

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A  
PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2018**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on September 24, 2018 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 2019 BUDGET**

William Johnson opened the Public Hearing for the 2019 Budget. There was no action taken on the public hearing as it was an information session for the 2019 Town Budget. Dillon told residents the total budget is \$1,260,653.00 which \$202,384.00 of that amount are the tax caps. The Department of Local Government Finance will adjust the tax caps and miscellaneous revenue as their department receives updated estimates. Bonnie Walker made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by John Harshbarger. Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

Bonnie Walker made a motion to approve the council minutes for the meeting of September 10, 2018, seconded by John Harshbarger. Motion passes unanimously.

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING CDBG STORM WATER PROGRAM.**

William Johnson opened the Public Hearing for the OCRA Grant from the CDBG Storm Water Program. Public Hearing opened at 6:10 P.M. at Andrews Town Hall, 66 N. Main Street, Andrews, IN 46702.

Those in Attendance:

Town Council: William "Bill" Johnson (President), John Harshbarger, & Bonnie Walker

Clerk-Treasurer: Laura Dillon

Utilities Superintendent: Colin Bullock

Region 3-A: Shaun Tilghman

Fleis & VendenBrink: Mitch Hansel

Audience Members: Heather Cox, Steve Clark, Adam Vogelmann, Julie Newsome, Michael Young, Rita Tullis, Sam Tullis, & Austin Bullock

Shaun Tilghman: Hello, I'm Shaun Tilghman, a Community Development Planner with Region 3-A, and I am a certified grant administrator. Region 3-A is currently assisting the Town of Andrews with the application process of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for a stormwater improvement project. On or about November 30, 2018, the Town of Andrews will be applying to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) for federal funding from Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Town will be applying for the maximum amount available through the Stormwater Improvements Program (SIP), which is \$600,000. Of that, approximately \$378,600 will benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The local match portion will be in the form of CREDIT funds.

This is the first public hearing, which we must complete before proposals are due on Friday, October 5, 2018. The second public hearing will take place ahead of the application due date, which is November 30, 2018.

I would now like to give a brief overview of the project, and then Mitch Hansel, from Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering, will provide additional details in just a moment. Again, the proposed project is a stormwater improvement project, which includes replacement of non-functional pipes and inlets, as well as extensions, throughout the town's public rights-of-way or property owned by the Town of Andrews. It is anticipated that



ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A  
PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

no displacement of persons will occur because of this project; however, the Town will provide a displacement plan in the grant application.

At this time, I would like to ask Clerk-Treasurer Laura Dillon whether any written comments have been received since the legal notice was published?

Laura Dillon: No written ones.

Tilghman: Okay, thank you Laura. With that, I will now introduce Mitch Hansel, with Fleis & VandenBrink, and I'll let him provide a more thorough description of the project.

Mitch Hansel: The project is going to go along McKeever Street, from Leedy Lane to Loon Creek. Basically, you've got a lot of runoff and drainage that comes into McKeever, and you've got a storm sewer system now that's not functioning, breaking down, collapsing, and really just not achieving what the town needs it to achieve. So, a lot of that water stands on people's property, or worse, it goes down McKeever Street and then turns along State Road 105 and sets downtown. Obviously, standing water is a problem for property owners and it's a problem for businesses, because it deteriorates concrete faster and it's just unsightly. What the town is proposing to do, is to put a storm sewer along McKeever, with the pipe being anywhere from 12 inches to 30 inches at the end, and then we'll have a series of inlets and manholes along McKeever Street to collect the water, so that it doesn't go more than a block, and then it will continue down the trunk line and outlet on the north side of the bridge into Loon Creek. Afterward, we'll be patching everything and getting it restored to where it was before, and then we'll hopefully look at resurfacing and the sidewalk potentially on the south side of McKeever Street. But, the project will improve drainage along there, hopefully prevent water from going downtown, and will really clean up the south side of town.

Does anybody have any questions?

Bill Johnson: No, but I want to make a few comments for those of you who haven't been following this project. This is just the first of several stormwater projects that the town will be moving forward on over the next several years. There are others designated throughout the community, but we thought this should be priority number one, and one of the reasons, as Mitch indicated, is that we're going to seek a grant to repave McKeever Street and put sidewalks in there once the stormwater system is in there. In addition to that, once we have the street open, we're going to look at the wastewater drain that runs through the street and hopefully make some repairs on that as well before we close it up, so that once we get it closed up and repaved, with sidewalks on it, we should have no need to go into that street for a very long period of time.

One of the reasons we are talking about stormwater, and the reason we're so adamant about getting this done, is that everyone knows we've just opened our new wastewater plant, and one of the key things we want to do, is to ensure that plant doesn't use up its capabilities by cleaning stormwater. So, what we'd like to do is to reduce the inflow of stormwater into the wastewater system, so that the plant doesn't have to work overtime cleaning water it shouldn't have to clean. This is just the first step of many to implement a stormwater system for our community that should benefit us through the removal of water from streets, and also the wastewater plant having to work less on cleaning stormwater.

