

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

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday, October 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 and John Harshbarger were present. Council President Michael Rohler was not present. Clerk-Treasurer William Johnson declared a quorum was present and that the meeting would continue.

PUBLIC MEETING:

Council member John Harshbarger opened a Public Meeting on Ordinances 2012-12 and 2012-14. These ordinances would increase the appropriations in both the MVH Fund and the Construction Fund. Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson stated that the additional appropriations were needed to pay the General Funds portion of the new Town garage.

Council member Tackett made a motion to accept Ordinance 2014-12 which was seconded by Council member Harshbarger and passed on first read by a unanimous vote.

Council member Tackett made a motion to accept Ordinance 2014-14 which was seconded by Council member Harshbarger and passed on first read by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:

Council unanimously approved the minutes of the special meeting on September 15, 2014 and the regular meeting on September 22, 2014. The approved minutes were signed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Marla Stambazze and Mark Mussman, representing the County Plan Commission, provided council members with a Notice of Violation that their department has filed on a residence located at 21 S Maple Street. The residence is in violation of several of the Towns building codes. Stambazze noted however, that a visit to the site prior to the Council meeting determined that the home is now occupied. Council decided to contact the residents of the dwelling to appear before the next Council meeting to explain what they will do to bring the property up to Code.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Josh Young, 312 S. Hendricks Street, asked about the status of the burned property at the end of Hendricks Street.

Council member John Harshbarger introduced Ordinance 2014-13 which would transfer \$100,000 from the CEDIT Fund (\$25,000), MVH Fund (\$50,000), and Riverboat Fund (\$25,000) to the newly created Construction Fund to pay the General Funds portion of the new Town garage. Council member Tackett made a motion to approve the ordinance on first read which was seconded by Council member Harshbarger and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Council member Tackett made a motion to waive the rule and permit a second read on the Ordinance at the same meeting. A unanimous vote of all members present was accepted.

Council member Tackett made a motion to accept the Ordinance on second read which was seconded by Council member Harshbarger and adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

Council member Tackett requested that the Town consider a drip ordinance for folks this winter to prevent pipes freezing at the rate that they did last year. Tackett also requested that a light be installed on the pole that is nearest to the new bridge. Tackett also listed several streets that he would like to have paved next year.

Council set Halloween hours for October 31st from 6:00pm until 8:00pm.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Town Marshal Van Juillerat presented Council with a list of calls his department has made recently. He did mention that there seemed to be an uptick in petty vandalism.

Several new volunteer firemen introduced themselves to Council. Fire Chief Wuensch stated that the need for new equipment is quite lengthy. He will work to prioritize the list to provide the information to the Clerk-Treasurer. Wuensch also stated that the trucks will need repair in the near future.

Kathy Gamble thanked the Fire Department on behalf of the family of Russ Wallace for their professionalism during the recent fire at the Wallace residence.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson informed Council of the new health insurance premiums for the Town's employees. Johnson was granted approval to move the camera in the basement from the evidence room to the Clerk record area in that room. Johnson informed Council that he will prepare legal ads to sell real estate that the Town has come in possession of. He would like the quotes to have a reserve price to insure that the Town receives enough money to offset its cost in the property. He will have a list of the properties and reserve price at the next meeting.

Council approved payment of the second invoice on the new Town garage.

Utility Superintendent Bullock presented Council with a quote on a new telemetry system for the utilities which would set off alarms when a problem occurs.

Council member Tackett stated that he has had Congressman Stutzman's office contact IDEM in regards to the Town's water issue. A group consisting of IDEM, Stentech, and the Congressman's office will tour the Town to help identify the problem.

CLAIMS:

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

OTHER BUSINESS:

Council member Tackett expressed his displeasure with the response to his Freedom of Information request pertaining to the purchase of the GPS tracking system by Curt VanOver. The Clerk-Treasurer stated that he has given Mr. Tackett all the information he has on the purchase. Tackett stated that he believes there is more information that the original purchaser of the product has that has not been produced.

Council member Harshbarger asked the Town Marshall to contact Bill Lease about his motor home sitting on Main Street that is causing a traffic problem. Harshbarger also stated that Mike Stallings sidewalk project on Main Street could possibly leave the Town opened for a lawsuit since the sidewalk is town property. It was suggested that Mr. Stallings attend the next Council meeting to try to resolve the issue.

Harshbarger also stated that the Town needs to come up with a plan to fix the sidewalks that lead up Jefferson Street to the school. The problem lies in the fact that the homeowners in the affected area do not want to pay the cost of repairing the sidewalk. Clerk-Treasurer Johnson stated that if the Town were to pay the entire cost, then all residents would want the Town to replace their sidewalks as well.

Cathy Johnson, 215 S Main Street, discussed with Council several properties that she has noticed while walking through the community. She will provide a list to the Clerk-Treasurers office. Ms. Johnson also updated Council on the status of the Andrews Summer Festival Committee.

A discussion centered on the Harris residency on Colorado Street. Neighbors complained about the animals that are being kept inside and other issues involving the property.

Without any other business, Council adjourned at 7:42 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