

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on September 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Andrews Town Hall 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 council minutes for a public meeting held on September 14, 2020. Roger Newsome, Jr. provided a second for the motion, and it passed unanimously.

STEVE BROCK

Steve Brock of Therber Brock & Associates, LLC was unable to attend this evening's meeting. He rescheduled for the October 13th meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE 2021 BUDGET – ORDINANCE 2020-5

Council discussed the proposed budget, which was discussed two weeks ago at the public hearing. The state allowed growth quotient of 4.2 % was used for the tax levy. Overall the budget did not increase much and no cuts were made. Laura Dillon made a motion to adopt the 2021 Budget. Roger Newsome seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Laura Dillon made a motion to suspend the rules and do a second reading at the same meeting. Roger Newsome seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. John Harshbarger read Ordinance 2020-5, an Ordinance to adopt the 2021 Budget. Laura Dillon made the motion to adopt the 2021 Budget. Roger Newsome seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

ERIC WOODMANSEE

Eric Woodmansee, with AME Consulting, presented a Professional Service Agreement to do the Assets Managements Program for LTAP with the State of Indiana. Eric Woodmansee also presented plans for 2020 CCMG round two, which includes a 1 block section of storm sewer installation and repaving on East McKeever St and South Leedy Lane. Total match and engineering fees will be \$103,367.35. Dillon feels \$20,000.00 should be cut from this project total, so it was agreed paving plans will be scaled back after further inspection of the roadways by Woodmansee and Colin Bullock. A letter of financial responsibility is also needed for this CCMG application. Laura Dillon made a motion to approve the Professional Service Agreement for the AMP. Roger Newsome seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. The matter of 2020 CCMG-2 will be tabled until the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

As a follow up to discussion on 421 S Clifton St from the last meeting, John Harshbarger clarified that the semi-trailer located on the property needs to be removed along with the dilapidated garage. The two sit in close proximity and appear to be connected. Town Marshal Bullock will contact Huntington County DCD.

Tentative hours for Halloween Trick or Treating will be 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on October 31st. Council will revisit the subject October 13th and October 26th before making this official.

NEW BUSINESS

Laura Dillon reported that two contractors have been in town to inspect sidewalks and quote prices for restoration in front of the Ice Cream Shop, Bud's Sports Bar, and Kermit's Food Shop. This matter will be tabled until a later date since additional contractor quotes are being sought.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock reported that the semi-tractor trailer located at 957 N Main St is scheduled to be removed from the homeowner's yard this week.

Fire Department: Dean Young reported that Huntington City and area fire departments have received a large grant for new radios. On October 10th there will be an auction fundraiser.

Utility Superintendent: Colin Bullock reported he's been trying to contact Mike Richardson regarding the brush and fence removal on N Main St so work can begin. He received a price from Flecks Trenching for boring a water service line, but is considering renting a trencher and doing the job himself to save money. Colin has a meter pinpointed that would work for the new Dollar General septic line. He needs Council to decide which way to go with billing before he buys the meter, a flat rate charge or a metered rate. After discussion, it was decided to seek further information on flat rate verses meter charges, and whether an ordinance or a resolution would be needed. Powell will speak with Steve Brock about this situation and ask him to present options to Council at the October 13th meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported that she has submitted a reimbursement claim to IFA for \$2,000.07 in CARES Act money. An update on delinquent accounts was given to Council. Several account holders have skipped town, and a few remain shut off because of nonpayment and the absence of a signed repayment contract. One shut-off account has asked to make a partial payment and have water service restored even though she has failed to return a signed repayment contract. Resident was informed that she could come before the Town Council this evening to request other arrangements. It was also noted the resident was not in attendance. Much discussion was voiced. Powell stated this is a difficult situation, but the Clerk's office is handling all utility accounts fairly and cannot grant exceptions. She is required to follow town ordinances and enact council motions. The repayment contract in use had been discussed several times in meetings since June and warning letters were mailed twice to all delinquent customers. Council approved this particular contract, which was authored by the town attorney, to recover lost utility revenue. The same format is also being used in area communities. The Clerk's office will continue to work fairly with utility customers to restore service. Finally, Laury Powell requested permission to transfer funds within MVH to adjust an employee's annual clothing allowance. Council granted permission for Powell to do so. She will include this line item in a Resolution for a blanket transfer at the end of the year.

CLAIMS

Laura Dillon made a motion to approve the September 28th claims as presented, which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion carried 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS


Ed Asher asked about the availability of the town's property at the west end of Terrel Street. He wants to have a Bluegrass Festival the weekend of July 4th, 2021, and would like to use the space for the festival, including camping sites. Asher feels he has enough sponsors to help with the proposed event. The Town will check with their insurance provider in regards to liability insurance coverage. Subject tabled for now.

The TAB reporter inquired about the November 9th court hearing in Adams County for the Town's preliminary injunction regarding the recent water emergency. Council has no new information on the case.

Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 P.M., which was seconded by Roger Newsome.

Approved this 13th day of October, 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