FLORA TOWN COUNCIL
November 6, 2023

The Flora Town Council met Monday, October 2, 2023 in the Board Room of the Flora Town Hall. Those present were; Susan Scholl (Carroll County Comet), Todd Trent, James Bishop, Breezy Land, Randy Hoffman, Rachel Runge (Commonwealth), Jack Begley, Charlotte Moppin, Rob Kauffman, Darrell Yoder, Vince Seward, and Pam Beck Clerk-Treasurer.

Darrell opened the meeting with welcome. Vince moved the minutes of the previous meeting (October 2, 2023) be approved as presented; Rob Seconded. Minutes approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Commonwealth- Rachel Runge reported there was a check-in meeting on October 12th, 2023. Next check-in meeting will be November 16th, 2023. Runge said possibly bids could be let in January with construction starting in early spring 2024. Also, they have been working with Jake Adams, executive director of the Carroll County Economic Development Corp., concerning a possible funding opportunity through Indiana READI, an initiative that dedicated $500 million in state appropriations to promote strategic investments.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Flora Depot- A letter from Melissa Bishop on behalf of the Flora Community Club and the Flora Depot Museum Committee thanking the Town of Flora employees, including the office staff, utilities, park staff, police and fire department for all they did prior to the Depot Days Festival.

B. Airport- New Board Member- The Airport Board voted November 2nd to recommend Vince Frazier to be appointed to the Board of Directors at the Flora Municipal Airport. Rob read the letter. The Council accepted the Flora Airport Board's recommendation to appoint Vince Frazier to the board for a four-year term.

REPORTS:

A. Police Department – Chief James Bishop submitted his report. There were 114 calls for service, 1 arrest/misdemeanor, 0 felony arrests, 0 citations, 50 warnings, 3 accidents, and 0 warrants served. Bishop reported three AEDs have been purchased with 90% of the cost covered by grant monies. Two of the AEDs replaced old ones in department vehicles and the third one was placed in the emergency kit at the Town Office.

B. Fire Department - Fire Chief Todd Trent reported the department had 16 fire-related calls and 7 EMS runs. The extrication tools for use with new technology vehicles such as EVs have been received and tested. Trent stated the tools work well and thanked the town for assistance in the purchase of the extrication tools.

C. Plan Commission- 2 permits were issued for October– Max Thompson - sidewalk. Josh Ayres- demolition.

D. Park Department– The park merry-go-round has been taken to Jim Brewer's shop to see if it can be repaired or needs to be replaced. Two estimates were secured for new ones, one costing nearly $7,000 and the other over $15,000. Rob Kauffman said in his opinion the estimates are high and if a new one is needed, perhaps other distributors of playground should be contacted. Darrell Yoder said the pickleball courts are getting a lot of use. Kauffman indicated he has submitted the final report to the Community Foundation of Carroll County for the grant used for the pickleball courts. Long-time park employee Atlee Oyler has submitted his resignation effective December 31, 2023.

E. Airport- Jack Begley, Airport Board Vice President, reported the board has been discussing putting up another building. The Council told him to secure quotes. The next Airport Board meeting will be December 2nd at 10 a.m. when officers will be elected.

F. Utility Manager/Water Superintendent – Trevor's utility report included: Brush and leaf pick-up is underway. Curbs were painted in October, as well as the crosswalks at the park. Eight poles were replaced. The timer for the basketball court lights was fixed at the park. Hometown hero banners were hung. Hydrants were flushed.

G. WWTP Superintendent- Randy Hoffman reported there was a sewer back up on West Columbia Street and when this was cleaned out there was a large amount of baby wipes which should never be put down the drains. They discontinued the sewer main that ran under the old Brothen home.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. The park arch is finished.
2. The Soda Shack is open.
3. The Flora School historic sign was put up on the old school property on East Main Street.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Town Office will be closed on Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans' Day and Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.
2. The next Town Council meeting will be Monday, December 4th 2023.

Rob moved to adjourn; Vince seconded; motion carried.

TOWN OF FLORA

Darrell Yoder, President

Robert Kauffman, Vice President

Vincent Seward, Finance Chairman

ATTEST:

Pamela J. Beck, Clerk-Treasurer