

March 4, 2025

Roanoke Town Council Meeting Minutes

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Roanoke Town Council convened on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. in accordance with Council's rules, appropriate notices, and applicable laws. Those present from the Council were Council President Amanda Sands, Vice President Nick Scheer (arrived after BT presentation), Councilman Brian Humphries, Councilwoman Tinisha Weigelt and Councilwoman Terri Edmiston. Also present were Deputy Town Marshal Grant Baumgartner, Town Marshal Jim Wood, Superintendent Aaron Popplewell and Clerk Treasurer Sarah Milton.

President Sands moved to approve the February 4, 2025, Council meeting minutes as written, Councilwoman Weigelt seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Baker Tilly's Jeffrey Rowe, CPA presented the Water and Sewer Utility System Development Charges (aka connection or capacity charges). Baker Tilly proposed the system development charge for a 5/8-inch meter at \$1,105.00 for water and \$4,035.00 for sewer. With an increase in the size of meter, the charge also increases.

Baker Tilly's Jeffrey Rowe, CPA then presented an Amended Summary of Estimated Rate Impact regarding the Towns' wastewater system based on the Council's decision to move forward with a new wastewater plant. The estimated increase in user rates based on 4,000 gallons as well as 2,000 gallons (the minimum bill) was stated as well as the rates if Council approved a 20-year loan (rate increase ranged 100% -135%) versus a 35-year loan (rate increase ranged 70% - 97%) with and without the READI grant. With the verbal commitment of \$500,000.00 from the Huntington County Commissioners, Mr. Rowe stated that this would decrease the percentages by about 5%. Mr. Rowe discussed the pros and cons of funding options – State Revolving Fund, the open market and Indiana Bond Bank program as well as the option of phasing in the rate increase.

Lochmueller Group Engineers, Phillip Morton & Anthony Goodnight presented a proposed amendment to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Design contract from \$27,800.00 to \$2,254,600.00 (an increase of \$2,226,800.00). Mr. Goodnight stated that it would be best to bid the project January or February 2026. Councilwoman Weigelt made a motion to approve the amended Wastewater Treatment Plant Design contract, Councilwoman Edmiston seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dan Morrow, representative from Maguire Iron, Inc, presented a full-service 10-year maintenance contract for the north water tower. The contract comprises of annual inspections, including draining and disinfection, and painting in year four. Each year thereafter it will be adjusted to reflect the current cost of service and is limited to a five percent annual increase. Council stated they will make decision at the next Council meeting.

Town Marshal Wood requested to purchase (3) ALCO-Sensor FST including test equipment for a cost of \$2,279.75. President Sands made a motion to allow the purchase of the (3) ALCO-Sensor FST including test equipment for \$2,279.75 to be paid out of LOIT Fund, Vice President Scheer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Town Marshal Wood then requested to purchase (3) Pulsar Axio XG30 Compact Thermal Monocular units including extra batteries for a cost of \$5,010.00. President Sands made a motion to allow the purchase of the Pulsar Axio XG30 Compact Thermal Monocular units including extra batteries for a cost of \$5,010.00 (\$4,000 OPIOID Fund and \$1,010.00 LOIT Fund), Councilman Humphries seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent of Operations Popplewell provided quotes for cameras to live-stream Council meetings which is required by the State by July 1, 2025. Councilman Humphries made a motion to purchase the Owl for \$1,049.00 (which includes a 30-day trial), President Sands seconded, and motion passed unanimously. Superintendent Popplewell then requested to spend \$10,573.11 to repair the street sweeper, stating that a new one would cost around \$300,000.00. President Sands made a motion to have Brown Equipment Company repair the street sweeper for a cost of \$10,573.11, Councilwoman Edmiston seconded, and motion passed unanimously. Superintendent Popplewell suggested the Town's Spring-wide Cleanup be held Wednesday, May 14, 2025, from 8:00am – 5:00pm across from Town Hall. Council agreed.

Superintendent of Operation Popplewell requested hiring Andrew Morrison for \$20.00/hour for a maximum of 20 hours per week as the new part-time park employee. He will start April 1, 2025. Councilwoman Weigelt made a motion to approve the hire of Andrew Morrison as the new part-time park employee, President Sands seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Weigelt moved to approve DLZ to proceed with the lagoon closure bids, Councilman Humphries seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

President Sands made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-02 Disposition of Personal Property, to sell the Katolight Generator that was previously donated to the Town, Councilwoman Edmiston seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Treasurer Milton submitted the 2024 TIF Annual Report from the Roanoke Redevelopment Commission to Council. Council had no questions. Clerk-Treasurer Milton stated that Roanoke Town Hall will be closed March 31st – April 4th, 2025.

Last on the agenda was the presentation of bills for payment. President Sands moved to pay the bills as listed on the allowance of claims payable voucher of \$256,742.01 and utility adjustments of (\$2,387.36). Vice President Scheer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

President Sands moved to adjourn the meeting, Councilwoman Weigelt seconded, and the motion was duly adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Milton, CIT

Sarah Milton, Clerk Treasurer

Council Approve:

Ammanda D Sands

Terri L. Edmiston

Brian E. Hargrave

Phillip L. L. L.