

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 13, 2017

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on November 13, 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.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

William Johnson opened the Public Hearing for the Huntington County Comprehensive Plan to move the county forward in acquiring the many grants the State of Indiana has to offer at this time. Johnathan Dorsey of Region 3-A is taking public suggestions for the county plan. Bonnie Walker suggested she would like to see the completion of the trail between Huntington and Andrews, using old U24 as the route because part of the old road is still paved. Johnson thought the county could be using the river area as development. Small business was discussed as far as starting some kind of eating place that families could go to enjoy a meal. Shovel ready industrial parks were needed according to members. One thing council looked at a few years ago was a Huck's Gas Station, but because of the town infrastructure it was not possible for them to proceed. Dillon asked what the time frame would be to complete the plan, Dorsey stated spring the plan should be completed. Bonnie Walker made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by John Harshbarger. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no action taken on the public hearing as it was an information gathering session for the County Wide Comprehensive Plan.

Marla Stambazze from Huntington County Community Development gave an update on 195 W Jefferson Street. The property has become compliant according to Stambazze. The owner, Ronald Fairchild wants to sell the property as a rent to own.

In other business, Stamabazze noted she was before council to open demolition bids at 423 N Market Street. There will be no need for the demolition bids as the property has been sold to Virgil Shultz and photos were shown on the progress of the property. The property has taken a 100% improvement with Shultz waiting on a judgement for the tax sale certificate. DCD suggested to council to give a six (6) months extension on the minimum housing compliance. John Harshbarger made a motion to give a six (6) month extension to bring the property at 423 N Market Street into compliance, second by Bonnie Walker. Motion passed unanimously. Stambazza will continue checking on the property and update council.

Stambazze informed council as to a property at the edge of town owned by Fleck's Trenching. She will be filing formal papers for cleanup of the property. This is information only for council as the property is in the county and not in the town limits.

NEW BUSINESS

Dillon told council moving forward with the town comprehensive plan and application for the storm water OCRA grant a public hearing would have to be advertised in the next few days. She is working with Matt Brinkman, Region 3-A and Paul Vincent, RQAW Engineering to finish the legal advertisement and gather information for the low to moderate income survey. A Public Hearing is set for November 23rd meeting if the advertising goes into newspaper.

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Ordinance 2017-13, 2018 Salary Ordinance was brought before council. Town resident Linda Clark questioned the ordinance. Copies were made for residents in attendance. Dillon stated the budget appropriations have been set and council could go ahead and pass the ordinance. She also noted the Deputy Marshall would keep the same salary for one year but council would have to specifically make a motion to keep his salary the same. After his anniversary date they could increase the salary. William Johnson read Ordinance 2017-13, the 2018 Salary Ordinance. Bonnie Walker made a motion to approve Ordinance 2017-13, the 2018 Salary Ordinance on the first reading, seconded by John Harshbarger. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2017-15, Amend Code of Ordinances Chapter 131, to Update the General Provision of Prohibiting the Discharge of Weapons was discussed. The reason for the ordinance was because tree stands for hunting were found on town property off Terrell Street. The property has many walking trails that can be used by residents. This ordinance would prohibit hunters from discharging firearms and arrows within the town limits. There will be exception allowed with the approval of the Town Marshall. The Ordinance was read. John Harshbarger made a motion to adopt on the first reading of Ordinance 2017-15, Amend Code of Ordinances Chapter 131, to Update the General Provision of Prohibiting the Discharge of Weapons, seconded by Bonnie Walker. Motion passed by voice vote 3-0. John Harshbarger made a motion to suspend the rules and have a second reading of Ordinance 2017-15, Amend Code of Ordinance Chapter 131, to Update Provision of Prohibiting the Discharge of Weapons, seconded by Bonnie Walker. Motion passed by voice vote 3-0. John Harshbarger made a motion to approve Ordinance 2017-15, Amend Code of Ordinance Chapter 131, to Update Provision of Prohibiting the Discharge of Weapons, seconded by Bonnie Walker. Motion passed by roll call vote 3-0. Ordinance signed.

Dillon requested approval of Thieneman's pay request #12 from the State Revolving Loan Fund of \$189,683.70 and request \$22,306.80 from the OCRA share. John Harshbarger made a motion to approve both pay requests, seconded by Bonnie Walker. Motion passed by voice vote 3-0.

A new health insurance medical plan quote from (AIM) for small group medical plan was discussed. Council decided to table the conversation until the November 27th meeting. Council also discussed having a special meeting with the current health insurance agent and town employees.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Marshall Austin Bullock requested the approval for a new police reserve officer. Currently we have three (3) reserve officers which are paid employees. Council members were agreeable with his request.

Fire Chief Tom Weunch came before council to request one (1) new fire turnout gear, six (6) pagers at approximately \$355.00 each, six (6) sections of fire hose at \$950.00 and two (2) pairs of safety glasses at \$80.00 per set. Motion by John Harshbarger to approve all the fire requests, seconded by Bonnie Walker. Motion passes by voice vote 3-0.

Colin Bullock announced his main subject is the community building. The building is at a point where it has so much damage. Harshbarger stated the building cannot be used by the food pantry any longer because of the damage to the roof, gutters, plumbing and electrical that it will need to be torn down instead of putting a mass amount of money into the building. We cannot accommodate the food pantry any longer with all their refrigerators and dry food. The only other group that meets in the building are the AA meetings on Wednesday evenings. Council will try to see that the group could meet in the town hall. Dillon brought up the contamination issue that is currently in the town hall. She indicated that after speaking with OCRA when discussing a grant for a new community building they have said we


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could not build a building on ground that is contaminated. The ground would have to be cleaned up before a building could be constructed. That led to a conversation with Council members and residents about the contamination and suggested anyone could come to the next meeting with the environmental attorneys for answers to their questions.

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

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

Approved this 27th day of November, 2017.

APPROVED BY  as
WILLIAM K JOHNSON COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY  as
BONNIE WALKER COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY  as
JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY  as
LAURA A DILLON CLERK-TREASURER

