

Regular Meeting

June 14, 2022

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

D. Blankenship called the meeting to order.

R. Wells made a motion to approve minutes for the Regular Meeting May 10, 2022. T. Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Sewer Operator Travis Hunt presented the council with a quote From B. L. Anderson Company Inc. for the CL2 and SO2 System. Discussion Followed about the System. T. Welsh made a motion to approve the installation of the system up to \$11,000, pending the ability of adding it to the SCATA for phone calls. R. Wells seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

T. Hunt presented quotes for tools to go into his new truck. There is a quote for Menards totaling \$2098.45 and All Phase for \$459.78. Discussion followed. Council states that they want the tools to be used to complete jobs on their own instead of hiring companies to come in and do them. Concerns were raised about the tools being in a truck without the truck being in town. Discussion Followed. T. Welsh made a motion to approve the quote for \$2098.45 from Menards and approved to purchase 200A CLAMP METER from All-Phase for \$130.75. C. McDaniel Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

T. Hunt presented the Council with a quote from American Pump Repair and Service for \$7,428.00 for troubleshooting and repairing 2 Pumps. R. Wells made a motion to approve the quote. Teresa seconded. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

D. Blankenship made a motion to give Travis Hunt 120 days to pass both portions of the Water Operator Exam or lose \$2,000 from his salary. C. McDaniel Seconded. T. Welsh Voted no, Vote was 4-1, Motion Carried.

Eric Smith Street Department stated that someone was interested in the old beds of the trucks for \$250. R. Wells thinks that it needs to be put to bid. R. Wells motioned to put it to a bid. D. Reese Seconded. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Brad Parks Water Superintendent Trainee presented the council with a quote from Cummins for \$2532.65. This is to repair the generator. C. McDaniel made a motion to approve the quote. R. Wells seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Jeff Fish from Commonwealth Engineers presented the council with the monthly water report. Discussion followed about the operations of the plant and levels at the plant.

Police Chief Jay Turner informed the council that former Police Chief John Liggett had passed away and the honor guard was going to take care of the funeral.

Assistant Chief Chris Liggett Presented a check for \$5,000 for a grant we had received to buy vests for the reserve officers.

Chief Turner asked for \$359.94 for 3 uniforms. T. Welsh made a motion to approve the cost. R. Wells Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Chief Turner asked the council to approve his vacation from 7/11/22 through 7/22/22. C. McDaniel made the motion to approve the vacation. R. Wells seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Discussion about what the town wants to send to J. Liggett's funeral. T. Welsh made a motion to spend up to \$100 for something like a windchime or blanket. Roger Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

R. Wells presented the town council with information about the leak that occurred at 502 N. Hartford Street. R. Wells made a motion to approve paying the deductible if our insurance doesn't cover the cost for the leak since we have no record of shutting the water off. D. Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Fire Chief Derrick Newby Brought up MacQueen Emergency truck repair for \$2032.79. D. Blankenship made a motion to approve. C. McDaniel Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Chief Newby states that the new truck is projected to be done by December of this year.

Chief Newby explained to the council that if we want tanker 24 to last until 2030, he needs permission to allow McAllister Power Systems to do an engine repair in the amount of \$5,551.18. Discussion Followed. T. Welsh made a motion to approve the quote. D. Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Chief Newby said that Engine 24 needs welding work done on it. R. Wells Approved up to \$10,000 to fix. C. McDaniel Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Chief Newby brought up the volunteer staffing issues he is having. Discussion followed. Roger Wells want Newby to reach out to Scott Alexander to see what solution he may suggest.

Chief Newby discussed with Teresa Welsh about her property taxes. She assumes that her property taxes are all going to Hamilton Township and nothing to the Town of Eaton. Discussion Followed. R. Wells wants Clerk-Treasurer Bridgett DeWees to contact attorney John Brooks about this.

Sewer Apprentice Bruce DeWees presented council with information on getting a blue light for his work vehicle. Discussion Followed. R. Wells made a motion to approve up to \$300 for a blue light for his work vehicle. Clay Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Chief Newby brought up a quote from Alliance Masonry to fix the front of the building at 108 E. Harris St. Discussion followed about the windows and doors and getting the old bell out. The roof was also referenced, and the council would like our Clerk to investigate the warranty on that roof. R. Wells made a motion to approve the quote from Alliance Masonry in the amount of \$17,299.00 to be taken out of ARP or MVH. T. Welsh seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

J. Fish from Commonwealth went over the Water Line Improvement Project. Discussion around the easements still not signed.

