

Town of Roann

Meeting Minutes

16 September 2014

I. Call to order

Susan Floor called to order the regular meeting of the **Town of Roann** at **7:04 p.m.** on the **16th day of September** in **Roann Town Hall**.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Susan Floor, James Pell, Robert "M" Ferguson Jr., Richard Morris, Kristina Lynn, and four citizens. Susan Floor also recognized Brian Spaulding, General Counsel/Field Representative from Congresswoman Jackie Walorski's office.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The Town Council read the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Open issues

- a) The floor was open to the public to talk about the 2015 General Budget. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. started by explaining that the General Budget was increased by 2.7 percent over 2014. This increase was the statewide norm. The MVH was increased more than 2.7 percent due to a decrease in the Local Road and Streets Budget. The CCI Fund was also cut from last year due to revenues. The CUM Fire Fund was being funded from the General Fund and would not be seeing any change from 2014. The Street Superintendent, Part-time Street employees and the Trustee - Members would see a two percent increase in their salaries. Salaries that will not be raised are Clerk-Treasurer, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer (Clerk), Night Watchman, Assistant Street Superintendent, or Attorney. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. announced that the Wabash County Auditor's office had announced on September 4, that the Local Option Income Tax (LOIT) would be decreased by 30%. Henry Becker asked why the LOIT was being decreased. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. said that an explanation was not given on September 4 of why, just that it would be decreased. Henry Becker thought that Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. was *frugal frugal* when doing the Budget. Susan Floor then asked if there were any other comments from the public. There were no further comments and Susan Floor closed the public meeting for the 2015 Budget.
- b) Kristina Lynn had nothing new to report on the Old School. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. had spoken to Barry Epply. Mr. Epply explained to Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. that the reason that the County moved forward on the draft for demolition was that this was part of the Brownsfield money and their process. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. spoke to a member from the Lt. Governor's office

about funding and was told that most of the grant money at this time was for blighted homes. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. also spoke to William Savage, Economic Development Director from Elwood. Elwood had gone through a couple of things like this and Mr. Savage invited Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Epply to Elwood to talk to them about some other avenues. This trip will be planned sometime after harvest.

- c) Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. reported that the ADA bathroom at Town Hall was finished, with the exception of having it painted.
- d) Susan Floor spoke with the Roann's Community Heritage, INC, and the Lions Club about clarification of the duties for the Log Cabin. The Lions Club wanted to be in charge of the maintenance and the Roann's Community Heritage, INC would like to be in charge of the scheduling of events. The Town Council will be in charge of the Log Cabin and all events and changes or amendments will go through the Roann Town Council. Jerry Nelson recommended that an inventory be taken of all items in the Log Cabin. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. will maintain the keys to the Log Cabin and Jail.
- e) Kristina Lynn had nothing new on an Animal Ordinance. Susan Floor will look into the possibility of bags for picking up of animal waste.
- f) Susan Floor read the letter from the Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs. The letter was in regards to A-133 Audit Report for year ended December 31, 2005 and 2006. That made the Town of Roann ineligible for grant money. The letter stated that the audit has now been resolved. The Town Council thanked Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. for his work on getting this resolved for the town. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. also received a call from OCRA to inform him that they will be having a Grant Seminar in Peru. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. will be attending that meeting in October.

New Business

- a) Donna Harmon from the Roann Covered Bridged Festival Committee was present and reported that the festival went well. She also asked about having handicap parking for next year. Donna Harmon asked about a place where the vendors could park their trailers to have electricity.
- b) Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. asked permission to have a water softener installed into the Town Hall Building. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. will also contact Kraig Barker to install new bathroom fixtures down stairs. Ecowater Systems were contacted and it would cost the town \$19.95 a month to have a maintenance plan. James Pell made a motion to enter in to an agreement with ECOWATER to have a water softener installed and have the monthly maintenance plan. Richard Morris seconded the motion and the Roann Town Council vote in favor 3-0.
- c) Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. had a picture of the first ADA corner in the Town of Roann.
- d) Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. reported that the LaFountain Elementary School was having an auction. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. will attend to see if he can get chairs and file cabinets, for Town Hall. He asked the Town Council for an amount to spend. Susan Floor made a motion to spend up to \$500.00 at the

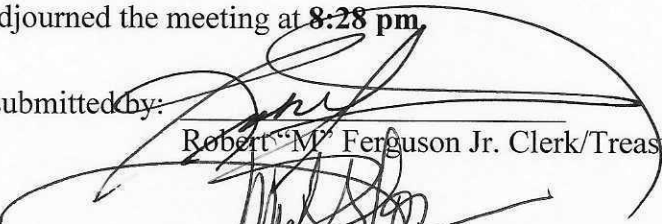
auction. James Pell seconded the motion and the Roann Town Council vote in favor 3-0.

- e) Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. presented the Town Council with the Special Ordinance No. 1, 2015 Town of Roann Salaries. The amounts were the same as reflected on the 2015 Budget. James Pell moved to approve the first reading of the Ordinance. Richard Morris seconded the motion and the Roann Town Council vote in favor 3-0.
- f) James Pell talked to the Town Council about having the trees trimmed. Richard Morris made a motion to approve up to \$1,000.00; James Pell seconded the motion and the Roann Town Council vote in favor 3-0.
- g) James Pell thought it was important to start training someone to take Bruce Shaw's place. Susan Floor said she had talked to Bruce Shaw about making a list of duties. James Pell thought it was important to put together a pay package. Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. thought it might be a good idea to check on PERF for the new employees.

IV. Adjournment

Susan Floor adjourned the meeting at **8:28 pm.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by:


Robert "M" Ferguson Jr. Clerk/Treasurer

Minutes approved by:


Susan Floor, Council Member