

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

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on Monday, September 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, Michael Rohler and John Harshbarger were present. Clerk-Treasurer William Johnson declared a quorum was present and that the meeting would continue.

**PUBLIC MEETING:**

Council President Rohler opened a public meeting on the 2015 budget. Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson explained the budget process and the numbers that compile the 2015 budget. He stressed that due to the severe drop in the Towns assessed valuation, that the tax rate is extremely high. Johnson also indicated that over the last two years the budget has provided additional funding for the MVH fund and the Fire fund. The 2015 budget is geared toward replenishing the general fund. Johnson stated that the administration is continually looking for ways to cut costs yet still provide services to residents at the standards that they are accustomed to. Council President Rohler requested a special meeting of the Council on Monday September 15 to look at the budget on a line by line basis. Council member Tackett asked why the budget was higher than the prior year with the Clerk-Treasurer explaining that some funds have more available cash to budget this year than the prior year. Without any other comments, Council President Rohler closed the public hearing.

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:**

Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting on August 25, 2014. The approved minutes were signed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Council reviewed and approved the Clerk's request to continue the service contract with Keystone Software to continue to provide support and updates to the program that the Town uses to bill utilities, generate payroll and maintain general ledgers.

Cathy Johnson, representing the Andrews Summer Festival, presented the Council with a profit/loss statement for the recent festival. The statement indicated that the group ended the year with a fund balance of \$5,186.70. The group has already commenced planning for next year's festival by eliminating some events that were not well attended and booking a band for Saturday night.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Council member Tackett described his discussions with a representative from Congressman Stutzman's office and an official with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management as it relates to the contamination issue at the old Dana plant. Tackett stated that it is his hope that

representatives of the Congressman's staff, IDEM, United Technology and Sten Tech can attend a Council meeting to discuss the problem in an open forum.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Council discussed the status of the contractor for the new Town garage. The negotiations have hit a snag as a result of the bond required to move forward. The contractor does not want to put the money out for the bond without a guarantee that the Town will sign the contract. The Town cannot guarantee that without the bond. Council member Harshbarger will contact the contractor and the Town's legal counsel to try to resolve the issue.

Council approved the "seeding" of an additional \$1250 to each employee's Health Savings Account.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Marshal Van Juillerat presented a monthly police report. Juillerat informed the Council of the history of the Town's efforts against Tim Conrad by stating that Mr. Conrad had been fined and had cleaned up his property. Everything but the trailer had been addressed.

Council member Harshbarger stated that he was unable to locate any language that allowed for take home police cars. Council member Tackett made a motion to allow the marshal to take home a vehicle. Council President Rohler seconded the motion. Council member Harshbarger stated that the motion should also contain a provision that the cars are only to be used for police activity. Council members Rohler and Tackett voted for the motion, with Council member Harshbarger voting against.

Council member Tackett stated that he felt that the Police department needs a new four wheel drive. Clerk-Treasurer Johnson stated that before the police department gets a new vehicle, that the utility department be allowed to upgrade their rolling stock.

Fire Chief Tom Wuensch was not present. However, Michael Dean Young reminded everyone of the upcoming fund raiser.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson informed the Council that the transfer of the old water tower property to the school corporation has been completed.

Utility Superintendent Bullock presented Council with a quote from Dunham Auto Sales on a new truck for his department. Council approved the request to purchase a new Dodge truck for the department.

**CLAIMS:**

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

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Without any other business, Council adjourned at 7:25 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