June 5th, 2024 **095**

The Van Buren Town Council held the second Public Hearing for the OCRA Grant on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Van Buren Town Hall. Council President called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Melissa Norby with Kleinpeter Consulting Group explained the purpose of the meeting. Eric Woodmansee, the town’s engineer, went over all the projected projects that will be completed if the town receives the grant. There was then a moment for any citizen to speak on the subject.

Following the Public Hearing the Town Council proceeded to the regular meeting. Council member Mark Towery motioned to approve previous meeting minutes; council member Katie Freeburn seconded. 3-0. Minutes were approved as submitted.

RESOLUTION 5-2024- Mark motioned to approve Resolution 5-2024, approving the TIF Funds for the matching portion of the OCRA Grant; Katie seconded. 3-0.

CITIZENS: Mark Wolfgang wanted to let the council know that he will be having the Block Party again this year, July 6th. He will also be holding an adult prom, Saturday, June 8th. Bill Brandow was asking about the creek behind him. It needs to be cleaned up and backs up into his yard. The council let him know that he will need to reach out to the Drainage Board.

ORD 2-2024- Mark motioned to approve Ordinance 2-2024, hiring Andrew Hamilton as part time summer laborer; Katie seconded. 3-0.

POLICE: Marshall Skyler Beard reported that they are investigating the break ins that have occurred at the storage units. The 2020 Explorer is still at Hunter Ford to get the transmission replaced. Skyler and Deputy Marshall, Tim Fishbaugh, have been going over ordinances that need to be updated. They started rewriting some but lost some files when their computer crashed. They have purchased a new computer. Skyler also informed the council that starting in July, Animal Control will no longer do service calls unless you pay for an annual contract with them.

UTILITIES: Utility Supervisor Donnie Plummer reported that both plants are running well. The north water tower has been completed and the mixer installed. The south tower will be done late summer. There was a leak on E. Main that has been fixed. The meter yolk at the ball diamonds needs to be replaced. A new meter pit and yolk was put in at 714 W. Main. The DR3600, which reads the ammonia phosphorus test, stopped working. A new one was ordered and installed. Fluid Waste was in to clean the main pump at the Wastewater Plant. Brooks Construction has completed the storm drain portion of last years CCMG project. They will be in at the end of the week to start the milling and paving portion of the project. Donnie has been working on sweeping streets. They have also been working on spraying weeds and mowing vacant lots. Donnie has been replacing street signs that have been damaged over the years. During the Town Clean Up there were five dumpsters filled. There was a huge mess that was left. The clean up needs to be reevaluated. New flowerpots and hangers have been installed in the up-town area. Donnie has a meeting set up with INDOT to go over proper lab procedures and paperwork. He will also be setting up a meeting with them to discuss the drainage at the 4-way stop. Two catch basins don’t drain and one corner floods because of it. He also wants to speak to them about the hole on St. Rd. 5.

POND ORDINANCE: Grant County Area Plan’s Executive Director, Ryan Mallot, came to the April 3rd meeting and presented a new pond ordinance that they would like all the towns and cities in Grant County to adopt. Katie motioned to not adopt the pond ordinance; Mark seconded. 3-0.

The Council signed the Salary Docket.

Mark motioned to approve APVs; Katie seconded. 3-0.

Mark motioned to adjourn the meeting; Katie seconded. 3-0. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

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Clerk-Treasurer Council Members