

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD JULY 22, 2013

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday July 22, 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 the proposed ordinance to vacate a portion of Alabama Street. Comments from the public and Council were sought. With no one having any comment, Council Member Rohler made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Council Member Tackett and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Council next considered Ordinance 2013-10, an Ordinance for the Vacation of an Unimproved Portion of Alabama Street located within the Town of Andrews, Indiana. Council Member Tackett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-10, seconded by Council Member Rohler. The ordinance passed by a unanimous voice vote. Council Member Rohler made a motion to consider Ordinance 2013-10 for final adoption, seconded by Council Member Tackett. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. Council Member Tackett moved to adopt Ordinance 2012-10 on final reading, seconded by Council Member Rohler. Motion passed 3-0. Ordinance 2013-10 was signed.

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:**

Council approved the minutes of the regular and special meetings of July 8, 2013 without any amendments or changes by unanimous vote. Minutes signed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Council President Harshbarger stated that the Town had received two quotes for the work on the alley between Main and Market Streets directly across from the Town Hall. The quote from Huntington Asphalt was for \$5,195, the quote from Jeff Sommers was for \$4,000. Council Member Rohler made a motion to accept the Sommers quote which was seconded by Council Member Tackett. Motion passed 3-0.

Council Members debated the procedure for the Town's sidewalk policy before finally agreeing on a policy which would allow the homeowner to acquire a contractor for the job. The homeowner would bring the quote before Council for its approval prior to the start of construction. The Town would do a "pre pour" inspection and the homeowner would pay the contractor 50% of the cost of the project. When the Town is notified that the project is complete,

the Town will conduct a post project inspection. If the project passes the Town's final inspection, only then will the Town pay the contractor the balance of the quote.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Tom Hopkins, representing Utility Supply Company, presented his company's quote to provide radio read water meters for the Town. Mr. Hopkins stated the advantages for the meters including time savings, accuracy in readings and input, and the ability to gauge water usage on a 24/7 basis. In addition, the meters will eliminate the need to "estimate" readings during the winter and also allow the utility department to analyze each customer's water use on a more precise basis. The Town will modify the new meters that have been installed over the past several years and supply the radio read equipped meters for all other residents. The total cost of the project will be \$105,759.79 which will be paid on a three year lease with monthly payments of \$3,056.06/month for the next three years. Council Member Rohler made a motion to enter into the contractual agreement with Utility Supply Company to supply and maintain radio read meters to the Town. Council Member Tackett seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0. Contract signed.

Council Member Tackett stated that he has received several complaints on the railroad crossing. Tackett stated that he had contacted the railroad to try and get it repaired. Tackett also stated that he has started the process to have the properties at 165 West Jefferson and 762 North Colorado declared unsafe so as to allow either the home owner of the Town to demolish the houses on the property. Council President Harshbarger also asked the Town to look into the property damaged by fire at the corner of Jefferson and Market Streets.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Town Marshal VanOver informed Council that one of the reserve police officers, Brody Cook has been removed from the force. Council President Harshbarger stated that there were some concerns over another one of the reserve officers, Paul Weicht, and that due to the fact that reserve officers are not employees, the discussion would have to be conducted in a public meeting. A brief discussion between Council and Mr. Weicht highlighted some of Council's concerns. Mr. Weicht addressed those concerns. Council decided to remove Mr. Weicht as a Town Deputy Reserve Officer.

Fire Marshal Wuensch was not present for the meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Johnson updated the Council on the budget which has been reviewed by the Department of Local Government with a copy forwarded to the County Council for review. September 9 is set for a public hearing on the budget with further consideration and potential adoption set for October 15. In addition, Johnson stated that the Council will have a special meeting at the Library on July 29 to award the construction bid on the library project. As part of that grant, Johnson stated that OCRA has decided that the Town must send out brochures notifying all residents of its non-discriminatory housing policy.

Utility Superintendent Colin Bullock updated the Council of the water leaks that his department is trying to trace and repair. He also updated Council on the status of the street and stop signs in Town. Bullock also stated that since the Town has purchased a new bucket truck, he will put the old one up for sale. Council Member Tackett asked about the condition of the Town's mower which according to Bullock is requiring constant repair. Bullock was also instructed to attempt to sell several other Town assets that are no longer being used.

Council Member Tackett asked the Clerk-Treasurer for an explanation of the legal fund which is over appropriated by the end of June. Johnson stated that the Town has faced a myriad of legal issues that have had to be addressed by the Town's legal counsel. Tackett stated that he is still not happy with the take home car policy that is currently used by the Town's police department. Presented with a compromise to have only the Marshal with a take home car, Tackett stated that the policy ought to apply to everyone. He stated that he would vote against that motion if it was presented that way. Council President Harshbarger decided to table the matter for further study.

Council approved a request from Laura Dillon to archive Library records in the Town Hall basement.

**CLAIMS:**

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

Without any other business, Council adjourned the meeting at 8:02 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