

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF
THE CORPORATION OF LIBERTY, INDIANA
January 16, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Liberty, Indiana met in regular session on January 16, 2024 in the Union County Commissioner's Chambers.

Town Council President Keith Bias called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Jerry Kahl and Ross Keasling.

Also in attendance was Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer; Matt Reuss, Jacob Hundley, Jeff Moles, Chris Cooksey, Marc Ross and Matt Barnhizer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 2, 2024. Mr. Kahl supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

ORDINANCES

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Kahl made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-2. Mr. Keasling supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

MISC. BUSINESS

Jacob Hundley appeared before the Council to request an extension to clean up the property that belongs to his mom, Kim Ramey. Mr. Bias stated that this situation is not new to that property. Mr. Hundley has been fined a couple of times in the last couple of years due to the condition of the property. Mr. Bias stated that if the property is not acceptable by the February 5th Town Council meeting, a fine will be issued every month until the property is remediated to acceptable conditions. Mr. Kahl and Mr. Keasling agreed with Mr. Bias's terms for Mr. Hundley.

Ms. Shepler read the bids for the medic truck for the fire department. Mr. Ross advised Ms. Shepler that the department had reached out to Larkin Greenwood of Connersville and Eaton as well as Wetzel Ford for bids. Wetzel Ford bid a truck for \$ 55,325.25 but did not specify the type of truck that was being bid. Larkin Greenwood of Connersville bid a Ford F350 for the amount of \$ 54,780.00. The decision on the truck was tabled to the next meeting so that Mr. Cooksey can get the specs from Wetzel Ford.

Mr. Bias recommended that Ms. Shepler and Ms. Garrett, Second Deputy, receive stipends for the use of their car to do the Town's banking rather than keeping daily mileage sheets. Mr. Bias suggested for 2023 that Ms. Shepler receive \$ 100.00 for the use of her car as she did the majority of the Town visits to the bank. Ms. Garrett would receive \$ 30.00 for the use of her car for when Ms. Shepler is not available to do the deposit. Mr. Kahl did not agree with Mr. Bias's recommendation as he believes the use of their personal cars are a part of their job. The decision was tabled until the February 5th meeting so that Mr. Tipton and Mr. Jenkins would be present.

Ms. Shepler reviewed information that was included in the Council packets regarding red tags. After a discussion regarding turn offs and individuals getting into their meter pits despite being turned off for non-payment, the Council advised Ms. Shepler to raise the re-connect fee for individuals with delinquent accounts to \$ 50.00 per occurrence. The individuals who have their water turned off due to living in warmer climates would still be charge \$ 20.00 to reconnect.

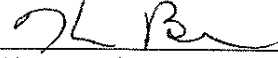
Ms. Shepler reviewed the sewer adjustment requested by Jeremy Grizzell. The Council denied his request for an adjustment as the leak was on his side of the meter as well as this has been an ongoing issue for a couple of months per Mr. Reuss.

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve Pay Application #7 for Culy Contracting in the amount of \$27,313.45. Mr. Kahl supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Ms. Shepler and Mr. Bias reviewed the exit interview information that State Board of Accounts had sent to Ms. Shepler. The Council went on to thank Ms. Shepler and the office staff for all they do making sure the Town runs as smoothly as it possibly can.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made by Mr. Keasling and supported by Mr. Kahl the meeting was adjourned.



Keith Bias, President

ATTEST: 
Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer