

**TOWN OF MUNSTER
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 4, 2020**

A special meeting of the Munster Town Council convened at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2020. At the time of this meeting, the country was facing a pandemic outbreak of the Coronavirus. In response, Indiana Governor Holcomb issued a series of Executive Orders which, among other things, declared a public health emergency and suspended various statutes. Executive Order 20-04 specifically addressed public meetings and the Open-Door Law. This Executive Order along with the opinion of the Indiana Public Access counselor, allows for meetings to be held in a virtual environment. Subsequent Executive Orders have extended this practice.

The announced meeting location was Munster Town Hall. The announced meeting location was Munster Town Hall. Executive Order 20-43 requires adherence to Centers for Disease Control guidelines regarding the number of gathering in one location and maintaining distance of at least six feet from another person. As a result, Councilors, Staff, and the public had the option to participate via Zoom meeting technology. Councilors Chuck Gardiner and Ken Schoon were physically present at Town Hall. Councilor Steven Tulowitzki was present in the virtual setting. Councilors Andy Koultourides and Lee Ann Mellon were absent. Councilor Schoon presided.

Clerk-Treasurer Wendy Mis, Controller Patricia Abbott, Attorney David W. Westland and Munster Representative to the Hammond Sanitary District Mike Hawkins participated via Zoom. Town Manager Dustin Anderson was physically present at Town Hall. The news media were not represented. The public was given the information needed to access the meeting virtually and some took advantage of it.

The Town Council has sought legal counsel and has performed its due diligence to the best of its ability in a situation that is continually changing. The Town Council believes it is acting in accordance with Indiana State law, the Governor's Executive Orders, and the interpretations and directives of other State agencies.

The regular meeting scheduled for Monday, November 2, 2020 was canceled because of the need for election officials to be in the room to prepare for Election Day. This special meeting was convened in order to approve and confirm accounts payable vouchers.

The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Due to technological difficulties, the meeting was not recorded.

45TH STREET CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Mr. Anderson provided the construction update stating that crews are working seven days per week, weather permitting. Excavation along 45th Street continues, and Calumet Avenue should be complete Saturday, November 7, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Because of the unique nature of this meeting, the Town of Munster accepted public comment submitted both in-person and electronically. The public was informed, via the agenda posted at munster.org, that questions or comments about an item on the agenda were to be emailed to danderson@munster.org. No such comments were received, and no one rose to claim the floor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Clerk-Treasurer Mis explained that under Robert's Rules of Order, minutes are not approved at a special meeting. A clerical error caused them to be placed on the agenda.

Councilor Tulowitzki moved, with a second by Councilor Gardiner, to remove the minutes from the agenda and schedule their approval for the next regular meeting scheduled for November 16, 2020. Councilors Schoon, Gardiner, and Tulowitzki voted in favor; none voted against. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHER REGISTERS

Confirmation of Voucher Register #20-10M dated 10/19/20 totaling \$27,282.39
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10N dated 10/20/2020 totaling \$202.12
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10O dated 10/22/2020 totaling \$178,639.18
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10P dated 10/23/2020 totaling \$395,250.96
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10Q dated 10/23/2020 totaling \$361,407.68
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10R dated 10/22/2020 totaling \$543.10
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10S dated 10/27/2020 totaling \$133.46
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10T dated 10/29/2020 totaling \$595,069.55
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10U dated 10/29/2020 totaling \$3,537.22
Confirmation of Voucher Register #R 20-10V dated 10/31/2020 totaling \$248,728.60
Approval of Voucher Register #20-11A dated 11/04/20 totaling \$149,415.90

Councilor Gardiner moved, with a second by Councilor Tulowitzki, to confirm and approve the accounts payable voucher registers as presented on the agenda. Councilors Schoon, Gardiner, and Tulowitzki voted in favor; none voted against. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Unless stated otherwise, all meetings of the Town Council begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Munster Town Hall.)
The number of residents able to participate in person will be limited based on the Governor's Executive Order(s) in effect at that time.

The Town Council will hold regular meetings on Monday, November 16, and December 7, 2020. The Redevelopment Commission will hold regular meetings immediately following the Town Council meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilor Gardiner moved with a second by Councilor Tulowitzki, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m. by voice vote.

ATTEST: _____

Wendy Mis, Clerk-Treasurer