

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD APRIL 13, 2015

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday, April 13, 2015 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, John Harshbarger and Michael Rohler were present. Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson declared a quorum was present and that the meeting would continue.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:

Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting on March 23, 2015. Approved minutes were signed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Council President Rohler opened a discussion on a proposed contract with the volunteer fire department. Fire Chief Wuensch explained that the department's by-laws are nearly completed. Wuensch stated that those by-laws would define stipend amounts and questioned why a contract with the Town was necessary since the by-laws would define the disbursements. Council decided to review the by-laws to determine if anything additional is needed.

Wuensch also informed Council of an issue with the first responder truck. Pace Chevrolet repaired the security system last year; however, the problem has resurfaced. Pace stated that they cannot locate the problem. Wuensch received Council approval to take the vehicle to another shop to try to remedy the problem.

Wuensch also requested Council permission to replace some fire gear. Council requested that Wuensch bring some quotes forward for consideration. Council also approved his request to start pricing some new or refurbished air packs.

OLD BUSINESS:

The situation at 21 S. Maple Street was tabled until the Department of Community Development has a chance to update the situation. The Clerk-Treasurer also stated that his office would attempt to contact the owner of the property on Hendricks Street to determine what the status of that clean-up is.

The Clerk-Treasurer announced that the Town's annual spring clean-up date will be Friday, May 1st. Residents should timely have all acceptable items on the curb of the residence so it can be picked up. Once the provider has passed that location, they will not be back. Information pertaining to the cleanup can be found on the Town's website or at the Clerk's office. Johnson also informed Council that the Town has not received any bids on the properties that are available for sale.

NEW BUSINESS:

Russ Stallings, 330 W McKeever Street, reported that they have a sewer issue that needs to be addressed. The utility superintendent will look into the problem.

A brief discussion ensued on the stage situation centered over the cost and feasibility of a permanent fixed stage, versus a flat-top trailer or just maintaining the current stage.

Council Member Tackett stated that since spring is upon us, it would be a great time to revisit our nuisance ordinance especially as it pertains to abandoned vehicles. Town Marshal Juillerat once again explained the law on abandoned vehicles.

Council Member Harshbarger noted that with the warm weather the perpetual problem with unauthorized motor vehicles and golf carts without permits has begun.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Town Marshal Juillerat presented Council with his monthly report. He also expressed concern over the Town's tornado siren system which did not activate during a test run last week. The problem is unknown but it appears that the Town needs to explore replacing the current system with a new version that would contain a backup generator in the event power was lost. Chief Wuensch stated that he had a meeting with the local Emergency Management Agency Director to discuss this issue as well. There are several options available which the Town can explore to replace the old system. Council President Rohler stated that he will meet with County representatives to determine the best course of action for the Town.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch reminded everyone of the department's Tenderloin dinner on May 2nd.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson informed Council that due to his absence over the next ten days, the Council packets that are normally delivered on the Friday before Council meetings will not be available until the day of the next meeting which is April 27.

Utility Superintendent Bullock stated that the new street signs are going up and the old ones will be replaced as soon as possible.

CLAIMS:

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

OTHER BUSINESS:

Council discussed the situation at the new bridge as it relates to safety issues with the turn, lack of lighting, and guardrails. It was decided to wait until the project is completed before addressing those and any additional issues with the Indiana Department of Transportation.

Without any other business, Council adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

APPROVED BY _____ as
MICHAEL ROHLER COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY _____ as
JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY _____ as
RAYMOND TACKETT COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY _____ as
WILLIAM K. JOHNSON CLERK-TREASURER