

Minutes of the Yorktown Town Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 15, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.
Yorktown Town Hall

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call:

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|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Nanci Sears Perry | Rick Glaub | Lon Fox | Rich Lee | Daniel Flanagan | Robert Ratchford | Marta Guinn |
| Present | Present | Present | Present | Present | Present | Present |

Approval of Claims-Daniel Flanagan motioned to approve claims totaling \$3,210,753.42. Marta Guinn seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Approval of February 16, 2021, Meeting Minutes-Lon Fox moved to approve the February Council Meeting Minutes. Daniel Flanagan seconded, Rick Glaub abstained, and the motion was approved with no objections.

Reestablishing the Cumulative Capital Development Fund Property Tax Rate Public Hearing-

As part of the budgeting process, the reestablishment of the fund must be adopted by April 30. The funds can be used for road projects, purchasing vehicles, and equipment. The proposed property tax rate was outside of the tax levy and could increase to \$.05 for every \$100 of assessed value.

President Lee opened the public hearing at 5:35 p.m. Mark Johnson, 8416 W Thorn Tree Road, asked why taxes needed to be raised stating that his monthly payments increased due to taxes. President Lee explained over the last 15 years there were two small increases in taxes, stated that property taxes were capped at 1%, and stressed the importance of reestablishing the fund in the event the council became aware of a capital project in the future that would improve the community. Mr. Johnson was also concerned that his property value had increased over time. President Lee provided assurance that the property tax cap would still apply even though the property value increased.

Mark Johnson asked what the taxes would be used for. Town Manager Olson gave examples of capital projects including roads, vehicles, and park equipment. Mr. Johnson expressed concerns that taxes would increase to the level experienced in Indianapolis and be so high that only the wealthy could live here. President Lee emphasized the importance of: not allowing property value to decrease, improving the community through the redevelopment of downtown, providing improved services to the community, retaining businesses, bringing bring people to downtown, and having residents spend money locally instead of in other communities. Council Member Perry questioned how the tax increase would impact parts of the population, how the pandemic effected the finances of that demographic, and what other increases aside from the Town this demographic had experienced. Ms. Perry asked if taxes were not raised this year, would this increase be considered each year. President Lee stressed that the consideration of this rate was for a capital project and that there had not been an impact study of the effects of COVID. President Lee concluded the hearing at 5:44 p.m.

Reestablishing the Cumulative Fire Fund Public Hearing- Chief Boone has requested for a number of years to increase the amount in the fund for equipment and vehicle replacement costs. The Cumulative Fire Fund is inside the tax levy and would result in a decrease in another budget if the tax rate was increased. The proposed property tax rate would increase to \$.02 for every \$100 of assessed value. President Lee opened the public hearing at 5:44 p.m. Chief Boone stated that the tax rate had drawn approximately \$15,000 per year into the fund and that replacement vehicles

ranged in cost from \$650,000 to \$1.2 million. The Chief reported that the Fire Department fleet consisted of 9 apparatus, had 6 units over 15 years old, and that three vehicles were approaching the 25-year end of life after 23, 18, and 18 years of use, respectively. Council Member Fox asked about the previous use of the Fund for the 100 ft aerial apparatus. Chief Boone stated that the apparatus had cost \$960,000, explained that the terms were a \$600,000 down payment, and that a 10-year note had been paid off in 6 years.

Council Member Glaub asked how many new vehicles were required and if there were used or refurbished apparatus options. Chief Boone answered that a committee to determine the number of new vehicles was being formed with an early estimate of 3 new apparatus. He also explained that a used unit would be costly to refurbish. Council Member Flanagan confirmed that the proposed tax rate for the cumulative fire fund would not increase the established tax rate and levy. Council Member Perry requested clarification on how the fund was established as a result of the town/township consolidation. Town Manager Olson explained that the rate was lowered because the levy originally included a bond issue that had since been paid off. President Lee closed the public hearing at 5:53 p.m.

Old Business: None

New Business: Resolution 2021-2 Transfer of Funds-In regards to a 2018 trail project, expenditures were mistakenly recorded and the fund ended with a negative balance. The resolution would transfer available appropriations from the Rainy Day Fund to zero out the fund. Daniel Flanagan motioned to approve the resolution. Rick Glaub seconded and the motion passed unopposed.

Resolution 2021-3 Transfer of Funds-At the end of 2020, line appropriations had a negative balance. Clerk Treasurer Turner requested that appropriations that had positive balances within the General Fund be transferred to eliminate negative appropriations. Lon Fox moved to approve the resolution. Daniel Flanagan seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

Ordinance 810 Reestablishing the Cumulative Fire Fund-Robert Ratchford moved to introduce Ordinance 810. Marta Guinn seconded and the motion passed 5-2 with Nanci Sears Perry and Rick Glaub voting against the introduction.

Ordinance 811 Reestablishing the Cumulative Capital Fund-Robert Ratchford motioned to introduce the ordinance. Daniel Flanagan seconded and the motion passed 5-2 with Nanci Sears Perry and Rick Glaub voting against the motion.

Town Marshal Vehicle-Marshal St. John requested to purchase a Chevrolet 1500 Colorado at a cost of \$33,828.50. This is the last vehicle to be replaced in the fleet. Robert Ratchford moved to purchase the vehicle. Marta Guinn seconded and the motion passed without opposition.

Approval of gifting Officer Wulff his Remington 870/12 gage shotgun at retirement after serving 27 years on the Yorktown Police Department-Robert Ratchford motioned to approve the gift. Daniel Flanagan seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Lease Agreement with E&B- E&B paving would like to rent the former police station part of the Lion's Club building for one year at \$800 per month as part of a project to resurface State Road 32 from Scatterfield Road in Madison County to Proctor Road in Delaware County. Robert Ratchford moved to approve the agreement. Daniel Flanagan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Water/Waste Water/ Storm Water-No new business.

Departmental Reports-Council Member Perry announced a meeting was being held with the new director of the Muncie Symphony orchestra to have an outdoor concert in Yorktown. Officer Jeff Wulff was presented retirement gifts after serving on the Yorktown Police Department for 27 years.

Comments were made by Town Council Members.

Adjournment: 6:17 p.m.

President

**Prepared by/Attest
Clerk Treasurer-Lance Turner**