

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD JULY 10, 2017**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on July 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Andrews Municipal Building in accordance with applicable law and pursuant to appropriate notice.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members William Johnson, John Harshbarger and Bonnie Walker were present. Clerk-Treasurer Laura Dillon declared a quorum was present and the meeting would continue.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Bonnie Walker made a motion to approve the council minutes for the meetings of two regular sessions and two executive sessions on June 26th, 2017, seconded by John Harshbarger. Motion passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Marla Stambazze represented Huntington County Department of Community Development announced this was a public hearing for 21 S Maple Street, Andrews, Indiana due to a minimum housing violation. The new owner of the property is Adam Vogleman, former owner was Vinod Gupta. The violations to the house can be seen in the Clerk-Treasurer's office. DCD suggested the town could give Vogleman 60 days to comply with the violations. The board members were more than willing to give him the sixty (60) day extension. After the repairs are made to the property, DCD would require an inspection before the property could be rented. September 8, 2017 would be the last day for the compliance. Clerk-Treasurer Dillon asked about the property at 195 W Jefferson Street. The property will be inspected on July 11, 2017 for a minimum housing violation. DCD will report back to the Clerk-Treasurer to schedule a public hearing date after the inspection.

Julie Newsome gave board members a progress report on the activities for the summer festival. Julie has the permit for closing State Road 105, the incident plan has been updated and filed for 2017 and she also gave members a current financial report. Festival flyers should be done within the next few days.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2016 Community Crossing Paving Grant is slated to begin in late July. Dillon explained the application for the 2017 grant need to be completed by July 14, 2017 in order to receive the 75% funding from the State. Paving projects will be decided with JPR Engineering from the master plan, with the worst roads to be completed first. One of the major projects that could be on the list will be McKeever Street from Leedy Lane to Main Street. The project would involve paving, sidewalks and curbs at a cost of approximately \$400,000.00. One of the regulations for sidewalks is they can only be replaced if the street is paved. Kathy Gamble asked if the County Highway was in charge of McKeever Street. Dillon will check with the county commissioners and highway for an answer to the McKeever Street question. Dillon asked board members to make a commitment as to how much the town is going to fund and what fund the 25% match will be paid from. John Harshbarger made a motion to approve \$115,000.00 for the funding of the 2017 Community Paving Grant, seconded by Bonnie Walker. Motion passed unanimously.

Joseph A Becker was sworn in as the new Deputy Town Marshall by Clerk-Treasurer Dillon. Becker has a military background and has also been a deputy with the Rush County Sheriff's Department. He has attended and graduated from the Indiana Police Academy. He and his family have relocated to the area. His hire date will be July 17, 2017.

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Shelly Lake appeared before the board to request that she be able to purchase the right-of-way for a personal drive at Pearl Street, located on the north side of McKeever Street so she can access her garage in the back of her property. Currently the property owners to the west side of the right-of-way continue to block the entrance so Mrs. Lake cannot get to her garage. Board member Harshbarger explained the right-of-way is town property and cannot be sold. If the parcel would be vacated, it would be split between the two properties on each side of the right-of-way which would grant her no access. Lake asked if no parking signs could be posted. Members suggested Shelly call the police department for help with the parking situation. Lake also requested to drop a tree at the back of the property. Members will have Colin Bullock look at the tree and report back to the board.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Marshall Austin Bullock gave board members a copy of a request and pricing for the purchase of two backup revolvers. The price of a revolvers is \$382.00, retail is \$540.00. Public Safety LOIT Funds will be used for the purchase. Bonnie Walker made a motion to approve the purchase of the two guns, seconded by John Harshbarger. Motion passed unanimously.

Dean Young of the Fire Department gave members fire reports and told members put in a claim for the annual firefighter's dues for the year. President Johnson gave appreciation to Dean Young for his dedication as a police reserve officer and a volunteer on the fire department.

Colin Bullock, Utility Superintendent reported he will be working with Thieneman to get ready for the wastewater treatment plant construction. A preconstruction meeting is slated for next week. Paving should start next week for the 2016 paving grant.

Clerk-Treasurer Dillon let board know of a clause in the code of ordinances that you cannot sign up for summer sewer if you are delinquent on your water and sewer bills. Dillon asked the board if we could waive the clause and give residents the credit because of the increase with the new sewer rates. Residents that have within a year period been given an adjustment because of leaks in their houses but for some reason still have leaks and need repairs be given another adjustment. The board agreed to work with residents to make the repairs. Dillon asked for a recommendation for how much to increase the 2018 salaries for preparing the budget. She announced the state growth rate is 4% according to the Department of Local Government. Residents attending voice their disagreement with the 4% for salary increases. Dillon brought an agreement to the board for Penn Innvotive Consulting for \$200.00 per month for reconciling the bank statements to be compliant with the internal control statue. Council agreed with the contract.

Bonnie Walker made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by John Harshbarger. Motion passed unanimously.

In other business a request was made by Sheets Wildlife Museum for a donation. Members agreed not to give funds to special interest groups other than Andrews community groups. Ray Tackett mentioned the aging water and wastewater plants and how much the rates have increased but stated he will pay the increase in order to be compliant. Board members told residents what was done in the past cannot be discussed but this board needs to move forward with fixing the problems at hand and Johnson also reminded residents that this board was able to acquire approximately 2.2 million in grants to pay for the wastewater treatment plant.

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Bonnie Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Harshbarger.

Approved this 24th day of July, 2017.

APPROVED BY William K. Johnson as
WILLIAM K JOHNSON COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY Bonnie L. Walker as
BONNIE WALKER COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY John Harshbarger as
JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY Laura A. Dillon as
LAURA A DILLON CLERK-TREASURER

