

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD MARCH 10, 2014

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday March 10, 2014 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.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:

Council approved the minutes of the regular meeting on February 24, 2014. The approved minutes were signed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Shelly Lake, 444 W. McKeever Street, and Jerry Garretson, 440 1/2 Pearl Street, were both granted waivers to the once annual leak adjustment due to conditions beyond their control which caused their leaks to run into two billing cycles.

OLD BUSINESS:

Council President Rohler updated Council on the status of the contract between the Town and Huntington Township for fire protection. Rohler stated his belief that Markle had signed onto the agreement although an official confirmation has not been received by the Town. The status of both Mt. Etna and Bippus were unknown at this time.

Council noted that the former Miller's Pub building has been demolished by Zahm Excavating. Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson noted that a partial payment to Zahm was included with the claims.

Town Marshal Vanover requested that Chapter 90 of the Town Code be amended to include an addition to the definition of abandoned vehicle. That provision would state that "a vehicle that has remained on private property continuously in a location from public property for more than thirty (30) days and which is not insured, registered and/or plated in accordance with Indiana State statues". Council requested that the Clerk-Treasurer have the Town's legal counsel draw up an ordinance to reflect that change.

Cathy Johnson, Chairperson of the Summer Festival Committee, updated the Council on the status of the festival. Council approved Ms. Johnson's request to pay a down payment to Mark's Ark, a petting zoo, for the festival. Council discussed the possibility of constructing a new stage for not only the summer festival, but for other events as well. Council also agreed to waive garage sale permits during the festival.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council set the first Saturday in May as the date for the Town's annual cleanup.

Council President Rohler introduced Resolution 2014-3, a resolution of the Town of Andrews to Accept an Assignment of a Tax Lien Against Certain Properties. The Town has sought and received an assignment of a tax sale certificate for 487 E. McKeever Street. Council Members did question whether the Town could sell the property at a value greater than the Town's lien. Clerk-Treasurer Johnson stated that he would run that question by the Town's legal counsel for an answer, but thought that the Town would have to follow its normal procedure as if selling any Town asset. Council Member Tackett made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-3, seconded by Council Member Harshbarger. Motion passed 3-0. Resolution 2014-3 was signed.

Council established a special meeting for Thursday March 20, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. to consider its review of each firm that has submitted qualifications regarding the Town's planning grant.

Laura Dillon updated Council on her effort to reduce the amount of old records that the Town is storing in the basement. She presented Council with a form provided by the state which identifies items that may be destroyed.

Council President Rohler introduced Ordinance 2014-1, an ordinance to amend the 2014 salary ordinance. The change consists of making the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer a full time position with all benefits as defined by the Town Employee handbook. Council Member Tackett made a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Council Member Harshbarger and passed by a unanimous voice vote. Council Member Rohler asked for unanimous approval to consider the Ordinance on second read at the same meeting. With the approval granted by the full Council, Council Member Tackett made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on second and final reading, which was seconded by Council Member Harshbarger and adopted by a unanimous voice vote. Ordinance 2014-1 was signed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Council approved the Town Marshal's request to attend the 4th annual IMA Spring Conference in Lafayette, Indiana on March 28, 2014.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch was not in attendance. Scott Howell stated that the Fire Department is still waiting on the new air compressor. He stated that the department had recently completed ice rescue drills. He updated Council on certifications of current department members.

Utility Superintendent Bullock addressed the issue of potholes in the community by informing Council that as soon as it is possible, his crews will begin plugging the holes with cold patch. Council Member Tackett asked if the Town could assist the Lions Club in demolishing a home on Leedy Lane. Council President Rohler suggested that the Town's legal counsel be advised of the request to determine if the Town can legally assist the Club with the project. Council instructed Bullock to purchase a machine to thaw out frozen lines.

Council approved the use of the Park by the Huntington County School Corporation to provide summer lunches to residents.

Clerk-Treasurer, Bill Johnson, explained to Council an internal control procedure that he is going to implement a new capital asset accounting protocol. The state mandates that the Town keep a

list of all assets valued at \$5,000 or more and to annually account for those assets. Johnson stated that beginning this year, not only will department heads account for assets valued at \$5,000 or more, they will prepare a list of all assets valued at \$500 or more which will be updated annually.

Council President Rohler commended Council Member Tackett for his work on initiating the process by which the School Corporation may obtain the old water tower property from the Town.

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 7:04 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