

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD APRIL 14, 2014

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday April 14, 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 March 24, 2014. The approved minutes were signed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Council President Rohler read a letter from the Huntington School Corporation's attorney dealing with the possible acquisition of the old tower property by the Corporation for use as an overflow parking lot. Rohler thanked Council member Tackett for his efforts in this cause.

Council member Tackett requested that the Town begin the process of identifying streets that need paved.

Council President read a letter from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs extending the deadline on the library project from March 31, 2014 to May 31, 2014.

Rohler led a discussion with the Town Marshall on the abandoned vehicle issue with the Town Marshall presenting the Council with a copy of a notice that will be sent to residents whose vehicles are not being used. Marshall Vanover stated that he has hopes that this informal procedure will help eliminate most of the problems.

While discussing the spring cleanup, Council President asked the Clerk-Treasurer to contact Waste Management to clear up the confusion with the Vernon Manor Trailer park as it pertains to the residents who live on the internal street of the park. Rohler also asked the Clerk-Treasurer to prepare a list of unacceptable items for the May 2 cleanup so as to allow residents to understand what can and cannot be set out.

Cathy Johnson, representing the Andrews Summer Festival, recapped recent fund raising efforts of her group. She also asked if local elected officials would volunteer to be included in the "kiss a pig" fund raiser. Ms. Johnson also asked about the status of the Western Days concerning the use of the stage and other items that have been used by that group in the past. Tom Wuensch, a board member of Western Days, indicated that the stage and tables belonged to that organization which is currently dormant. When asked by Ms. Johnson what the status of that entity is at this time, Mr. Wuensch responded that the group still has hopes of conducting a festival in the near future. The Council and residents discussed the upcoming festival.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch updated Council on the departments readiness for the expanded territory coverage as a result of the new fire contract with Huntington Township.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson walked Council through the development of a rating scale to be used at Wednesday's interview session with prospective engineering firms who are seeking the right to compile the Towns planning grant.

Council tabled a proposal from Keramida which would have contracted the firm to complete a review of the environmental regulatory files available on the Indiana Department of Environmental Management Virtual File Cabinet for the former UTEC Voluntary Remediation Program project. Council members want to see how much of this information will be included in the planning grant before moving ahead on this project.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Town Marshall Vanover and Council members discussed the additions to the reserve police force.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch updated Council on the status of the new Township contract, the new air compressor and adding new members to his staff.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson asked if any members were interested in the WHARMM meeting on April 21. Council members Tackett and Harshbarger indicated that they would be attending the event. Johnson also discussed the recent issues that residents are having with their utility bills due to the extreme winter. Many residents ran water to keep their pipes from freezing which along with estimating several meters caused the residents to have high bills in April. Council member Tackett expressed a desire to amend the utility ordinance to allow for a "drip" adjustment. The Clerk-Treasurer responded that it would be difficult to implement due to a host of variables.

Utility Superintendent Bullock responded to questions from Council on patching roads, equipment issues, and other items involving his department. Bullock stated that his department was hoping to put pads down for the bleachers at the Mud bog pit and also updated Council on the status of the new Town garage.

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 7:56p.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
SARAH GEIGER DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER