**North Liberty Town Council Minutes – November 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, Jr., Gerry Brown, Town Attorney Marcel Lebbin, Town Marshal Matt Wilber, Deputy Clerk Jackie James, and Clerk-Treasurer Vicki Kitchen, were in attendance. Utilities Manager Skip Davidson was not in attendance. There were two citizens in attendance and multiple contractors in attendance. The sign-in sheet is on file with the minutes.

The consent agenda was presented for approval. Joe Reed made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the Town Council Minutes for October 18, 2023, and October 30, 2023, Payroll Docket #21 and #22, Resolution #2023-10 Utility Receipts Tax, September Tree Board Minutes, August and September Park Board Minutes, 2024 SJC Humane Society Contract, and the vouchers as presented. Gerry Brown seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion passed 5/0.

The request from the architect for the Liberty Township building addition, Don Flick of Pyramid Architecture/Engineering & Pyramid Consulting sent an email request to not do the expansion of the detention pond. The Town sent the email request and drawing to DLZ for their review. Vicki Kitchen read DLZ’s email response, “The signed and sealed documents by the design engineer would have reflected the Town/County current standards which would typically require providing storage for a 100-year storm. Unless the Town verifies with the certifying Engineer for approval of the modification, I would think the Town would be taking on the liability for any modification of the design. Therefore, we would not recommend the Town approving the plan modification to leave the basin as currently sized.” Gerry Brown made a motion to not grant the variance request. Joe Reed seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion passed 5/0.

Utilities Manager Skip Davidson is seeking approval to purchase the 1989 Ford F700 Dump from Gene’s Towing for $8,100.00, which includes a spare set of tires. Discussion followed. Joe Reed made a motion to purchase the 1989 Ford F700 Dump from Gene’s Towing for $8,100.00. Will Groves seconded the motion. All voted to approve except Tom England voted against. Motion passed 4/1.

There were no public comments.

Randy Lemert opened the public hearing for the new water rates. Randy Lemert explained that the rate was a 9% increase. The legal ad was advertised higher since the Potato Creek State Park bids had not yet been received. There was no public comment. Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2023-07 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF NORTH LIBERTY, INDIANA, AMENDING THE NORTH LIBERTY CODE OF ORDINANCES 30-40 REGARDING THE RATES AND CHARGES OF THE MUNICIPALITIES UTILITY WATER SYSTEM. Tom England seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion carried 5/0.

Town Marshal Matt Wilber provided the October Police Report. Joe Reed commented on the proactive policing the department was doing. He appreciated the police department patrolling and being seen.

There was discussion regarding the sludge and trash bids. Tom England made a motion to recommend Republic Services for the trash and biosolid bids for 2024-2028. Will Groves seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion passed 5/0.

Tom England and Joe Reed did not have an update regarding Town properties and zoning.

Randy Lemert gave an update on the Potato Creek Utilities regarding Abonmarche references and Indiana Finance Authority. The Town will be awarding contract one and four tonight pending Indiana Finance Authority bid approval, funding, and SAM.

Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to award contract one for the extension of the Town utilities East along State Road 4 to H & G Underground Utilities, LLC, for $9,165,783.98 base bid, the lowest responsible bidder. Tom England seconded the motion. Town Attorney point of order to include bond, SAM, and State Revolving Fund funding. All voted to approve. Motion passed 5/0.

Will Groves, Jr. made a motion to award contract 4 for lift stations and manhole lining of the Town utilities East along State Road 4 to Selge based on references for similar work, due diligence, as the lowest responsible bidder subject to IFA bid review, funding and SAM. Tom England seconded the motion. All voted to approve. Motion passed 5/0.

Gerry Brown reported the Tree Board inventory has been completed in the northern part of Town. The Town Tree Board is trying to work towards an urban forest containing varieties of native Indiana trees.

With no further business before the North Liberty Town Council, Tom England made a motion to adjourn at 6:18 P.M. Will Groves, Jr. seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Signed:

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Attest:

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Vicki L. Kitchen, Clerk-Treasurer

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