



TOWN OF CLEAR LAKE, INDIANA  
Special Session TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
December 15th, 2021

The Special Session meeting of the Town Council of Clear Lake, Indiana was held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 7:00PM. Present were Town Council President Darin Thorp, Council Members Dan Rippe, Brent Schlosser, Tyson Johnston, and Molly Weber. Also present was Clerk/Treasurer - Jessica Swander. There were two property owners who signed the guest register.

Council President Darin Thorp called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and led the sighting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Baker Tilly Sanitation Rate Study was introduced by Dan Rippe. Dan stated that on October 18th, Town Council approved motion to perform utility rate studies. On October 27th, Town secured the services of Accounting Firm Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors to perform the rate studies. The Town has experience with Baker Tilly on past rate studies. Rate studies are Sanitation and Sewer. The presentation was for Sanitation Rate Study and will be used for an amendment to the ordinance. Dan Rippe introduced Baker Tilly's Alex Hilt to present the rate study, its conclusions, and recommendations.

Council discussed the need for raising the sanitation rate because the Town's cost is more than what the residents are paying, per the rate study. Washler's contract price increases 5% annually. An amended Sanitation rate ordinance would be presented in January followed by a public hearing ten days after publication in the News Paper, the Herald Republican.

Tyson Johnston made a motion to move forward with the Amended Sanitation Ordinance and for Publication on a Public Hearing. Seconded by Dan Rippe. Motion passed.

2. Amended Salary Ordinance was discussed by Dan Rippe. The Covid pandemic has significantly impacted our country at every level, down to us as individuals. The Town was not exempt from the hardships imposed by the pandemic. As individuals of the Town the impacts to services were largely mitigated through the hard work and forethought of our Town employees. The Pandemic has also created a large demand for skilled workers as indicated by the 11 million job openings. Having the ability to reward our high performing employees is essential in today's competitive marketplace and essential to the Town's function. The Salary Ordinance 2020-05 included budget for a Street Utility Worker and a Zoning Administrator which were never fully executed. It does not provide flexibility to recognize the extra effort and risk related to the covid pandemic that our Town employees overcame. Darin Thorp said he fully agreed that the Town Employees have gone above and beyond.

Dan Rippe made a motion to introduce the Amended Ordinance Setting Salaries and Wages for 2021. Seconded by Molly Weber. Motion passed.

Dan Rippe read out loud Amended Ordinance Setting Salaries and Wages for 2021.

Council discussed the wording in the Ordinance for more than a year and less than a year. Adding the bonus will be paid on the last paycheck of the year.

Molly made a motion to adjust with additions and corrections as stated. Seconded by Tyson Johnston. Motion passed.

Dan Rippe made a motion to open for public comment. Seconded by Brent Schlosser. Motion passed.

Resident George Schenkel stated that it was good work.

Dan Rippe made a motion to close public comment. Seconded by Tyson Johnston. Motion passed.

Dan Rippe made a motion to read by title only for second reading. Seconded by Molly Weber. Motion passed.

Dan Rippe read out loud Amended Ordinance Setting Salaries and Wages for 2021.

Dan Rippe made a motion to approve Amended Ordinance Setting Salaries and Wages for 2021 with the stated corrections. Seconded by Tyson Johnston. Motion passed.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Brent Schlosser stated that he received a call from Guy Rodgers about parking and the Ordinance around the lake. The concerns were the proposed changes and would like thoughts and comments. He would like to pull it off the back burner and bring it back to the forefront.

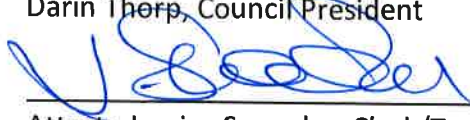
Resident Bob Hill stated that minutes on the website need to be updated. Jessica said she would get with the website administrator.

There being no further business or discussions President Darin Thorp Adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.



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Darin Thorp, Council President



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Attest: Jessica Swander, Clerk/Treasurer