

ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JUNE 8, 2020

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on June 8, 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 John Harshbarger, Laura Dillon, 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 May 11th, which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A tabled subject to rename a portion of Wabash St, which turns ninety degrees south to the water plant, was first discussed since the Huntington County DCD was awaiting an answer from Council. After a short discussion, Dillon motioned to name that portion of the road "Waterworks Road", which was seconded by Newsome. Motion passed unanimously. Powell will report the action to Marla Stambazze.

Clerk-Treasurer Powell next asked to have Council reconsider the tabled subject of a Cleaning Contract since the Town Hall would reopen to the public in July. Council stated the contract was acceptable for use, but chose to continue using Bullock's utility employees to clean for now due to the unknown financial impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The clerk office employees would continue to clean their office and the women's bathroom.

Roger Newsome asked Colin Bullock if he had pricing for industrial carpeting to install in the council room. Bullock stated he had not received quotes yet on the town's final choices, but hopes to have them soon.

Laura Dillon also brought up the topic of Cares Act money available to the Town. The first round distributed has nearly \$36,000.00 being held in Indianapolis for the Town of Andrews to claim with the documentation of certain expenses. At this time, the Town can only document several hundred dollars of PPE purchases that would qualify. With the uncertainty of future events and expenditures, Council asked Clerk-Treasurer Powell to acquire the documents for Council to sign at the July 13th meeting and then submit to the State. If necessary by year's end, this action would allow the Town to claim reimbursement of qualified expenses from the Cares Act distribution. Powell will keep invoice copies of all such expenditures in a file to review later in the year.

NEW BUSINESS

Eric Woodmansee of AME Consulting was unable to attend the meeting due to a death in the family. He asked Clerk-Treasurer Powell to present two documents to Council in his absence. OCRA pay voucher #2 for Watson Excavating in the amount of \$148,161.58, was first considered. Dillon made a motion to accept the voucher as presented, which was seconded by Roger Newsome. Motion passed unanimously. Next the CCMG 2019-2 Closeout Letter was reviewed and signed by Council President John Harshbarger.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock arrived just in time to report he cleared and secured the vacant Dana building with Deputy Marshal Dean Young after a public report of an open door.

Emergency vehicle operations training was today and firearms training is next week. Young will return to Law Enforcement Academy on June 15th to complete his training. Vehicle #2 was recently serviced at Schraeder Automotive, after they supplied the lowest quote.

Fire Department: Nobody was in attendance to report.

Utility Superintendent: Colin Bullock said the town park has been busy, especially on the weekends. Birthday and graduation parties are being held at the pavilion. He hates to take down the big tree right now since it is being used for shade. Bullock said his department is investigating water loss in town, and has been focused on the Star Street area. A contractor did fire protection work back in the 70s upgrading the size of the water main on Star St, but left old galvanized service lines in place after hooking up several houses to the upgraded main via a new service line and meter. All of the old lines should have been removed by the contractor, but were not. The lines were left "live" and now are full of holes and leaking water. The contractor also left five or six houses along an alley and Chestnut St hooked up to the old water service lines. Colin just cannot cut off the old service line from the current water main to stop the water loss on Chestnut St and the alley. He is working to come up with a solution. Former town employee Shady Allen spoke with Bullock about the 1970's project. The same issue has been observed on McKeever St with galvanized pipes full of holes, like Swiss cheese, leaking water. Watson Excavating, the contractor for the storm water construction project, will soon provide a quote to replace the bad galvanized lines discovered in that area. Once those repairs are made, home owners that still have galvanized lines running from the meter to the house will begin to experience issues due to better pressurized lines feeding the meters. Bullock also told Council Stantec had problems at the building next to the water plant this past weekend. Something has gone wrong inside. The Town had calls all weekend on the high service pumps not running; overthrown. It was all dirty, something was going wrong with their equipment. The Town was not notified. We just talked with them this morning. I wished they would have told us last Friday. They let it go Friday and had somebody come in Saturday. Bullock wishes they would have informed the Town of the problem last Friday, because again problems in their building have created water issues for the Town. It causes the chlorine and iron counts to go crazy. Bullock asked his water operator to make note of the situation to cover the Town's backside with the State. The start of our problems with the State all start with whatever is going on in that building. It did mess up our system and it is still trying to normalize today. Dillon stated that Stantec should report the incident to IDEM. Bullock agreed, but stated again he wished the Town was notified last Friday. The utility department did not know what was happening Monday morning and had to call around to find out the problem was in the building Stantec oversees. Colin Bullock informed Roger Newsome he had talked with Mike Richardson, owner of the farm acreage, about cleaning up the fence row along North Main St. They have a working arrangement set up. In addition, the work at the Dollar General site is progressing and near completion. The sanitary sewer line is in place. Power has been run to the building. Once the parking lot is in, Colin was told everything moves quickly and the store could open soon thereafter. Powell was asked to watch for a S&S Boring invoice and then notify Colin. The DG developer will either pay or reimburse a portion of that bill.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell stated she planned to reopen her office to the public on July 13th. She asked to have a sneeze guard installed at the Deputy-Clerk's window. Harshbarger said he could easily make a free standing Plexiglas sneeze guard to set on the ledge. This would still allow the sliding glass window to be closed and locked after hours. During the course of this discussion, Council stated the Town Hall would reopen on July 13th to the public, barring a resurgence of the virus. This date is subject to change and is dependent on State guidelines.

Powell reported that many Summer Sprinkling Credit and Pool Fill Credit applications have been filled out by town residents this year.

CLAIMS

Laura Dillon stated she reviewed the claims for May 26th and June 8th and they looked good to her. Newsome agreed and made a motion to approve the claims as presented, which was seconded by Dillon. Motion carried 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Cathy Johnson, 215 S Main St, presented an estimate for Council to consider for the 50/50 sidewalk replacement program. The work would begin after the storm water project was completed. It was in the amount of \$3,480.00. Another estimate came in at \$5,000.00. The Town debated the width of the sidewalk to be placed and meet ADA guidelines. Johnson's contractor matched up with the 4 foot sidewalks the State installed along Main St last summer. Dillon made a motion to accept the lowest bid, which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion was approved 3-0. Johnson also inquired about the house at 63 E McKeever. Dillon stated there have been no building inspections since the public health emergency began. She also asked to have trees trimmed at the corner of Main and McKeever St. Colin Bullock said he could do so once the storm water construction is complete and the road is less congested.

Neal Snyder of 192 N Market St asked if the Town could mow the grass along the boat ramp north of town on SR 105. Colin Bullock explained the slope of the land was too dangerous for a riding mower.

Powell reminded everyone that Spring Clean-Up is June 26th, along with the Friday trash pickup.

Dillon asked to have a reminder printed in the Tab that those with delinquent water bills need to start making payments immediately. The amount due will not go away and may result in a lien, small claims lawsuit, and possibly disconnection of service in the near future.

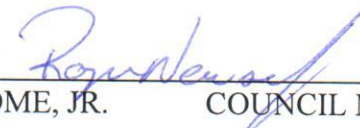
Cathy Johnson inquired about the FEMA buyout. The Town has received no updates since March. The program was indefinitely on hold. A brief discussion on the status of 2 properties DCD had contacted ensued. Austin Bullock stated Marla Stambazze was still doing title searches on the properties.

Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:42, seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.

Approved this 13th day of July, 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