FLORA TOWN COUNCIL
August 7, 2023

The Flora Town Council met Monday, August 7, 2023 in the Board Room of the Flora Town Hall. Those present were; Susan Scholl (Carroll County Comet), Todd Trent, James Bishop, Trevor Ayres, Breezy Land, Randy Hoffman, Bill McCarty, Atlee Oyler, Curt Hufty, Jill Clothier, Jake Adams, Greg Lannan, Cathi Woodward, Laurie Brower, Shawn Cain, Joe Moss, Kendra Linn, Rob Kauffman, Darrell Yoder, Vince Seward, and Pam Beck Clerk-Treasurer.

Darrell opened the meeting with welcome. Rob moved the minutes of the previous meetings (July 5, 2023) be approved as presented; Vince Seconded. Minutes approved. Claims and payroll signed.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Commonwealth- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project Update: Darrell announced the town's wastewater improvements project ranked 15th of 92 on the draft project priority list for the first quarter of 2024. Darrell said the town will receive funding from the State Revolving Fund, but the amount is not known at this time. Once the amount is known the project will move forward.

B. K-IRPC- Shawn- Comprehensive Plan update- Agreement and Contract to sign. Shawn Cain with the Kankakee Regional Planning commission presented two contacts to be signed, both relating to professional services for the town's comprehensive plan. The first was an agreement with K-IRPC in the amount of $4,000 for services rendered. The second agreement for professional services was from Taylor Siefker Williams Design Group LLC in the amount of $51,560.

C. LM Properties- Greg Michael wants at split his property on West Columbia Street into 2 parcels. Vince moved to approve. Rob Seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Flora Depot- Curt Hufty- Requested the town allow some street closures and supply electricity for Depot Days on Sept. 23-24. Both requests were approved by the council.

B. Carroll County Economic Development- Jake Adams told the Council the EDC's focus for the past two years has been on broadband and housing. He suggested Flora may want to consider implementing a Tax Increment Financing zone which would help attract developers for a housing project. Adams said the EDC is asking for a four-year commitment from the town when the next funding cycle begins.

C. Noise Ordinance- Cathi Woodward- Referenced Ordinance 2020-02: Nuisance. Cathi stated living next door to her neighbors is not enjoyable due to them breaking several guidelines of Ordinance 2020-02. She said once violation letters are sent out the violators take no action to resolve the cited issues. Council agreed to look into this.

D. Trash Specs- Jan 2024 thru Dec 31, 2026.The council approved specs for new trash removal contract which will be advertised in the Comet beginning Aug. 16, 2023. Trash bids will be open at the council meeting Tuesday, September 5th. Rob moved to approve. Vince Second. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. Police Department – Chief James Bishop submitted his report. There were 7 misdemeanor arrests, 5 citations, 31 warnings, 96 calls for service, and 2 accidents. Special Event- Public property event application was approved. Resolution is needed. The application will be available at the Town Office or online and must be completed a minimum of 30 days before the event. Bishop received a grant through the Criminal Justice Institute which will allow the department to purchase computer equipment, estimated value of $3,000.

B. Plan Commission – There was 1 permit issued in July: Trevor Ayres- Carport.

C. Fire Department – Todd Trent reported the department had 7 fire and 7 medical runs. Fire hose test will be at the park Saturday, August 12th. Older Dodge truck is at Hufty's getting worked on.

D. Park Department – Atlee reported the replacement slide can be modified to fit the frame, but still needs a shroud for safety which is on order. Rob reported the fencing is up around the tennis courts and resurfacing should be completed soon.

E. Airport- No one present.

F. Utility Manager/Water Superintendent – Trevor reported weed eating along the curbs and trimming trees along the sidewalks. Clean up on Capital Street. An electrical disconnect was done due to a house fire. Changing out lights in the Scout Cabin and Senior Center to LED. Fixed the flooding issue at the water plant. Trevor reported the used trucks were sold on GOV DEALS auction for a total of $36,475. Crack seal estimate for portions of S. Willow, W. Main and S. Center from Pickett's Paving, Peru in the amount of $28,500. Council tabled for now.

G. WWT Superintendent – Bill McCarty announced this was his last meeting as he is retiring at the end of August.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Tractor Pull will be September 8th & 9th, 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Community Shred Day is Saturday, August 12, 2023, from 8 AM to 12 PM at the Municipal Shop.
2. The Town Office will be closed on Monday, September 4th in observance of Labor Day.
3. The next Town Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 5th, due to the Holiday September 4th.

Vince moved to adjourn, Rob seconded; motion carried.

TOWN OF FLORA

Darrell Yoder, President

Robert Kauffman, Vice President

Vincent Seward, Finance Chairman

ATTEST:

Pamela J. Beck, Clerk-Treasurer