## ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

A special public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on September 2, 2020 at 6:25 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. Colin Bullock was also present to answer technical questions on the water utilities.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Powell presented a letter she wrote to Andrew Sollars of Andrews Partners, LLC. He is the developer for the new Dollar General store near Andrews. Recently, Kim Hostetler, the Executive Director of the Huntington County DCD, informed Mr. Sollars and Clerk-Treasurer Powell that her office made an error with the rezoning of the Dollar General property at 8004 W Old Wabash Road. The favorable recommendation (to rezone from Agricultural to General Business) sent down by the Plan Commission should have been sent to the Andrews Town Council for formal approval, rather than the County Commissioners. Hostetler stated that this was the first time in 20 years that she had a rezoning fall in the ETJ, yet not in the corporate limits. Once the error was realized, she rescheduled the Citizens Participation meeting for August 26<sup>th</sup>, which was conducted with no issues. In addition, a second Public Hearing with the Plan Commission has been scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup>. Hostetler expects the Plan Commission to give another favorable recommendation to the rezoning before passing it up to the Andrews Town Council for approval at their September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. All of this is just a formality to properly execute the rezoning process, according to Hostetler. Mr. Sollars was distressed since all of the close out documents were due to his tenant, Dollar General, on September 2, 2020. The letter, signed by Council President John Harshbarger, is meant to explain the situation and assure Sollars that the Council is still committed to the project and will not object to the rezoning of the property near Andrews. Sollars will include the letter with his close out documents. Council members read the letter and agreed to have Harshbarger sign it. Powell will email a scanned copy to Mr. Sollars immediately after the meeting.

John Harshbarger next discussed the August 25<sup>th</sup> telephonic conference meeting that he and Bullock attended with IDEM, Raytheon, and Stantec. Dillon and Newsome have each listened to a recording of that conversation. The Andrews Town Council met in Executive Session immediately before this evening's Special Meeting to discuss their viewpoints and options available to the Town. John called for public discussion and a Motion on the issues concerning the water wells and what the Town expects from Raytheon. Dillon stated it appears Raytheon and Stantec want to turn public well #1 back on in order to clean wells #2 & 3. As a response to what the Town of Andrews really needs and wants to secure access to safe drinking water in the future, she then motioned to present a recommendation to Raytheon for a new water plant and 2 new wells in a clean aquifer. Roger Newsome seconded the Motion. Each member voted in the affirmative and Motion carried 3-0. Also in response to the August 25<sup>th</sup> conversation, Laura

Dillon made a second Motion to reject Raytheon's request to install a granular activated carbon filter on well #1, which was required in order to put that well back into service.

She states clearly that this council will not be responsible for restarting public well #1. Roger Newsome seconded the Motion. Each member voted in the affirmative and Motion carried 3-0. Dillon then suggested the Town may want to look into figures to install 2 new wells and a high service pump, but it will cost somebody a lot of money. She also said these expenses are not the Town's responsibility, but are Raytheon's responsibility since they contaminated the groundwater in our aquifer. Harshbarger felt a discussion with Steve Brock about the current water rates would be beneficial since that department has struggled to raise funds. However, Brock's job would be difficult to perform without a new engineering report which the Town cannot afford to do at this time. Council noted that money is available through various loans and grants, but the Town would still need to put up matching funds to qualify. The general public has no idea of the hidden costs and the exorbitant time needed to get a loan or grant. It is also critical to hire a competent grant administrator for the project to be successful.

With no further business to be discussed at this time, Roger Newsome made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. which was seconded by Laura Dillon.

Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

APPROVED BY JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY AS COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY Konney as ROGER NEWSOME, JR. COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY July CLERK-TREASURER