

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF
THE CORPORATION OF LIBERTY, INDIANA
June 3, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Liberty, Indiana met in regular session on June 3, 2024 in the Union County Commissioner's Chambers.

Town Council President Keith Bias called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Jerry Kahl, Dereck Tipton, Derrek Jenkins and Ross Keasling

Also in attendance was Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer; Matt Reuss, Todd Dickenson and Jim Barnhizer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tipton made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2024 regular meeting. Mr. Kahl supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

ORDINANCES

RESOLUTIONS

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Utilities Superintendent, Matt Reuss, informed the Council that the Town has received the Level 3, IFA grant in the amount of \$ 50,000.00. Mr. Reuss stated that a zoom meeting is scheduled for the next day to review what the grant details are with Wessler Engineering.

Fire Chief, Jim Barnhizer, informed the Council that Unit 61 was towed to Selking for repairs. Ms. Shepler informed Chief Barnhizer and the Council that an additional appropriation will have to be done. She is waiting on the Pardo's bill before she starts the process because there are other additional appropriations that have to be dealt with as well.

Police Chief, Todd Dickenson, informed the Council that Officer Creech has notified him that he will be applying to the Wayne County Sheriff's Department when the application process starts in July. He is being offered \$ 60,000.00 plus Wayne County will pay off his Academy contract with the Town. Chief Dickenson also expressed his concern regarding "Live in Liberty" Coordinator, Dawn Ripberger, had Sheriff Adams sign her request for the State Excise for a one-day alcohol license. He was concerned that he had not seen the drawing she had submitted for the event and the fact that he had reached out to her to meet her to review and sign the paperwork and she went behind his back to Sheriff Adams. The Chief wanted the Council to be made aware of the situation in the event that the town residents expressed their displeasure or there were problems. Mr. Bias stated that he may meet with Sheriff Adams to discuss boundaries of the Town/County relationship. Ms. Shepler also stated that she has not submitted a check to the County for the \$ 5,000.00 that was requested to be paid to assist with the costs of the School Resource Officer. After a short discussion regarding some issues the Chief has had with being called into take care of truancy issues, which is supposed to be taken care of the SRO, the Council informed the Clerk-Treasurer to not cut the check until they tell her too.

MISC. BUSINESS

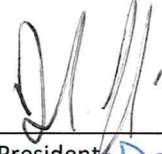
Michael Lindsey did not appear before the Council, as he requested, to dispute his not being granted an adjustment on his utility bill.

Ms. Shepler included in the Council packets, information she received from the Town Attorney regarding establishing a DORA, Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area, within the Town for special events. Mr. Bias asked the Council to review the information and prepare for future discussion.

The Council approved the Lions Club request for a street closure after Mr. Rathburn had submitted a revised request form due to not properly addressing the streets that needed to be closed.

ADJOURN

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



~~Keith Bias, President~~

Derrek Jenkins,
meeting mediator

ATTEST:



Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer