

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD MAY 26, 2015

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday, May 26, 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 May 11, 2015. Approved minutes were signed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Council discussed the status of the properties that the Town owns and its desire to sell them. Clerk-Treasurer Johnson listed each one and possible action for each. The property at 447 E. McKeever Street, which still has a home located on it, was appraised for \$19,000 and \$20,000. Those that have looked at the property indicate that those amounts are on the high side with most thinking it would take up to \$50,000 to make the place inhabitable. For that reason, the Clerk-Treasurer suggested that the Town look at demolishing the residence in hopes that the property without the house would be more attractive to possible buyers.

Johnson suggested that the Town consider quitclaiming the two properties on West Jefferson Street to Ted Newsome. Newsome has stated to the Clerk-Treasurer that he would maintain the properties, thus eliminating Town cost in doing the same.

A Town employee has expressed interest in the property at 336 W. Monroe Street if he can also purchase the adjoining property at 310 W. Monroe Street. The 310 location is currently in foreclosure, so no one can do anything with it until a sheriff's sale is conducted.

The last property that the Town is looking to sale is located at 504 N. Colorado Street. The current adjoining property owners are not interested in purchasing it, however, if someone new were to located in the adjoining property, there might be some interest at that time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Council Member Harshbarger, Clerk-Treasurer Johnson, and Utility Superintendent Bullock updated Council on the status of the planning grant. A public hearing is scheduled for June 22, at which time the engineering firm hired to develop the plan, will present its findings to Council and the public.

Council discussed the need for and the cost of a new weather warning system. A review of the current system and the requirements needed for a new one were debated by the members. The discussion evolved to a discussion on the need for a new generator for the Town Hall. It is hoped that a generator for Town Hall would be used for a backup for the siren system. The County will

be notified so as to allow them to test the system. Council decided to look at its options for future discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council reviewed the proposed utility billing ordinance. This ordinance will allow the Town to be more objective in its dealing with utility customers. The Clerk-Treasurer highlighted some changes his office will request in a final draft. He asked each Council member to review the document and bring back changes or comments they may have on the proposal at the next meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

The Town Marshal was not present.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch was not present.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson stated the he and Council Member Harshbarger would be attending a budget conference in Fort Wayne the next day. Johnson also expressed an interest in establishing a special meeting in June so as to allow all department heads to present their budget requests for next year.

Utility Superintendent Bullock discussed the water situation that had occurred which led to many residents losing service for several hours earlier in the day.

CLAIMS:

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

OTHER BUSINESS:

Cathy Johnson, representing the Andrews Summer Festival, reminded everyone of the group's fund raiser at Applebee's on June 3 and also asked for volunteers for the "pie in the face" fundraiser. Ms. Johnson also had some questions concerning past Council decisions and any action taken on them.

Council decided to let residents request the old street signs that are currently being replaced. Any resident who would like to have an old sign should contact the Clerk-Treasurer's office. The signs will be disbursed on a first come first served basis.

Council was provided an additional paving quote from E&B Paving.

Council Member Tackett informed the Council that the air conditioning system in the Community Building had ceased to operate and that he had contacted Rick Wright to repair it as soon as possible since the Food Bank will be handing out food this Thursday.

Without any other business, Council adjourned at 7:58 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