TOWN COUNCIL
January 9, 2023

The Flora Town Council met Monday, January 9, 2023 in the Board Room at 4 E. Main Street, Flora. Those present were; Susan Scholl (Comet), Todd Trent, Kevin Shafer, James Bishop (Town Marshall), Gabrielle Biciunas-Taber (Commonwealth), Chris Albaugh, Randy Hoffman. Trevor Ayres, Cory Mahan, Kendra Linn (Town Attorney), Darrell Yoder, Vincent A. Seward, Robert Kauffman and Pam Beck -Clerk-Treasurer.

Pam Beck opened the meeting with welcome and election of officers. Vince Seward moved to elect Darrell Yoder as Council President and Robert Kauffman seconded. Motion carried. Darrell Yoder moved to elect Rob Kauffman as Vice President and Vince Seward Motion carried. Darrell Yoder moved to elect Vince Seward as Finance Chairman and Rob Kauffman seconded. Motion carried. 2023 Officers are set.

Rob moved minutes of previous meetings (Dec 5th and Dec 22nd) be approved as written; Vince seconded. Motion approved. Claims and Payroll signed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Commonwealth: Gabrielle presented the monthly update for the wastewater project. She requested a preliminary design meeting the end of the month. The SRF deadline is April 1st and the project priority list will be released in July.

B. Appointments and Committees: There is still 1 open seat for each of the following: Board of Zoning, Parks & Recreation and Library Board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. K-IRPC Representative: Chris Albaugh has agreed to represent the Town of Flora on the Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission Board for 2023. Emily Albaugh would like to be on the February to discuss the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

B. URT-1 Corporate Tax: The Indiana General Assembly passed and the Governor signed the HEA 1002 -2022 repealing the Utility Receipts Tax effective July 1, 2022. The Town Council recommends no adjustments to the water and electric rates due to the effect of HEA 1002. Customers will receive notice for 2 bill cycles for the adjusted rate of $0.00. Vince moved to approve Resolution 2023-01- The Town of Flora, Indiana Concerning Water and Electric Utility Revenue Tax. Rob seconded. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

A. Police Department - Town Marshall James Bishop reviewed monthly report. Bishop presented a three-year comparison of calls for service. Bishop and Sgt. Thomas are working with Lexipol to update the SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) with the cost coming out of the police department budget.

B. Plan Commission – There were no permits issued in December 2022

C. Fire Department –Chief Todd Trent reported the department's medical runs and calls for service for the month. The Knox box is installed at the Town Office. Trent inquired about getting quotes for the steps at the fire station, the Council agreed.

D. Park Department – Park is Closed. Atlee is repairing picnic tables and tree trimming will start when the ground if frozen.

E. Airport – No one present

**F.** Utility Manager/ Water Foreman- Kevin Shafer reviewed report. -Leaf pickup is done and snow plows are ready. The Christmas decorations are put away and the council suggested getting quotes to purchase some new ones. Shafer mentioned he would like to replace one of the bucket trucks at the cost of $195,000 to $250,000 with a shipment date 18 to 24 months out after a vehicle is ordered, no decision made at this time. Shafer mentioned the water meters still need updated.

G. WWT Foreman – Randy went over submitted report. Randy reported usual maintenance was done and was called to Carroll High School to pump wastewater due to the lift station being out of service. Hoffman appreciated Mason and Fredd's help cleaning the digester and sewer work.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Cory Mahan with Ace Engineering discussed the bid schedule for the Community Crossing Grant.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. Office closed Monday January 16, 2023 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
2. Next meeting Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

Vince moved to adjourn. Rob seconded. Motion carried.

TOWN OF FLORA

Darrell Yoder, President

Robert Kauffman, Vice-President

Vincent A Seward, Finance Chairman

ATTEST:

Pamela J. Beck, Clerk-Treasurer