Julie Newsome: Where is it going to come out at?

Johnson: It's going to come out at the bridge on Loon Creek on McKeever Street.

Newsome: I don't like that idea.

Bonnie Walker: I have been concerned because there has been flooding on that street.



ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A  
PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

Newsome: Yeah, that's really going to put my father-in-law's (Ted Newsome) property under water.

Johnson: A couple of things are going to come into play with the flooding issue. Number one is, the county is getting ready to put a new bridge in there; part of the problem with the flooding is the fact that that bridge is too low and jams water in there. The problem with the flooding on my property's side, not Ted's side but the other side, is that water gets jammed in there and then it's flowing across McKeever Street into my property and neighboring properties. So, what the county is telling us, is they're looking at putting a new bridge in there, and elevating that road by about 3 feet, and expanding the width of that bridge.

Newsome: So, is this all going to take place around the same time?

Johnson: Hopefully, it will follow this, because we met with them and they said they were going to have to purchase property to do that work. So, I asked why they don't just have FEMA buy the eight properties identified as being in the floodplain.

Newsome: It'd be nice if it all coincides and works together as it should, but you and I live in reality; because if it doesn't, I'm telling you right now, that you're going to put my 80+ year old father-in-law under water.

Johnson: I have property there too that's underwater. Basically, when that water comes down McKeever Street now, it gets to my house there at the corner of Main and McKeever. It's split, so maybe 30% of it goes north on Main Street, and then about 70% of it goes south down Main Street to where it hits Loon Creek. That area gets inundated with water, and so what this will do, is simply take the water that's going down South Main Street to Loon Creek, and move it in a more expedient fashion down to Loon Creek where it meets McKeever Street.

This project will be complete before FEMA would buy the homes and before the bridge goes in. The county engineers want this project done before they start putting a new bridge in there. This has to be done first, according to their engineers, so that's why we're moving on this right now. They tell me that bridge will be more than three feet higher than it is now, because they're actually going to put new pavement and build up the entire roadbed in order to slant it down toward the stop sign at Berry Street.

Dillon: Then, are they going to reconstruct our stormwater when they do that?

Johnson: No, because our drain will be under the current roadbed, and they'll be building on top of the current roadbed.

Hansel: We have a set of their plans, and we're working to coordinate our design with their design so that we don't have to redo anything. But to kind of answer your questions though, having the storm inlets along McKeever will actually get the water to the creek faster, and your creek doesn't crest until a day or two after the rain event; so, the McKeever water will actually get away faster than right now, as it flows along the streets and pools at different properties along the way.

Johnson: It isn't the purpose of this plan to make the flood situation in that area any worse than what it already is. If any of us thought for a second, that this was going to do that, I guarantee we would not advance this project at all. We think it's so beneficial, for the reasons I stated earlier, for the people along McKeever Street, for our wastewater plant, and for getting ready to redo that roadbed, that we get the water off that road and off those properties. We can obviously see the need, and again, once we get the water off the street it's got to go somewhere, and the watershed it's going to, is going to be Loon Creek – this is the easiest way to go to get it done.



ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A  
PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

So, we think it has several advantages. Not only that, but it's a safety hazard when that road floods, because it gets deep in there. Outside of 105, that's probably the most highly-traveled street we have in town. And eventually, the U.S. government is going to make towns the size of Andrews segregate their wastewater and stormwater. We're doing it now while the State has the money available to us – the \$600,000 – we're not sure how long that availability will continue. So, we decided to move now while those funds were available.

Any other questions?

Tilghman: Thank you for that discussion. We will open up again for public comment, although that's pretty much what just took place, but I would also like to present an overview of the grant scoring criteria. This is a competitive grant, with a total of 700 possible points available – we must achieve a minimum of 420 points to be eligible. Points are awarded based on five (5) categories, which include: National Objective, Distress Score, Local Match, Project Design, and Sustainability.

The Project Design category is worth 300 points total. The scoring criteria breaks down further as follows: 50 points possible for description of the project, 125 points possible for project need, and 125 points possible for financial impact. One of the keys to achieving the best possible score in this category, is providing evidence of need. When I open the floor for public comments, those comments will be recorded in the meeting minutes and then submitted with the application. We would also like to submit letters of support from residents who will benefit from this project. If you would like to submit a letter of support, I ask that you please do so by the end of the week, Friday, November 23, 2018, as applications are due next Friday, November 30, 2018.

The category for Distress Score has a maximum of 175 points available. This score is based on the Town's Distress Score calculated by Indiana University, and as such, there's nothing we can do to impact this score within the application. The following factors contribute to a community distress score: percentage of households with income under poverty level, median household income, percentage of vacant housing units, median home value, unemployment rate, and labor force participation. The Distress Score for the Town of Andrews is 107.63.

