

Town of Eaton
October 12, 2021
Regular Meeting

The Eaton Town Council met in a regular meeting. In attendance are Daniel Blankenship, Roger Wells, Clay McDaniel, Teresa Welsh, and Dustin Reese.

President Daniel Blankenship called the meeting to order.

Roger Wells made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 10, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes. Clay McDaniel seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Roger Wells made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 14, 2021 Budget Public Hearing, September 14, Regular Meeting, September 18, 2021 Special Meeting, September 18, 2021 Executive Meeting and September 23, 2021 Special Meeting. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Travis Hunt stated that he has not received a response from IDEM about his Provisional Water Certification. Discussion followed.

Travis Hunt stated that Brad Parks started today and spent most of his time with Jeff Fish.

Travis Hunt and Jeff Fish do not know if the monthly tests have been completed and sent in. Council discussed with them that a process needs to be done to ensure the tests are completed on time.

Travis Hunt stated that the September MRO's have been submitted to IDEM.

Eric Smith asked about the employee's winter clothing allowance. Daniel Blankenship made a motion to allow up to \$200.00 for winter clothing allowance for Utility Employees including new hire Brad Parks. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Travis Hunt is still waiting on a bid from My Outside Guys for the storm drain on Ft Wayne Avenue/South Street and drain on Indiana Avenue/EMT Station. Discussion followed.

Roger Wells wants Travis Hunt to get with IDEM and see what they want from the Town to be in compliance with the non-compliance letter they sent against Wastewater.

Daniel Barentine (not present) wanted to ask the Council for another extension. He has not kept up with the previous extension he was given. Teresa Welsh made a motion to turn off water and pull the meter until account is paid in full. Clay McDaniel seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried. Dustin Reese made a motion to follow up with the prosecutor for theft of a utility. Clay McDaniel seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Derek Mitchell stated he has a company coming to give a quote for cleaning the community center.

Derrick Newby informed the Council that the streetlights have been changed downtown. The next ones will be on Indiana Avenue.

Ginger Dulworth and Derek Mitchell asked about doing a Christmas Event since currently there is not going to be a Eaton Small Town Christmas this year. They were wanting to get an ok for December 12 and 13 for the Community Center. Discussion followed. Clay McDaniel made a motion to allow the use of downtown and the Community Center for free on December 12 and 13. Roger Wells seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Thomas Barclay with Commonwealth Engineers went over the updates for the Wastewater/Stormwater Project. We are close to the end just a few items left on the punch list. The pay application for Atlas Excavating is \$32,000.00. Roger made a motion to approve the pay application for Atlas Excavating in the amount of \$32,000.00. Clay McDaniel Seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Thomas Barclay went over the Water Project. We are currently waiting on the easements to be finished. Clerk asked about replacing some trees that will be torn down during the project. Some residents would like them replaced. Once this is agreed upon, they will sign the easements. Roger Wells made a motion to replace trees for the residents that have asked before signing the easements. The new trees are not to be planted in the easements and are to be planted away from the new lines. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Daniel Blankenship introduced Ordinance 2021-10-13 Fire Prevention Code by title only. Discussion followed.

Council was presented with quotes from Ziptility in the amount of \$3,187.00. The quote last month from IAMGIS was \$12,500.00. Discussion followed. Teresa Welsh made a motion to approve Ziptility for \$3,187.00. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Council discussed Animal Control. Daniel Blankenship made a motion to table the Animal Control Ordinance. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried. Fire Chief Newby brought up the cat issue we have in Town. Discussion followed. Dee Martin is going to check for any organizations in the area to help spay and neuter cats. She will get any information she finds to Chief Newby.

Lauren Bishop-Weidner asked the Council to reimburse them for cutting down a damaged/dead tree in the Town limits. Discussion followed. Roger Wells made a motion to reimburse her for having the tree removed in the amount of \$200.00. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Jeff Fish with Commonwealth Engineers went over his monthly report. He reminded the Council that Travis Hunt's Provisional Water Certification will expire November 1, 2021.

Dustin Reese asked what the plan is for the Provisional Water Certification for Travis Hunt. No answer currently. Travis Hunt is hoping IDEM will extend the provisional. He is going to keep trying to get ahold of IDEM. Daniel Blankenship made a motion that all utility employees get certified in both Water and Wastewater. Clay McDaniel seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Teresa Welsh voted no. Vote 4/1. Motion carried.

