the bids received and any grant award from the IFA.

Question# 2 What sort of disturbance will the water main replacement work cause? Answer was the new water main will be directionally drilled and should cause minimum disturbance.

Question# 3 Will there be any interruption in water service during the project? Answer was there should be very little interruption in service. All of the plant work will be complete and operational prior to being put into service. There may be some minor interruptions while services are reconnected during water main work.

Amendments/Additions to Agenda: Minnie H. said one of our residents has received a threatening letter and we would like to address it and say that the letter has been reported to the police department and would advice that the one who wrote it, to not go to the home of the resident that was threatened.

Streets/Maintenance: Jay Busse said Town clean up day went well. The concrete is poured in front of the fire station and the bell is fixed and will need a coat of paint.

Jay asked if the Council has heard anything about the ball diamonds. Linda F. said there was not enough teams to justified the cost to fix the ball diamonds, however there are some residents that would like to use the ball diamonds for themselves. After some discussion there were no decisions made.

Water/Sewer: Earl Heide said due to the negative out put in the Town from certain individuals right now, it is unlikely that the Town will see any other bids for the water project, because contractors do not want their company name dragged through the mud. It is unfortunate that resident cannot get along.

There was a question asked about how the contractors were notified about the project. Alaathea F. said the Grant Administrator mailed out 5 certified letters to contractors and it was advertised in the newspaper. Minnie H. said the community needs to work together, we all want the same things, such as better water, better place to live we just need to come together and stop the negative letters and so on.

Town Marshal: Jeremy Minor said he knows about the dog on West Washington street that has been running around loose and will be taking care of it.

Jeremy stated that the 2 new electronic speed limit signs are in and asked the Council where they would like them. After some discussion the Council said West Washington and South Wabash Street.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Darren Foreman gave a report on their runs for the month.

Report from Attorney: Rob Reimondo said he had received an email on Monday from Tyler Nichols the attorney for the Craigs, they have signed papers with Walden's to tear down the house on East Washington Street and now they are waiting for Walden's to come and take it down in the next few weeks.

Clerk/Treasurer: Alaathea F. presented Accounts Payable Voucher Register for June 7, 2023 to the Board, Linda F. made the motion to approve the APV Register, Rachele C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented Billing Adjustment Register for May 2023 to the Board, Rachelle C. made the motion to approve the Billing Adjustment Register, Linda F. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented the bank reconcilements for April 2023.

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

Alaathea F. presented the Council an invoice from HWC Engineers for \$3,651.25 for approval to pay when grant money is received. Linda F. made the motion to approve the payment, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented an invoice from Kelley Kornbroke, Municipal Consultation & Customer Service, for \$735.00 for helping with record retention. Linda F. made the motion to approve the payment, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented an invoice from Therber, Brock & Associates, LLP, Municipal Finance Consultation for \$13,000.00 to pay when grant money is received. This is for SRF loan and consulting for utility rates for the Water Project. Linda F. made the motion to approve the payment, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. said she has contacted Govolution to make the change for a new credit card payment program and there will be notice given to the resident of the new payment system.

Alaathea F. said the electronic speed limit signs are in as Jeremy has stated.

Alaathea F. said she will be attending the ILMCT and SBOA training June 25 – 29 and Minnie Howard will be going as well.

Alaathea F. presented Jay Busses invoice for \$1,100.00 for the concrete pad at the Fire Station. Rachelle C. made the motion to approve the payment, Linda F. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. said she will need a new printer at the Town Hall the current one is having some issues and will need to be replaced before it stops working and presented a quote for a new one in the amount of \$699.00. Linda F. made the motion to approve the new printer, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Old Business:

Traffic Ordinance Speed Limit: Alaathea F. said she has not been able to get with Rob R. about the ordinance other issue have come up that needed to be handled first.

Shelter House: Darrell Birge (from the Volunteers for New Richmond Improvements) said he has someone looking at it to see what needs to be done. Linda F. reminded Darrell that the Town will need to have a copy of his insurance on file.

2024 Budget Meeting: Alaathea F. asked the Council if they would like to schedule a Work Session to talk about the budget. Alaathea F. said she has an appointment with (DLGF)Department of Local Government Finance on July 27, 2023. No date was set at this time for a Work Session.

New Business:

Sound Advice Management for IT services: Alaathea F. explained to the Council that this agreement would be better management of our system from cyber-attacks, prompt service call back when there is an issue, and better for our cyber security insurance. Linda F. made the motion to approve the agreement, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Cameras for the Park: Alaathea F. said Wintek did not get back with her on a quote for cameras, however I called Haley's Lock & Key for a quote and they were able to get that to me yesterday. I have a quote from

Milhaupt's for \$4933.00 and Haley's Lock & key is \$4230.00 both quotes have the same camera set up. The Volunteers for New Richmond Improvements said they would pay for half of the cost for the cameras in the park with the understanding that only the Town Marshal has access to the camera feed. After some discussion the Linda F. made the motion to approve Haley's with the condition that we can upgrade the system, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Ordinance 2023-3 Curfew for Minors Amending Or. 1982-4 DRAFT: Alaathea F. asked that Council what they had decide on for the fines for violations of this Ordinance. After some discussion the Council decide to do: 1st Offense – a warning, 2nd Offense - \$100.00, 3rd Offense - \$200.00 and 4th Offense - \$400.00. Linda F. made the motion to approve these fines, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Ordinance 2023-4 Establishing Park Rules and Amending Or. 2013-8 DRAFT: Alaathea F. asked that Council what they had decide on for the fines for violations of this Ordinance. After some discussion the Council decide to do: 1st Offense – a warning, 2nd Offense - \$100.00, 3rd Offense - \$200.00 and 4th Offense - \$400.00 and vandalism is \$500.00 plus damages per occurrence. Linda F. made the motion to approve these fines, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

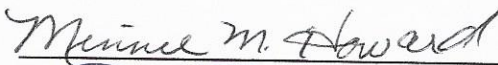
Ordinance 2023-5 Additional Appropriation Ordinance DRAFT: Alaathea F. said the \$5000.00 is to help with the cost of the cameras in the park. Public Hearing and adoption for this ordinance will be June 20th at 6:00 p.m. Linda F. made the motion to set the public hearing and adoption meeting for all three ordinances on June 20th at 6:00 p.m., Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Ordinance 2023-6 OCRA Water Project Fund: Alaathea F. this is to set up a fund for the water project grant money when it comes in. Linda F. made the motion to approve the Water Project Fund, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried. Linda F. made the motion to suspend the rules and waive the second reading, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

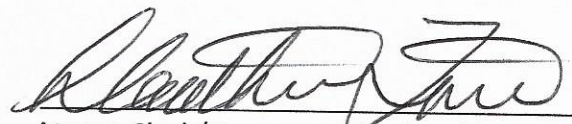
It was opened up to the public for comments.

Next Town Hall Meeting is July 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.


Linda F. made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Rachelle C. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.



President Minnie Howard



Attest: Clerk/Treasurer Alaathea Foust



Council Member Linda Forbes



Council Member Rachelle Cowherd