

June 6, 2023

Roanoke Town Council Meeting Minutes

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Roanoke Town Council convened on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in accordance with this Council's rules, appropriate notices, and applicable laws. Those present from the Council were President Amanda Sands, Vice President Dave Meitzler, Councilwoman Joan Abbott, Councilman Nick Scheer, and Councilman Brian Humphries. Also present were Town Marshal Jim Wood, Deputy Town Marshal Grant Baumgartner, Superintendent of Operations Aaron Popplewell and Clerk-Treasurer Sarah Milton.

Vice President Meitzler moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 2, 2023, as written. Councilman Scheer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Attorney Mike Hartburg addressed Council concerning the wording of Ordinance 2023-05 Wastewater Rates & Charges. The words "the next" and "1000 gallons for" were inadvertently missed during drafting and should be added for the ordinance to match the formatting of the Town Code. President Sands made a motion to move forward with the corrections to Ordinance 2023-05 and to proceed with the public hearing, seconded by Councilwoman Abbott. The motion passed unanimously.

President Sands closed the regular Town Council meeting and opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2023-05 Wastewater Rates & Charges. Amber Neilson, CPA of Baker Tilly gave a review of the rates of neighboring communities and explained that the rate increase is necessary to prove to the State Revolving Fund that the Town can afford the debt payments that will be necessary to complete the wastewater projects. She also stated that there is a strong possibility of a second rate increase later this year or early 2024 as this proposed rate increase is only half or 75% of the necessary rate increase to complete the entire project. The first-rate increase is to complete the closure of the lagoon and a new main pump station. The future rate increase, if approved, would be for the new or upgrades to the wastewater plant. After some discussion and comments from the public and with no one else wishing to speak, President Sands closed the public hearing and reopened the regular Town Council meeting.

President Sands addressed the deadline of the Continuous Enforcement Order for 184 W. Second Street. After the options of 1) Give extension of time, 2) Fine of \$5,000.00 for willful failure to comply to be paid within 30 days or 3) Order demo bids to go out, were discussed, Councilman Humphries made a motion to impose a fine of \$5,000.00 to be paid within 30 days, Councilman Scheer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The homeowner was not present.

Vice President Meitzler stated that the \$50,000.00 matching grant for the park playground equipment through Indiana Housing and Community Development would go live June 9, 2023. The total cost of the playground equipment will be \$270,000.00. Vice President Meitzler stated that he will be requesting funds from the Huntington County Commissioners.

Superintendent of Operations Popplewell gave his report to Council stating the Town's new website address is townofroanoke.com. Also mentioned was that the lead and copper inventory had been completed and the Town was awarded a grant of \$6,000.00 through Ziptility to do a more detailed inventory.

Superintendent Popplewell requested a motion to approve an MOU with INDOT concerning the unofficial detour through town due to INDOT conducting a bridge deck overlay over Cow Creek near US 24 and W. Vine Street as early as November 2023. The MOU states that INDOT will pay for repairs to the unofficial detour as needed. Councilman Humphries made a motion to accept the MOU with INDOT, President Sands seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

Vice President Meitzler made a motion to continue Republic Service recycling at 214 Second Street through December 2023, Councilwoman Abbott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

President Sands made a motion to pass Ordinance 2023-05 Amending Sections 53.06 and 52.06 of the Code of Ordinance to increase wastewater rates and charges, Vice President Meitzler seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

President Sands mentioned that the Town of Roanoke Library will conduct two genealogy classes: June 28th from 9am – 11am and July 5th from 5pm to 7pm.

Clerk-Treasurer Milton stated that the Town had received the BAN proceeds for the sewage projects in the amount of \$5,033,500.00 on June 1, 2023. Clerk-Treasurer Milton mentioned that the next Town Council meeting is scheduled for July 4, 2023, a holiday. After some discussion, Vice President Meitzler moved to change the Town Council Meeting from July 4, 2023 at 6:00pm to July 5, 2023 at 6:00pm. Councilwoman Abbott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Last on the agenda was the presentation of bills for payment. Councilwoman Abbott moved to pay the bills as listed on the allowance of claims payable voucher of \$547,034.12 and utility adjustments of \$128.75. President Sands seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Councilwoman Abbott then moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice President Meitzler seconded, and the motion was duly adopted.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Milton, Clerk- Treasurer

(SIGNATURES ON 3RD PAGE)

Council Approve:

Ammanda D Sands

Donal Mather

Neil Lyle

Joan Abbott

David E. Huxington