The Local Match category is worth a total of 75 points. The way it breaks downs is, for each percent of the project cost that is funded through local match you get one point, up to 75 points. Our project would be funded at 20% local match, so we would get 20 points.

The National Objective category has a maximum of 100 points available. The awarding of points in this category correlates to the number of low- and moderate-income persons that will benefit from the project. We will get one point for every one percent of the beneficiaries categorized as low- to moderate- income; and, per the results of the Income Survey we completed in February, the Town of Andrews has an LMI of 63.1%, which equals 63 points.

The last category is Project Sustainability, which offers a maximum of 50 possible points. The score in this category is tied to the monthly user rate charged for the stormwater utility, which constitutes documentation of an existing sustainability plan for the ongoing operation and maintenance activities of the stormwater system. There are three categories for points awarded, based on the relative stormwater utility user rate, including: 0 points for a monthly user rate of \$2.99 or less; 25 points for a monthly user rate between \$3 and \$4.99; and 50 points for a monthly user rate of \$5 or more. With the Town charging a monthly stormwater rate of \$3, we will be subsequently awarded 25 points.

Now that we've provided details regarding both project construction and grant scoring, I will open for public comments. Please note that, as this is a public hearing, we do need to document those that speak; so, if you



ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A  
PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

do share your comments, please just remember to state your name each time before speaking. So, does anyone have any comments or questions that haven't already been addressed?

Johnson: Do any board members have any additional comments at this time?

Tilghman: Okay, then with that we can close the public hearing. Thank you.

Public Hearing closed at 6:42 P.M.

Minutes submitted by:

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Shaun Tilghman, Community Development Planner  
Region 3-A Development & RPC

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 session for the OCRA Grant from the CDBG Storm Water Program.

Terrel Street Brush Pile – “Park & Municipal Properties” Ordinance 2018-10 was presented to council as a draft for discussion. William Johnson stated that we had received a letter from IDEM stating that if we burn at the Terrel Street brush pile, “we’re in trouble”. Laura Dillon presented a copy of the State of Indiana regulations received with the violation. John Harshbarger stated some particulars of the ordinance regarding open burn such as manning the pile as it burns with the correct extinguishers if need be. Harshbarger stated that this has been an ongoing issue for years and that it is an issue that needs to be addressed. By the end of 2019 there will be no land fill in Huntington County so we will have to take care of our own brush. There was discussion on a designated area for compost, tree trimmings and brush. We need to work on a plan to implement the plan for parking, camping, trails, disposal and fires.

William Johnson suggested two key things to come out of this discussion. 1. To develop the trails but also to provide a place for residents to bring their yard clippings and brush. 2. To keep in compliance with the State regarding burning. The matter was tabled for discussion at next meeting.

The town auction will be held on Friday, October 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Dillon asked council if the auction could be moved from the town parking lot to the town garage, council agreed. Advertisement for the sale will be October 2nd and the 9th in the Herald-Press. Clerk-Treasurer Dillon will also advertise in the TAB and items can be seen on the AuctionZip website.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2018-9, the 2019 Salary Ordinance was discussed, as well as Ordinance 2018-8 the 2019 Appropriations and Tax Rates. Council will adopt 2019-8 Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates at the October 8, 2019 meeting.

Request #34 State Revolving Loan Funds for Strand for \$22,860.48. John Harshbarger made a motion to approve Request #34, seconded by Bonnie Walker. Motion passed by voice vote 3-0.

Julie Newsome, the Dallas Township Trustee informed council of the fire contract between the town and the township which expires December 31, 2019. Currently the contract is \$30,200.00 per year. The Town of Andrews fire department budget is \$131,700.00 of which Dallas Township pays \$30,200.00. This will be brought before the council in early spring of 2019.

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A  
PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department - Deputy Austin Smith is enrolled in the February 2019 Academy.

Fire Department – Dean Young told members of plans for a fish supper in November.

Utility Superintendent, Colin Bullock – Discussed a ribbon cutting once plant is done. He plans on starting demolition of the community building soon.

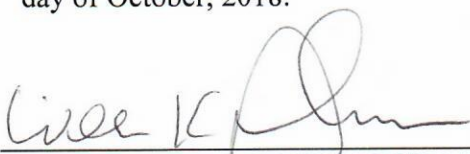
Clerk-Treasurer, Laura Dillon – The Lions Club asked council for the use of the Town Hall Building on Halloween evening, council was agreeable. Halloween hours are 6:00 to 8:00 pm, October 31, 2018.

**CLAIMS**


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

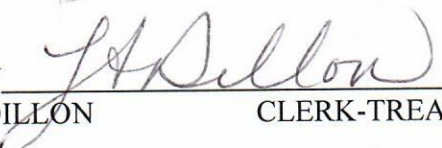
Bonnie Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Harshbarger.

Approved this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2018.

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