**North Liberty Town Council Minutes – March 6, 2023**

The regular meeting of the North Liberty Town Council was held at the North Liberty Community Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Will Groves, Jr. gave the Invocation. President Randy Lemert called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Town Council Members: Randy Lemert, Tom England, Will Groves, Jr., Joe Reed, and Gerry Brown, Utilities Manager Skip Davidson, Town Attorney Marcel Lebbin, Town Marshal Matt Wilber, Deputy Clerk Jackie James, and Clerk-Treasurer Vicki Kitchen were in attendance. There were two citizens in attendance. There was no press in attendance.

The consent agenda was presented for approval. Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the Town Council Minutes for February 20, 2023, Payroll Docket PP#4, and the vouchers as presented. Gerry Brown seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion passed 5/0.

There was no public comment.

Town Marshal Matt Wilber stated that most of the mandated training for the police department is now online. Town Marshal Wilber has promoted Eric Kelly to Chief Deputy Marshal. Amended Salary Ordinance #2023-04 effective February 22, 2023 was presented for approval. Gerry Brown made a motion to approve Ordinance #2023-04 to AMEND THE SALARY OF CHIEF DEPUTY MARSHAL ERIC KELLY by $1.00 per hour. Joe Reed seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion passed 5/0. He submitted a case log for February 2023. A copy is filed with the Minutes. He also reported that the 2014 was damaged when pulling out onto Main Street from the alley by the hard snow below the window level.

Skip Davidson presented his February Operations Report. A copy is filed with the Minutes.

The Potato Creek State Park was discussed. The next step is the Asset Management Plan is due April 1, 2023. The 2023 State Budget Bill is increasing the budget for the Inn at Potato Creek State Park from $50 million to $100 million. Baker Tilly submitted a Contract for Services for Water and Wastewater Services for the Inn. Gerry Brown made a motion to approve the Baker Tilly Contract for Services for Water and Wastewater Services for the Inn at Potato Creek State Park. Joe Reed seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion carried 5/0.

Gerry Brown gave an update on the Tree Committee Report.

Problem properties were discussed regarding the continuing cat problem, the junk trailer blocking the sidewalk at Jefferson and Market Street, the clean-up at 127 N. Main Street, 604 E. Center St, rooster at 701 E. Center St, 135 N. Main Street after the downtown fire. Tom England reported he had been contacted by the resident at 127 N. Main Street asking for an extension past April 1, 2023. Discussion followed. The town council concurred again no extension. The Unsafe Building Ordinance states Skip Davidson is the contact for the St. Joseph County Building Department. He will contact the St. Joseph County Building Department regarding the property at 135 N. Main Street, to have it checked. It is civil between the property owners.

Broadband options were discussed. The county does not have ARPA funds to run the fiber trunk to North Liberty, Potato Creek State Park, and Walkerton. Different options for grants, funding, speeds, were discussed. The lengthy discussion was high speed fiber needs and the cost to residents, especially those on a fixed income.

Gerry Brown reported he had been approached by a resident in the North Liberty Senior Housing regarding a fence between the senior housing and Shamrock Run. No fence will be provided.

With no further business before the North Liberty Town Council, Tom England made a motion to adjourn at 7:06 P.M. Joe Reed, Jr. seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Signed:

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Attest:

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Vicki L. Kitchen, Clerk-Treasurer