

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JANUARY 27, 2020**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on January 27, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Andrews Municipal Building in accordance with applicable law and pursuant to appropriate notice.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Laura Dillon, John Harshbarger and Roger Newsome, Jr were present. Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell declared a quorum was present and the meeting would continue.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Laura Dillon made a motion to approve the council minutes from January 13th and 23rd, which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion passed unanimously.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION OF BIDS-OCRA STORMWATER PROJECT

Eric Woodmansee, of AME Consulting, presented and read his letter of recommendation of all the bids received at the January 23rd meeting. With bids ranging all the way up to \$994,762.00, the low and responsive bidder was Watson Excavating with a bid of \$431,185.00. Woodmansee recommends to move forward with Watson. With Council's approval, he will send the acceptance of the bid to Watson. With no further discussion on the presentation of the bid, Laura Dillon made a motion to accept the Watson Excavating bid, as the lowest bidder, to proceed with the McKeever St. storm water project. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Woodmansee added that Mike Kleinpeter will submit paperwork to OCRA for the release of funds, while Woodmansee will file the proper permits with INDOT and the DNR to allow for construction in the floodway.

Woodmansee also discussed a future CCMG project. The cost estimate from November of last year was \$346,000, with an \$119,000 match from the town. After a review of the OCRA bids just received, Woodmansee said the average came in \$10,000 higher than his engineer estimate, so he has now added \$8,000 more to the original CCMG total. The Town should now plan on a project cost of \$354,000, with a town match of \$122,950. Woodmansee will work with Clerk-Treasurer Powell to write the grant application and then submit. Laura Dillon reminded Woodmansee the ROW acquisitions have not been fully completed yet. Powell said she has been working with legal to finalize the closing documents and then schedule a date for the signatures and transfer of funds. Council agreed to have Woodmansee pursue the Round 1 CCMG application for paving McKeever St from Jackson to State Streets.

BID OPENING – ANTIOCH MHP

Marla Stambazze was present to submit new bids to council for mobile home demolition on lots 19 and 20. Antioch MHP owner Brian Salerno called Marla January 24th to say he would not be in attendance tonight, but was still trying to have his contractor remove the last 2 homes out by February 10. He questioned Marla about the Town's rights to dispose of private property and the strict HUD requirements required to refurbish a mobile home. Not wanting to delay the cleanup any longer and feeling Salerno had been given ample time to comply with the Order of Enforcement, Council agreed to move forward and open the two new bids. Amor Excavating bid: lot #20 at \$3,080 and lot #19 at \$3,680. Dirt Excavating bid: lot #19 at \$5,032 and lot #20 at \$5,532. Roger Newsome, Jr made a motion to move forward with Amor Excavating to remove the last 2 mobile homes from Antioch MHP, with a second from Laura Dillon. Motion passed unanimously. Marla will send Salerno an email detailing tonight's council action, so he can attempt to have his contractor finish the job by February 6th which is the end of the 10 day waiting period before Amor is authorized to proceed with the job.

Marla also relayed that Kim Hostetler contacted FEMA in regards to the buyout timeline, but was unable to secure any new information. Kim Hostetler has also been hired as the new director for the Huntington County Department of Community Development.

OLD BUSINESS

John Harshbarger gave an update on the Dollar General project. The Town is now waiting on permits, one from INDOT to use their right of way and the other from the DNR to bore under the Wabash River. Marla Stambazze added the developer has not applied for building permits yet. The Town recently supplied a letter of commitment to supply a sanitary sewer line to the building site, so once the two State permits are secured the developer can apply with the DCD for building permits.

NEW BUSINESS

Laura Dillon presented the re-establishment of a Special Cumulative Fire Fund, which is used to accumulate money for capital fire expenses. The Town's rate has been below the maximum allowed by the state for a number of years. Last year the Town was denied its effort to increase the Cum Fire Fund because of the clause that ten or more taxpayers could object to the increase, and our paperwork indicated fifty or more taxpayers. The difference of the property tax increase from this year (\$1,920) to the proposed 2021 rate (\$3,922) will be approximately \$2,002.00. Based upon the average number of utility billings of 415, the increase would be \$4.82 per household. John Harshbarger introduced and did the first reading of Ordinance 2020-1. **COPY ATTACHED.** Laura Dillon made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-1 on the first read. Roger Newsome seconded the motion. Motion passed 3 to 0. Laura Dillon made a motion to set a hearing for February 24, 2020. Roger Newsome seconded the motion. Motion passed 3 to 0. A Public Hearing was set for February 24, 2020

Laura Dillon provided a list of year end transfers and adjustments to balance the 2019 budget that she and Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell had worked on. Laura Dillon made a motion to pass Resolution 2020-1, Adjustments to Balance the 2019 Budget. Roger Newsome seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

John Harshbarger presented a letter from the State of Indiana suggesting the Town of Andrews sign up for the Fuel Card Program. Discussion was held and the Council decided to not act on the letter.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Marshal Austin Bullock reported that he is reviewing the Kevlar vest inventory. These need replaced every 5 years and cost approximately \$500 each. Marshal Bullock reported that 7 street lights have been repaired and encouraged residents to turn in reports of outages. Officer Dean Young will be attending the academy starting the first week of March.

Nobody was present from the Andrews Volunteer Fire Department.

Colin Bullock, Utility Superintendent, reported that he is working with IDEM on water plant issues. In ground pumps are below capacity and Colin is not sure when the Town last changed them. High service pumps have recently been done. Bullock plans to have answers in the next few weeks. The water plant maintenance plan is being worked on to be in compliance with IDEM. There are still warranty issues with equipment and water lines at the wastewater plant. Colin has spoken with Ryan Mackos, of Strand Associates, to enforce the warranty work with Thieneman Construction.

Laury Powell, Clerk-Treasurer, reported that paperwork and payment to 4 property owners is being finalized to allow acquisition of the right-of-ways in order for the OCRA Storm Water Project to proceed. She is working with the town attorney office on this matter as well as the Grant of Easement for both the Gilbert and McCoart properties in association with the OCRA Storm Water Project.

CLAIMS

Laura Dillon made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Cheryl Chopson reported no progress is visible on the Marra property at 237 E Columbia St. The DCD will re-inspect on February 18th.


Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:47, seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.

Approved this 10th day of February, 2020.

APPROVED BY  as
JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY  as
LAURA A DILLON COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY  as
ROGER NEWSOME, JR. COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY  as
LAURY L POWELL CLERK-TREASURER

ORDINANCE 2020-1

**AN ORDINANCE RE-ESTABLISHING THE
CUMULATIVE FIRE SPECIAL FUND
FOR THE TOWN OF ANDREWS, HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA
UNDER INDIANA CODE 36-8-14**

WHEREAS, Indiana Code (I.C) 36-8-14 allows municipalities to establish and continue a Cumulative Fire Special Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Andrews, Huntington County, Indiana did establish and continues to maintain a Cumulative Fire Special Fund as set out in Andrews Town Code, Ordinance 1997-01 adopted March 24, 1997, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Andrews, Huntington, Indiana finds that the continuation of its Cumulative Fire Special Fund is necessary and prudent for the financial well-being of the community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town of Andrews, Huntington County, Indiana:

Section 1. That a need now exists for the re-establishment of the Town of Andrews Capital Fire Special Fund for all uses as set out in I.C. 36-8-14 as follows:

- (A) purchase, construction, renovation, or addition to buildings; or
- (B) purchase of land; used by the fire department or a volunteer fire department serving the unit.
- (C) The purchase of firefighting equipment for use of the fire department or a volunteer fire department serving the unit, including making the required payments under a lease rental with option to purchase agreement made to acquire the equipment.

Section 2. That the Town of Andrews will adhere to the provisions of Indiana Code 6-1.1-41 and shall annually adopt a property tax levy under the rules specified therein or any succeeding statutes. The maximum rate of levy for the re-established fund will not exceed \$0.0333 on each One Hundred Dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation. Said tax rate will be levied beginning with taxes for 2020 payable 2021 and thereafter continuing until reduced or rescinded.

Section 3. That proofs of publication of the Public Hearing held on the 24th day of February 2020, and a certified copy of this Ordinance be submitted to the Department of Local Government Finance of the State of Indiana as provided by law. Said Cumulative Fire Special Fund is subject to the approval of the Department of Local Government Finance.