

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD OCTOBER 13, 2015

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday, October 13, 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 Bonnie Walker 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 from the regular meeting of September 28, 2015. The approved minutes were signed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Scott Wallace and Steve Davis requested an update on the legal status of the situation with the Conrad property. Council President Tackett explained that the legal action is continuing. Mr. Wallace stated that Mr. Conrad is now burning illegally on his property with Mr. Davis stating that he had called 911 to report the fires without any response. The Marshal was asked to go to the residence to determine the current status of the burning.

Council Member Harshbarger stated that the Huntington Township Trustee would like to have a new contract drawn up with the Town. Harshbarger suggested that the Town's legal counsel should draw up a new one.

Steve Davis stated that vehicles are speeding on West McKeever Street. He suggested increased patrolling of the area might solve the issue.

Council President Tackett inquired about the status of the property at 273 W. Jefferson Street. Johnson indicated that he would check with the Town's legal counsel to get an update. Tackett also stated that two of the tables from the Community Building are missing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kathy Gamble asked if rest rooms could be installed at the park. Clerk-Treasurer Johnson reminded everyone that the last attempt to put portable restrooms in the park met with vandalism. However, since that time security cameras have been installed which may help with the problem.

The Council reviewed the specifications for trash contractors that the Town used when awarding its last trash contract. The current contract expires at the end of the year. Council Members requested that a spring cleanup, fuel surcharge, and a change in the manner in which the Town is charged. Currently a fixed rate of 415 residents are charged to the Town each month, Johnson would like to see that number reflect the amount that is billed each month. He stated that the contractor could run a count occasionally to validate that number. Council instructed the Clerk-Treasurer to have the Town's legal counsel amend the current specifications to reflect the requested changes. At that time, the Clerk can solicit bids from prospective contractors.

The Clerk-Treasurer also provided Council with an update on the cost of the health insurance. Anthem Blue Cross has offered to continue the current insurance program with a 2.7% increase for the next year. Council approved the proposal by a unanimous voice vote.

Council declined a request to donate to the Huntington Chamber to sponsor a torch bearer through the County.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Town Marshal VanOver stated that a visit to Mr. Conrad’s property found a smoldering pile of rubbish. Council President suggested that the Town reserve police concentrate more on Town patrols than on US24 or Norwood.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch was not present.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson did not have anything additional.

Utility Superintendent Bullock stated that vehicle repairs have been filling his time along with tree cutting and water fittings. Council President Tackett asked Mr. Bullock to look at the tree at the Randy Decker residence to see if the Town can help with the situation there.

CLAIMS:

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

OTHER BUSINESS:

Kathy Gamble asked about internet providers in Town. She stated that Verizon informed her that AT&T is the only available providers in Andrews. Clerk-Treasurer Johnson explained that AT&T has provided broadband service to the community which other companies may “piggyback” onto for a fee. If other companies do not want to pay the fee, their only option would be to provide their own lines to the Town.

Without any other business, Council adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

APPROVED BY _____ as
RAYMOND TACKETT COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY _____ as
JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY _____ as
BONNIE WALKER COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY _____ as
WILLIAM K. JOHNSON CLERK-TREASURER