

Special Called Town Council Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2020

The Town Council of the Town of Corydon, Indiana, met in the Town Hall, 219 North Capitol Av, Corydon, Indiana on the 16th day of March 2020 at the hour of 11:30 am., in a special called meeting call in accordance with the rules of the Council.

The meeting was called to order by Lester Rhoads, who presided and the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by the Council.

On call of the roll, the members of the Council were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present:	Absent:
Lester Rhoads	
Paul Hamann	
Tyson Uhl	
Doug Castetter	
Hope Schneider	

Town Attorney Chris Byrd and Clerk- Treasurer Treggie King, also attended the meeting.

Council President Lester Rhoads reported that he, Paul Hamann and Treggie King had attended an emergency called meeting at the Harrison County Government Center at 8am earlier in the morning. He asked Paul Hamann to give a brief overview of the meeting content. Mr. Hamann reported to the Council members that extreme caution is to be taken for the next two weeks and possibly longer due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus that is creating a pandemic in the state of Indiana and the rest of our country and countries abroad. At the meeting Dr. Morton stated that there will probably be more reports of infected residents, however, this will not be available until testing can begin. He also explained the complexity of the virus and the overwhelming result will be that hospitals will not have the capacity to provide the necessary treatment because there will be so many individuals needing health assistance. At the present time the best way to protect the public is to minimize risks by keeping large groups separated in order to minimize infection spread.

The Council had been called to meet to inform them of what precautions were being taken at the state and local government levels combat this new virus. President Rhoads reported that the Justice Center was only allowing specific individuals with emergency needs to enter their facility. This led to discussion as to the measures the Town of Corydon could immediately take to minimize exposure. The proposition was made to close the front and rear lobby entrances to the public. Since the Town Hall has the ability to handle transactions at a drive through window, it was determined that the night depository and drive through window would allow customers to make their payments and open new accounts or close old accounts. The only change in operational change of business would be the elimination of walk-in traffic. The Council discussed the need to set a good example for other public entities to follow and this seemed to be a reasonable and safe change. The conversation also included a discussion about the Town Manager, Rand Heazlitt, who has been out of the country for the past two weeks. It was unanimous consensus that he will be advised to stay in the confinement of his home and work from that location since he has a laptop and phone and can conduct business from home.

During the event there was discussion about how new customers are vetted and the question was asked if residents are required to state if they were coming to their new location from another country.

Discussion was held about the extension of payments for individuals who could not pay their bills and the need to discontinue shut off policy. The Council considered disconnection on a review of case by case and the Town Attorney asked if these cases would be determined in public meetings and advised that guidance should be sought through the State before action was determined. The Clerk-Treasurer interjected information from her perspective by saying the municipality has no program to provide credit to customers. She said she was not being argumentative but reminded the Council that a safety

net has already been implemented for residents by going to their Trustee or the Salvation Army to aid local individuals. She also reiterated the requirement to ensure that money was kept available to meet bond requirements; additionally, despite the new rate the Council was reminded that Corydon still has one of the lowest water rates in Indiana and when people get behind on the lowest utility bill they receive, it is incredibly hard to get back on track. Water and Sewer utility service is the single most imperative utility they have she commented. She asked the Council to have detailed conversations about the impact upcoming decisions this Council will have on our future for of responsibilities. It was also determined that this will be discussed among the Council members and this will be addressed at the next tentative meeting of April 7th. Doug Castetter made a motion to cancel the meeting of March 17, 2020 and Paul Hamann seconded the motion.

There being no further business to come before the Council and upon a motion made by Tyson Uhl and seconded by Doug Castetter, the meeting adjourned.

DATED: 3-20-2020

SIGNED: 

ATTEST: 