

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD DECEMBER 8, 2014

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday, December 8, 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, 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 November 24, 2014. The approved minutes were signed.

PUBLIC MEETING:

Council President Michael Rohler opened a public hearing on Ordinance 2014-15 which would vacate portions of the easement on both Terrell and Wabash Streets for the purpose of constructing the new Town garage. Rohler read the ordinance in its entirety. The Clerk-Treasurer stated that all appropriate public notices were advertised and posted. Without any public comment, Rohler closed the public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council President introduced Ordinance 2014-15, an Ordinance for the Vacation of Certain Undeveloped Rights-of-Way, All Located in the Town of Andrews. Council Member Harshbarger made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-5 on first reading, seconded by Council Member Tackett. Motion passed unanimously. Council President Rohler moved by unanimous consent to present Ordinance 2014-5 for a second reading at the same meeting at which it was introduced. Council Member Harshbarger made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-5 on second reading, seconded by Council Member Tackett. Motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2014-5 was signed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Executive Director, Mark Wickersham, Huntington County United Economic Development Corporation, presented Council with a copy of the group's by-laws, its strategic plan, and executive summary. Wickersham asked Council for its continued annual support of \$3,000. Council adopted a motion to provide the annual funding as requested.

OLD BUSINESS:

After review of materials in support, Council unanimously approved a payment of \$87,300 to the contractors of the new Town garage, which is the third draw on the contract.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented documentation from the owners of 21 S. Maple Street which concerned repairs that have been completed, or are in the process of being completed, at the property. Council will continue to monitor the situation until the property conforms to the Town's Unsafe Building Code.

The Clerk-Treasurer also updated Council on the status of the property at the end of Hendricks Street which was recently damaged by fire. The owner is attempting to contract a company to excavate the site. Council President Rohler would like an update no later than January 12th.

Council also discussed the situation with the Conrad property. Once Council Members sign the citation, the file will be moved onto legal counsel for further action.

Council President Rohler introduced a letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency which is requesting proof of adoption of a floodplain management program to remain eligible for coverage under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968.

Council Member Tackett stated that he had discussed the tree problem along North Main Street. He stated that the state will mark what trees can be removed without cutting any of the landowners' trees.

Council President Rohler asked for any citizens or Council Members to report street light outage to the Clerk-Treasurer's office by using the poles identification number to assist in the repair process. Rohler also asked the Clerk-Treasurer for updated insurance information.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Town Marshal, Van Juillerat, provided Council with a quote on a new police car. He would like to have a deal in place by the end of the year so as to encumber the money from this year's budget to pay for the car next year. Juillerat also updated Council on the situation with Laury Powell's dog attack.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch was not present. However, a recently damaged fire hydrant was discussed with the utility superintendent reporting that the hydrant will be online in the next few days.

Clerk-Treasurer, Bill Johnson, gave a quick summary on the appraisals on the properties that the Town will put up for bid in the near future.

Utility Superintendent, Collin Bullock updated the Council on the status of the garage and other issues involving his department.

CLAIMS:

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

OTHER BUSINESS:

Cathy Johnson reported that the Andrews Summer Festival Committee had a nice Christmas program for residents with many children visiting with Santa Claus.

Council Member Tackett initiated a conversation concerning the mileage on the Towns' police cars. His concern is that the Deputy Marshal is not patrolling the Town which is evident by the miles logged on his car. Council President Rohler suggested that a meeting with the department to establish mileage accountability should be conducted in the near future.

Without any other business, Council adjourned at 6:42 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