

Meeting of the Town Council of Hometown, Indiana
Monday, March 3, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Hometown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public meeting of the Hometown Town Council was held on Monday, March 3, 2025, at Hometown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Hometown, IN. Present was town council members Patricia Freck; Brad Hite; Tina McDonald; and Brandon Seifert; Town Manager Hannah Walker; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc.; Jay Stankewicz of GAI Consultants; and Michael Hawk of Hawk Haynie Kammeyer & Smith; three (3) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. One (1) member of the media attended via Microsoft Teams. Council member Michael Aker was absent.

Brad Hite called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Brad Hite suspended the public meeting at 6:00 p.m. and opened a Public Hearing for Hometown Ordinance 2025-002, an Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the Town of Hometown, Indiana to be commonly known as the Fens, Phase I, voluntary annexation. Town Manager Hannah Walker provided an overview of the Ordinance. Brad Hite opened the floor to Public Comment. None were brought forth. Brad Hite closed the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. and reconvened the regular meeting.

COUNCIL ACTION

Tina McDonald made a motion to approve the minutes of February 18, 2025, regular meeting. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2025, administrative meeting. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to approve the general, water, and sewer claims dated March 3, 2025, in the amount of \$322,853.02. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to introduce Hometown Ordinance 2025-002, an Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the Town of Hometown, Indiana to be commonly known as the Fens, Phase I, voluntary annexation. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to approve Hometown Resolution 2025-003, a Resolution for lease of property. Brandon Seifert seconded. Hannah Walker provided an overview of the Resolution which will waive the appraisal process for leasing the 19-acre parcel of town owned land that is being requested for farming. The request for proposals will be advertised twice in the newspaper and will close on March 14, 2025. Brad Hite said he wanted to ensure that the land is returned to its current condition after farming. Walker said those types of clauses will be included in the final agreement with whomever is awarded the opportunity to farm the land. After no further discussion, the motion carried 4-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to approve the recommendation of the hiring committee for the utility clerk #3 position, pending approval from the Utility Service Board. Brandon Seifert seconded. Hannah Walker said that interviews for open position will take place Wednesday, March 5, 2025, and Thursday, March 6, 2025. The committee will then make a recommendation to the Utility Service Board at its meeting on Thursday, March 6, 2025. She would like to get the new hire in as soon as possible, instead of

waiting until the council's next meeting to get approval. After no further discussion, the motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Outside of items listed under Council Action, no other New Business was brought forth.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was brought forth.

REPORTS

Brandon Seifert had the following report:

- He asked for more information about an email the council received from IDEM earlier that afternoon. Hannah Walker said the email referenced a prior email, sent in January to just Utility Board President Tony Ramey. The email is the town's bi-annual agreement to issue sewer permits and the town will get the proper paperwork returned by the deadline listed.

Brad Hite had the following report:

- He thanked Hannah Walker, Derek Frederickson, and Dave Hawk for working on a computer update for the water utility.

Resource Officer Brandon Reichert had no report.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had no report.

Outside of items listed under Council Action, Town Manager Hannah Walker had the following report:

- Hydrant flushing is set to begin the week of March 10, 2025.

Derek Frederickson had the following report:

- He provided the council with an updated capacity list for the water and wastewater treatment plants.
- He provided the council with a handout comparing current utility ordinances for water and sewer to potential changes to those ordinances as it relates to multiple development types; including a restaurant, multi-family development, single-family development, elementary school, high school, day care and car wash. The council would like to see the town change the system development charge for both utilities to an ERU basis instead of the current lot/connection basis. Fredericksons said he would work with the town attorney to get the ordinances changes and would have them presented at a future meeting.

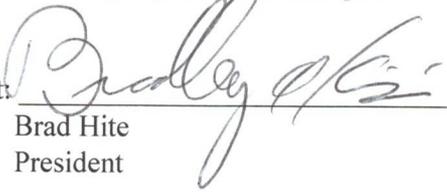
Jay Stankewicz had the following report:

- Kell Road has closed, the detour is in place and the bridge repair has begun.
- Three of the five parcels for the Carroll Road Roundabout project have had right-of-way purchased. Additionally, the IPAC website to submit the endangered species/environmental report has been down. It will delay the letting of the project from October to December. Lastly, the Shearwater subdivision will need to be relocated, and the town and the community association should work on a new encroachment agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None were brought forth.

Patricia Freck made a motion to adjourn. Tina McDonald seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Attest: 
Brad Hite
President


Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer