FLORA TOWN COUNCIL
April 1, 2024

The Flora Town Council met Monday, April 1, 2024 in the Board Room of the Flora Town Hall. Those present were; Todd Trent, James Bishop, Trevor Ayres, Randy Hoffman, Breezy Land, Kendra Linn, Rachel Runge (Commonwealth), Chris Albaugh, Charlotte Moppin, Don Shively, Susan Shively, Marilyn Minich, Dave Minich, Mary Hayes, Gary Parrett, Curt Hufty, Stephanie Mills, Jessica Heater, Jack Begley, Sandy Cox, Jay Cox, Jeff Symmes, Rob Kauffman, Darrell Yoder, and Pam Beck Clerk-Treasurer.

Darrell opened the meeting with welcome. Rob moved the minutes of the previous meetings (March 4th, 2024, and March 11th, 2024) be approved as presented; Darrell Seconded. Minutes approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Commonwealth- Rachel Runge- The IDEM Construction Permit was approved on March 19, 2024. Permission was received from USDA to advertise to Bid on March 21, 2024. The First Advertisement should have ran in the Carroll County Comet on March 27, 2024. Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at The Flora Town Hall on April 9, 2024 at 2 PM. Commonwealth has reached out to IDEM with an update on the project and schedule as required for the Quarterly Reporting for the Agreed Order.

B. Splash Pad update- Meeting was held on March 11th, 2024 at The Flora Town Hall. Kyle Lueken with HWC Engineering discussed the engineering aspect and different cost associated with a possible installation of a splash pad with or without recycled water, locations, etc. Justin Moos representing PlayPros explained the different features of a splash pad for installing and timing of the water flow.

C. Comprehensive Plan update- Meeting was held March 12th, 2024. On April 27th, 2024 the Comprehensive Plan Committee will have a booth set up at the Craft Fair.

D. The Children's Garden- Previous Brethren Home property- Update email from Emily Albaugh: Emily reported OCRA has approved the Change of Use. The Children's Garden is free to fully acquire the property.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Jessica Heater- Community Club Event Coordinator- Jessica is the new Event Coordinator. She reported the Garden Fair is going to be big this year. She said she is open to any ideas for up coming events, you can contact her via email at communityclub.org.

B. 2024 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan- Resolution 2024-03- James Bishop- Darrell read Resolution 2024-03 2024 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Rob made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-03. Darrell Seconded. Motion carried. Darrell, Rob, and Pam signed Resolution 2024-03. Vince will sign Resolution 2024-03 when he gets back from vacation.

C. Wind Turbines- Jeff Symmes- Jeff talked about different kinds of health effects that can be caused by wind turbines. He left flyers with information on how the turbines effect the community and your health.

D. Wind Turbines- Jay Cox and Sandy Cox- Jay discussed different counties that do and do not have an ordinance for the wind turbines. He stated that Carroll County needs to make changes to the ordinance they have in place to help with the turbines not to come into Carroll County. He wanted to raise awareness to our community of the effects and cons of the wind turbines. He also would like more people in our community to get or stay active with our Carroll County officials.

E. Extended Parking on Town Property- Municipal Shop- Gary Parrett and Mary Hayes received letters from the Town stating that there is no extended parking at the Municipal Shop. It is only to be used for overnight parking. Gary and Mary both leave their personal trailers at the Municipal Shop for long extended times. They were asked to find another place to park them due to liability. Gary Parrett and Mary Hayes both spoke at the Council Meeting. The Council told both of them that they can keep their trailers at the Municipal Shop until the Council can make a decision on this matter. Once the decision is made Gary and Mary will be contacted.

F. Service Sanitation- Two Portable restrooms at the park for baseball and softball fields. Quote is for $199 a month per unit with weekly service and a one-time fee of $60 per unit set-up fee unless they are delivered together then would only be one set-up fee. The baseball season is usually May to July and softball is May thru October. The baseball and softball leagues have been contacted to see if they would pay half of the cost for the season. No response. The Council decided for the Town to pay for the whole amount and not to have the baseball or softball leagues pay. Darrell made a motion to approve the Service Sanitation quote for $199 a month per unit with weekly service and a one-time fee of $60 per unit set-up fee unless they are delivered together then would only be one set-up fee. Rob Seconded. Motion carried.

