

October 15, 2024

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the October 15, 2024, meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Deputy Sheriff Joshua C. Phipps
Police Officer David Lee
Deputy Constable Ruben Garcia

ROLL CALL:

James Marker - Absent
Lawrence Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Tony Hobson
Melissa Robbins - Absent

ALSO ATTENDING:

Gina Smith- Clerk Treasurer
Greg Mance – Chief of Police
Building Commissioner
Alfredo Estrada – Attorney for the Town
Roy Schoon – Fire Chief
Andy Raab – Director of Public Works

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2024, meeting, as presented, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, all in favor, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the claims of \$1,853,240.53, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, all in favor, Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. There will be a Town Council Executive Session on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 6:30 pm. A study session will follow if necessary.
2. The next Town Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 7:00 pm, there will be a study session at 6:30 pm and one will follow if necessary. The Adoption of the 2025 Budget.

COMMUNICATIONS:

REPORTS:

- Public Works- Leaf pickup will start on Monday October 21st and will run through December 10th, and will be posted on the Website, reminder this Saturday is the hazardous waste disposal located at our Public Works Building, will cover items that you normally do not put in your garbage. i.e.: paint, oil, examples of items, from 9 am to 2 pm. Also, shred.
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner – No Report
- Finance Report – No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Handball Tournament October 19, 2024, requesting approval for Alcohol Permit:** Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, all in favor, Motion Carried.
2. **2025 Budget Hearing:** Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 pm. Council Member Tony Hobson read the Notice to Taxpayers, Clerk Treasurer Gina Smith read the Budget Estimates as follows: Budget Estimate \$32,112,209.00, Maximum Estimated Funds to be raised (including appeals and levies exempt from maximum levy limitations) \$12,922,742.00, Excessive Levy Appeals \$505,000.00, Current Tax Levy \$11,139,238.00. Council President Rick Ryfa stated at this time is there anyone here to speak for or against the Budget that has been presented, Motion to adopt, so moved by Council Member Larry Ballah, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, roll taken, Larry Ballah, in favor, Rick Ryfa, in favor, Tony Hobson, in favor, 2025 Adoption adopted, next meeting, October 29, 2024 for final adoption.
3. **Board Appointments:**
 - Storm Water Board:** Council President Rick Ryfa asked for nominations for Storm Water Board: Council Member Larry Ballah nominated John Volkmann to the Storm Water Board, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, no other nominations, nominations closed, all in favor for appointing John Volkmann to the Storm Water Board, Motion Carried.
 - Sanitary Board:** Council President Rick Ryfa asked for nominations for the Sanitary Board: Council Member Larry Ballah nominated John Volkmann to the Sanitary Board, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, no other nominations, nominations closed, all in favor for appointing John Volkmann to the Sanitary Board, Motion Carried.
4. **TOT Park Encumbrance Deed:** Attorney Estrada explained the purpose of this is for the DNR Grant for about half a million dollars awarded and part of the process required that we would be over a couple of parcels. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa to sign the Warranty Deed, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, all in favor, Motion Carried.
5. **Midwest Auto Business License Hearing:** Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to review the information and continue this to October 29, 2024, Town Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, all in favor, Motion Carried.

Water Board Meeting: 7:10 PM

End Water Board Meeting 7:11 PM

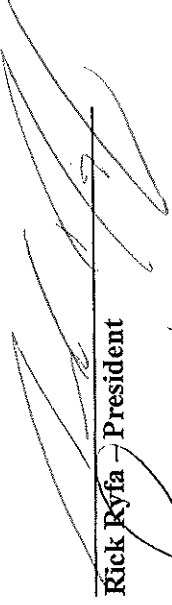
Pending Items: NONE

Public Comment:

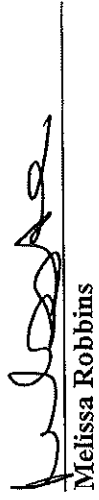
Jackie Braun: Asked what a Town Council executive session is, explain warranty Deed.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

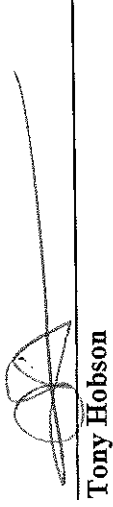
COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA


Rick Kyfa - President


James Marker


Melissa Robbins

Lawrence Ballah - Vice President



Tony Hobson


Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer