

**December 17, 2024**

**TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Council President Rick Ryfa called the December 17, 2024, meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:**

Police Officer Jacob Candanoza  
Sergeant Rick Finley  
Sergeant Elio Diaz

**ROLL CALL:**

James Marker  
Lawrence Ballah  
Rick Ryfa  
Tony Hobson  
Melissa Robbins

**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 - Absent

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2024, meeting, as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** Council Member Jim Marker made a motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$1,083,089.21, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, all in favor, Motion Carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. We will have a Town Council Meeting on December 30, 2024, at 1:00 pm to close out the year end.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**REPORTS:**

- Public Works- No Report
- 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:**

1. **Ordinance 2024-12: Salary:** Council Member Jim Marker gave the second reading, as a reminder we have a raise for our Utility, and our Building Secretary also includes a 2% increase for all Town employees, and a 10% raise for our part-time Fire Department. Council Member Jim Marker made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2024-12, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Butler Fairman & Seufert CCMG Agreement:** This is for our Community Crossings Grant, not to exceed \$51,600.00, Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion allowing President Rick Ryfa to sign the agreement, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.
2. **Uncollected Trash Write Offs:** Per Ordinance 93-18, request from Clerk Treasurer's office to write off, \$10,865.39 of uncollectable accounts, Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, all in favor, Motion Carried.
3. **Ordinance 2024-13: Bonus:** Ordinance amending Salary Ordinance 2023-27 for the year 2024, Totaling \$9,000.00: Building Department Administrator \$5000.00, Chief Deputy Clerk Treasurer \$2,000.00 and Senior Utility Clerk \$2,000.00, Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to amend this Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Jim Marker, Council President Rick Ryfa entertained a motion to suspend the rules, so moved by Council Member Tony Hobson, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah, roll call, all in favor, rules suspended, Council President Rick Ryfa entertained a motion to approve, so moved by Council Member Larry Ballah, seconded by Council Member Jim Marker, all in favor, motion Carried.

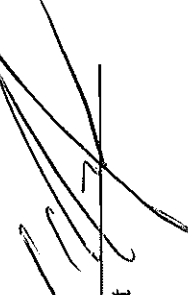
**PENDING ITEMS: NONE**

**Public Comment:**

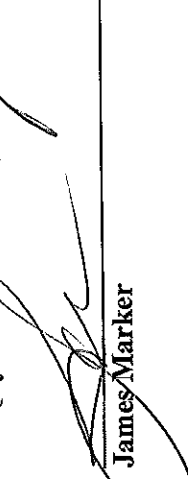
Georgeanne: Logan's Love (Logan Ruiz) giving back to special needs. Raising money for blue bags for First Responders.


**There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.**

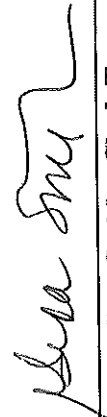
COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

  
Rick Ryfa – President

  
Lawrence Ballah – Vice President

  
James Marker

  
Tony Hobson

  
Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer

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Melissa Robbins