

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF
THE CORPORATION OF LIBERTY, INDIANA
December 2, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Liberty, Indiana had regular meeting on December 2, 2024 in the Union County Commissioners' Chambers of the Union County Courthouse.

Town Council President Keith Bias called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Dereck Tipton, Jerry Kahl and Ross Keasling.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2024 and the special meeting of November 25, 2024. Mr. Tipton supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

ORDINANCES

Mr. Bias roll called the members to suspend the rules and vote on Ordinance 2024-16 The 2025 Salary Ordinance. All members agreed to suspend the rules and vote on first reading. Mr. Tipton made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-16 the 2025 Salary Ordinance. Mr. Kahl supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-19 2025 Regularly Scheduled Meetings and Place. Mr. Tipton supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Utilities Superintendent Matt Reuss reported that the street lights were installed in the Wynds. Other than one resident complaining about the noise of the installation, Mr. Reuss has received many thank yous for having the lights installed.

Police Chief Todd Dickenson reported that three of his officers will be attending Data master School on December 11th and Officer Jackson will be attending Taser School on December 27th to become a taser instructor.

Fire Chief Jim Barnhizer reported that the department would not be ordering any equipment for the new truck or other equipment until after the first of the year. Mr. Bias inquired as to why one of the trucks did not start when a call had gone out as was heard on the scanner. Chief Barnhizer stated that the battery had died on the truck and a new one has been installed.

MISC. BUSINESS

Mr. Bias presented the new agreement that outlines the fiscal agreement between the Town and the Volunteer Fire Department for the 2025 budget year. Mr. Bias stated that this agreement will be in effect for 2025 as the Town and the Fire Department work through the fiscal relationship per State Board of Accounts audit points and recommendations to commence in 2026. Ms. Shepler and Town Attorney, Jim Williams have not been able to locate any documentation that shows when this relationship started and if there were parameters set by the parties. Mr. Bias, Mr. Williams, Todd Caldwell of Baker Tilly and Ms. Shepler have been working on this agreement off and on since January. Mr. Williams will be meeting with Fire Chief in Waiting, Jim Franklin to advise him of the Fire Departments financial and legal standing in regards to the Town. After a brief discussion, Mr. Tipton made a motion to approve the fiscal agreement between the Town and the Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Kahl supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed. Mr. Keasling abstained from voting as he is a current member of the Volunteer Fire Department.

The Town Council approved the library's request to move the date of their 5K run to December 14th.

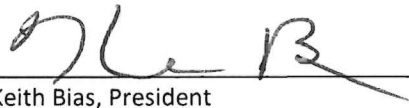
Mr. Tipton made a motion to approve October's bank reconciliations. Mr. Kahl supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Mr. Bias informed the members of the Christmas Luncheon on December 23rd at the Street Garage with Council members and the Town employees.

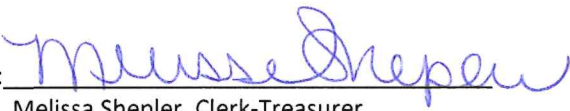
Ms. Shepler reminded members that it is imperative that quorum be present for the last meeting of the year due to the year-end paperwork that will be presented.

ADJOURN

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



Keith Bias, President

ATTEST: 

Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer