

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD DECEMBER 9, 2013

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday December 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Andrews Municipal Building in accordance with applicable law and pursuant to appropriate notice.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Raymond Tackett, Michael Rohler and John Harshbarger were present. Clerk-Treasurer William Johnson declared a quorum was present and that the meeting would continue.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Council President Harshbarger opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2013-14, an ordinance to increase the approved appropriation in the General Fund by \$30,000. Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson explained that the 2013 budget had appropriated \$15,000 for legal expenses for the Town. However, due to extraordinary circumstances the Town's legal expenses are over appropriated by roughly \$20,000. This ordinance would allow an increase in that appropriation to compensate for the unexpected expenses. Council member Rohler asked that the Clerk-Treasurer provide a breakdown on the legal expenses for review. Without any comment from residents or Council members, Council member Rohler made a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Council member Tackett and passed by a unanimous voice vote. Council member Rohler made a motion to consider the ordinance on second reading at the first meeting at which it was introduced, seconded by Council member Tackett. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote. Council member Rohler made a motion to adopt the ordinance on second reading which was seconded by Council member Tackett. Without any additional comments, a unanimous voice vote was recorded. Ordinance 2013-14 was signed. Council President Harshbarger closed the public hearing.

OLD BUSINESS:

Council President Harshbarger introduced Ordinance 2013-13, the Town's animal ordinance. Council member Tackett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-13 which was seconded by Council member Rohler and passed by a unanimous voice vote. Lori VanOver agreed to serve as the Town's animal warden. Council member Rohler made a motion to consider a second reading on the ordinance at the same meeting, which was seconded by Council member Tackett and passed by a unanimous voice vote. Without any comment, Council member Tackett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-13 on second reading which was seconded by Council member Rohler and adopted by a unanimous voice vote. Ordinance 2013-13 was signed.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:

Council approved the minutes of the regular meeting on November 26, 2013 and an executive session on December 2, 2013. The approved minutes were signed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mark Wickersham, Executive Director, Huntington County United Economic Development Corporation, updated Council on HCUED's efforts during 2013. Wickersham presented Council with a contract for 2014 that would continue the relationship the Town has with HCUED. Wickersham briefly explained HCUED's attempts to locate a business into the old United Tech plant in the Town. Council unanimously approved the 2014 contract and it was signed.

Council approved the Town's proposed Holiday Schedule and Meeting Schedule for 2014 after a brief discussion.

Council approved the third claim to the Office of Community Development for the Library construction project. Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson updated the Council on the funding for the project.

Ross Pietrzak, Region III-A Economic Development Group, explained the formation of a request for qualifications that the Town will send to prospective engineering firms that may develop the Town's planning grant.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch and Department Lt. Scott Howell discussed the Fire Protection Contract that is under consideration with Council. The discussion centered on finances and staffing that would be required to insure that the contract was at least revenue neutral for the Town and what additional staffing would be needed to insure that proper fire protection would be afforded to all citizens in the areas of coverage.

NEW BUSINESS:

After reviewing several bids for a lease agreement on the purchase of the new radio read water meters, the Town Council decided by a unanimous voice vote to award the contract to PNC Bank for a period of 7 years at \$1,144/month.

The Town Council appointed the following individuals to serve as representatives on commissions and board for the year 2014:

- Bill Johnson – Huntington County CEDIT Advisory Board
- Mike Rohler – Huntington County United Economic Development Board
- Tom Wuensch – Huntington County EMA Advisory Board
- Mike Rohler – Region III-A Economic Development Board

Council member Rohler introduced Ordinance 2013-15, the 2014 Salary Ordinance. After some discussion, Council member Tackett made a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Council member Rohler and passed by a unanimous voice vote. Council member Rohler reminded the Clerk-Treasurer that the date of the first payment to the Council members be changed from April to March. Rohler then made a motion to conduct a second reading of the ordinance at the same meeting at which it was first introduced which was seconded by Council member Tackett and passed by a unanimous voice vote. Council member made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-15 on second reading which was seconded by Council member Tackett and adopted by a unanimous voice vote. Ordinance 2013-15 was signed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Marshal Curt VanOver asked Council for permission to move forward on the purchase of safety vest for all of his officers. Council advised him to seek quotes for the vest as soon as possible.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch updated the Council on the status of the fire departments staffing and training. Wuensch also discussed the purchase of a new air compressor with Council. Wuensch would like to order the new compressor shortly after the first of the year. Council requested that the Clerk-Treasurer review the awarding of the contract to insure that all procedures were followed correctly.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson presented a visual presentation of the Town's new sidewalk and sign inventory program.

Utility Superintendent Bullock updated the Council on the Town's response to the latest request from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management Agency. Bullock also informed Council of his department's efforts to prepare for the forthcoming winter weather. Council member Tackett asked for Bullock to consider paving Market Street as soon as possible.

CLAIMS:

All claims were approved as presented by a unanimous voice vote after a brief discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Without any other business, Council adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY _____ as
JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY _____ as
MICHAEL ROHLER COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY _____ as
RAYMOND TACKETT COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY _____ as
WILLIAM K. JOHNSON CLERK-TREASURER