J. Fish talked to the council on the 2021 Water Loss Audit. Discussion followed. Findings will be presented to the Town Before the July Meeting.

J. Fish presented council with an invoice for Project O20058 (Operations Assistance) Invoice #52545 for \$1,600. R. Wells made a motion to approve the invoice. C. McDaniel seconded. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

T. Welsh made a motion to allow Bridgett DeWees to submit the USDA Grant and to sign the documents. D. Reese Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Morgan Wells came before the council to submit a contract to take over the mowing at the Town Parks. The Contract states that she will take over mowing Veteran, Danny Howard, and Norseman Parks in Eaton, Indiana for the remainder of the 2022 year. The Rate will be contracted at \$12 per hour paid after work is completed. It will include mowing, trimming, and upkeep of trash at each of the parks with the equipment provided by the Town of Eaton. T. Welsh made a motion to approve the contract. C. McDaniel seconded the motion. R. Wells abstained. Vote was 4-0, Motion Carried.

The Town Council was presented with maps for the upcoming John Tapey 5K Run. D. Blankenship made a motion to approve the road closures upon Police Chief Jay Turner's approval. D. Reese seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

J. D. Concessions comes before the Town Council asking for permission to use the electricity at the Community Center and have a band on July 1, 2022, for the July 4th celebration for the First Church of God. T. Welsh made a motion to approve access if there is only a minimal fee from the insurance. Dustin Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

Timothy Coffman comes before the council regarding the drain that keeps getting collapsed at his residence, 14585 N CR 175 E. Coffman believes this to be continuing due to semis taking the corner and going off the road. He is asking permission to allow yellow cement posts to prevent this. He has reached out to the county who states that it is not their drain. Discussion followed. The town council sees no reason if the County states it is not their issue with Coffman using a cement post.

The Town Council has asked Eric Smith to place speed limit signs at both ends of Long St. They would also like Eric to move the Children at Play Sign on Church at Long Street north. Eric will get with Chris to see what signs are needed.

Discussion over the Northwest side of the bridge on Romy. Quote to block access with a gate came in at \$11,000. R. Wells made a motion to place a sign indicating "NO TRESPASSING PRIVATE PROPERTY VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED OR TOWED AT THE OWNERS EXPENSE" and to also coordinate with the owner on an agreement. C. McDaniel seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

D. Blankenship started opening sealed bids for the paving of CR 900 N. & 175 E. The bids were as follows: E&B Paving \$404,774, Brooks \$376,173, and Milestone \$470,290. Roger made a motion to approve the bid from Brooks for \$376,173 pending receiving the 2022-2 Community Crossings Grant.

The Town Council was presented with information for missing off road diesel from the log. There is 109.5 gal unaccounted for. R. Wells made a motion to have a theft report completed and for the pumps to remain locked. C. McDaniel seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

The Animal Control Ordinance was brought up for discussion. Council would like the Ordinance to be reworded. They would like the owner to be responsible for the full cost and fines but would like the adoption if not claimed to be \$40 with an application. Chief Newby is reaching out to find out about the application.

D. Reese made a motion to approve the Inner Fund Transfers Resolution 2022-06-07. C. McDaniel Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

R. Wells made a motion to approve Additional Appropriations Resolution 2022-06-08. C. McDaniel Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

D. Blankenship made a motion to hire Jeremy Street at \$14/HR for 32 Hours a week. Working 9:30am-4:30pm Monday-Friday with a 30 min lunch daily starting on June 20th. He will be reporting to Eric Smith and duties will be the same as the Street Department. C. McDaniel Seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

D. Blankenship announced that the Town of Eaton will not be re-contracting with Commonwealth for our Water Utility Operations Assistance. On 6-7-2022 interviewed Jimmie Marcum. After that meeting, they signed a contract with J. Marcum for \$1,800 a month through December 2022 and then \$1,050 a month thereafter to be the Certified Water Operator. Thanks to Jeff Fish from Commonwealth for the help he has given.


D. Blankenship made a motion to move the geofencing for where the employees can clock in to be within the city limits. C. McDaniel Seconds the motion. D. Reese Voted no. Vote was 4-1, Motion Carried.

C. McDaniel made a motion to sign the claim docket. R. Wells seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, Motion Carried.

With there being no further business to be brought before the Council C. McDaniel made the motion to adjourn. T. Welsh Seconded. Vote was 5/0, motion carried.


Daniel Blankenship, Council President
07/12/2022

Attest:


Bridgett S. DeWees, Clerk-Treasurer
07/12/2022