G. Baker Tilly- Tracking Factor for 2nd quarter. The tracking factor for the second quarter will be $0.017438 and shall be charged monthly to all metered rates. This represents a decrease in the overall tracking factor of 0.002960. Rob made a motion to accept Tracking Factor for 2nd quarter of $0.017438. Darrell Seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

A. Police Department – Chief James Bishop submitted his report. There were 89 calls for service, 7 arrest/misdemeanors, 7 felonies, 6 citations, 40 warnings, and 2 accidents, 1 searches/probation, 1 consent. James reported Michael Fincher resigned. Police Department is hiring. New police car is 2 weeks out from being done. Council approved for James to get the 2014 Dodge Charger ready to be posted on Gov Deals.

B. Fire Department – Fire Chief Todd Trent reported the department had 3 fire-related calls, and 10 EMS runs. Todd is the director for 6th Alarm program and would like to have an event with therapy horses for the 1st responders. This event would take place after the 4-H fair. Kendra wants a waiver to be signed by all that will be at the event.

C. Plan Commission- 5 permits issued for March: Donyell Shepherd-fence & pool. Kevin Shafer-lean-to. William Kelley-fence. Adrian Smith-fence.

D. Park Department– Park Committee met on March 21st, 2024. Meeting minutes included: Committee voted to hold all future meetings on the 3rd Thursday each month at 5:30. Discussed replacing or upgrading playground equipment. Building a new pavilion/shelter between softball fields on the west side of the walking trail. Trevor will get quotes for the building materials and quotes for the concrete work. Rob mentioned that our Town guys will build the pavilion/shelter. Concrete work will be done by someone else. Kaylin Randle and Cohen Miller will be hired as the summer help.

E. Airport- Jack Begley reported repairs are being made on hangar doors. Fly-in will be held sometime in September, no date has been set yet. Jack is looking in to new gates and funding for a new hangar building.

F. Utility Manager/Water Superintendent – Trevor's utility report included: Street Department: Changed radiator in the backhoe and recharged the freon. Installed children playing signs on N. Division St. Two loads of salt was delivered. Water Department: The water has been turned on at the park. There was a water main leak at E. Columbia St. 4 water service issues for the month of March. Water audit is completed. Electric Department; Helped with an electric issue at Bringhurst lift station. Changed lights at the fire station to LED. Utility guys had to manually read all of the electric meters this month and will have to this for the next couple months. Replaced 2 poles. Complete sweep is coming April 3rd and April 4th. Trevor spoke with John Deere and they do not have the equipment that the town needs to fix the yard job on S. Center St.

G. WWTP Superintendent - Randy's WWTP report included: Sludge removal quotes- Quote 1: Merrell Bros: $1,872.00 Mobilization Fee of Tractor and Lagoon Pump. $0.149/Gallon Hauled to Merrell Bros. Regional Biosoilds Center. $875.00 Federal 503 Land Application Testing (one-time fee). Quote 2: Wealing Brothers: Option1-Hauling all of the biosolids from the lagoons to their regional storage facility in Fowler, IN. The price for this option will be $0.1725 per gallon plus a $2,000 mobilization fee. Option 2- Hauling the biosoilds from the lagoons to nearby fields and land apply them. This would take place in the summer or fall of 2024. The price for this option will be: $0.0575 per gallon for fields 0-9 miles away. $0.0625 per gallon for fields 10-15 miles away and a $2,000 mobilization fee. Has a plant inspection. Meeting with Jeff fish with Commonwealth. Started the C12 and DeC12 to be ready for disinfection season. Had trouble with this due to water getting in the whole system and ruined both C12 heads. The C12 heads were replaced.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Town of Flora Spring Clean-Up - Drop off will be Monday, April 29th, 1pm to 8pm, Tuesday, April 30th 7:30am to 8pm, and Wednesday, May 1st 7:30am to 8pm. Dumpsters will be located at the municipal shop at 501 N. Division St.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Town office will be closing at noon on Monday, April 8th for Dark at the Park.
2. April 13th is Tire drop off at Yoman.
3. The next Town Council meeting will be Monday, May 6th, 2024.

Rob moved to adjourn; Darrell seconded; motion carried.

TOWN OF FLORA

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Darrell Yoder, President

ATTEST:

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Robert Kauffman, Vice President

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Pamela J. Beck, Clerk-Treasurer

ABSENT
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Vincent Seward, Finance Chairman