Council opened the sealed bids from Bestway Disposal three (3) years for \$11.95 and Rumpke three (3) years for \$17.50. Discussion followed. Roger Wells made a motion to accept the contract with Bestway Disposal for 2022-2024. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried. Roger Wells made a motion to increase Sanitation pick-up to \$11.95 a month. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Daniel Blankenship made a motion to approve the building permits for Robert Williams and Roger Stone. Roger Wells seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Police Chief Turner recommended Trick or Treat hours be from 5-8pm on October 31, 2021. Teresa Welsh made a motion approve the Trick or Treat hours. Roger Wells seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Council was presented with a 2021 contract for the Eaton Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of twenty thousand six hundred dollars (\$20,600.00). Roger Wells made a motion to sign the contract with the Eaton Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of twenty thousand six hundred dollars and no cents (\$20,600.00) for 2021. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Council was presented a quote from Newsome's Tree and Stump Removal for \$500.00 for a tree on South Street. Discussion followed. Roger Wells made a motion to approve the quote from Newsome's Tree and Stump Removal for \$500.00. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

523A W. Indiana Avenue was turned on by accident. Meter read a usage of 40,255 gallons of water. Resident said there was no damage, and no water entered her house. Clerk wants to know if the Council wants to write of the bill. Since it was not her fault the water was turned on. Discussion followed. Daniel Blankenship made a motion to absorb the bill for 40,255 gallons of water. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Council was asked to set the Salaries for 2022. Blankenship made a motion to insert the Two hundred dollar (\$200.00) winter clothing allowance for utility workers in the salary ordinance to be available in October. Teresa seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried. Daniel Blankenship stated he would like to give all employees minus the Council a thousand dollar raise (\$1,000.00). Discussion followed. Daniel Blankenship made a motion that all employees receive a thousand dollar raise (\$1,000.00) except for the Council. Clay McDaniel seconded the motion. Roger Wells, Clay McDaniel, and Daniel Blankenship voted yes. Dustin Reese and Teresa Welsh voted no. Vote was 3/2. Motion carried.

Daniel Blankenship introduced Ordinance #2021-10-12 Capital Asset Policy by title.

Clerk brought up the compensation time that the Fire Chief has. He has accumulated 215.55 hours of which 189.55 hours are over six months old. Clerk recommended paying out the 189.55 hours. Roger Wells made a motion to pay out the Fire Chiefs accumulated compensation time of 189.55 hours. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Clerk presented the Council with a transfer to fix the Fund Report for Employee Insurance. Discussion followed. Roger Wells made a motion to approve the transfers. Dustin Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Clerk presented the Council with an invoice from Brooke-Stevens for \$2,485.71 for the water project not on the claim docket. Daniel Blankenship made a motion to pay the invoice from Brooke-Stevens for \$2,485.71. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Clerk presented an invoice from Brooke-Stevens for \$325.00 for general Attorney fees not on the claim docket. Roger Wells made a motion to pay the invoice from Brooke-Stevens for \$325.00. Clay McDaniel seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Clerk presented the Council with an invoice from Stacy Holbrook for the water project easements in the amount of \$420.00 not on the claim docket. Roger made a motion to pay the invoice from Stacy Holbrook for \$420.00. Clay McDaniel seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Clay McDaniel made a motion to sign the claim docket. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.

Delinda Martin talked to the Council about her neighbor cleaning up her yard and taking care of the rats that have made tunnels in both yards. The yard is completely overgrown and over run with cats she has food set out for. Discussion followed. The Delaware County Health Department and Animal Control has been notified and they will be out in a couple days.

Travis Hunt will be getting prices for a gate and posts for the property by the bridge on Romy. Since the sewer project installed some equipment down there and is keeping it cleaned out. People have been trespassing on the property and parking the vehicles on the property to get to the river due to easy access now.

Teresa Welsh would like the Council to consider adopting a Solar Farm Ordinance. Discussion followed. Clerk is to get with the lawyer and work on getting one.


Delinda Martin asked what the process is for annexing an area. Discussion followed. She was just curious.

Council discussed possible available land that could be used for future businesses in Town.
There being no further business to be brought before the Council at this time Clay McDaniel made a motion to adjourn. Teresa Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5/0. Motion carried.



Daniel Blankenship, Council President
11/9/2021

Attest:



Derek Mitchell, Utility-Clerk
11/09/2021