

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

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on December 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 in attendance. 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 regular session and a meeting of the Storm Water Board both held on December 14, 2020. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A discussion commenced regarding the progress with an order of enforcement at 421 S Clifton St. The accessory structure is down but a large pile of debris remains in the yard, of which there is no sign of any attempt of removal by the owner. Council decided to give the owners an additional 30 days to clean up the yard. The Huntington DCD will give written notice to the Wickers. It was also noted that the treated and painted lumber is illegal to burn in town. Council asked DCD to return on January 25 with bids to remove the debris pile should it remain.

NEW BUSINESS

Council President John Harshbarger read aloud Ordinance 2020-16 CARES Act Funding. Laura Dillon made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-16 on its second and final read, which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. The Ordinance passed 3-0.

The draft of the wastewater service agreement with Dollar General was discussed amongst Council. Several blanks on the document were filled in with required information, including a flat rate fee of \$80.00 per month. The draft will be returned to Town Attorney Mike Hartburg so he can finalize the contract. Council agreed to have Harshbarger sign the final document, on behalf of the Town once it is completed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock discussed with Council the funding of the new police vehicle which is on order. The invoice is for \$36,486.21 but will be reduced considering the trade-in value of \$8,000.00 for the Chevy Tahoe. Clerk-Treasurer Powell will encumber CARES Act reimbursement money for public safety payroll to the police vehicle fund to offset this expense. Austin also said the town's recycling bins and entire area have been a mess recently. Dillon has taken pictures and shared with the solid waste district. Both Bullock and Dillon have requested one more bin to accommodate the quantity of recycling this time of the year. Council reminded residents to break down boxes before placing in the dumpsters. Bullock also stated Stanley Steamer cleaned the building's air ducts today and will return on the 29th to clean all carpeting and disinfect the flooring. Clerk-Treasurer Powell plans to utilize COVID reimbursement money to pay Stanley Steamer.

Fire Department: Dean Young made a request to the Clerk-Treasurer's office for assistance with finishing the department's Christmas Family project. Due to COVID, the fire department is trying something new this year.

Utility Superintendent: Colin Bullock was not in attendance and Council President Harshbarger said Colin is still working from home. After an inquiry, Powell explained Bullock's pay was covered under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Harshbarger stated a water leak was recently repaired on East McKeever St.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell discussed the Town's annual board appointments. The only vacancy is for the Andrews BZA ETJ appointment. Several names were mentioned by Council to contact. The subject will be revisited at the next meeting. She also stated she is working with Eric Woodmansee and Brian Cochran to finalize and submit the Annual Water Loss Audit for 2019. Newsome inquired on how reconnect fees are billed and cleared in Boyce-Keystone billing software. Powell explained that in order to clear it, the utility clerk would have to manually post a payment to the "other charge" outside of the normal utility payment postings. Otherwise, the money ends up as an additional payment in the water utility column resulting in an offsetting credit to the reconnect fee charge still on the account. A customer's bill can show no money is due, account paid in full, while the accounting record shows a \$50 credit in water and \$50 due in "other charges".

CLAIMS

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Council President Harshbarger relayed that Rick McCoart has asked the Town to close the alley for his personal use. McCoart recently made improvements to the alley behind his property. After discussion, Council said they cannot close the right of way for him and have not done so for several other similar requests in town. Council recommends McCoart spend the time and money to legally vacate the alley. The Huntington County DCD has a packet available to start the process.

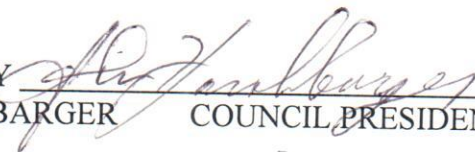
Laura Dillon stated she will call around to find hams for employee Christmas gifts.

Council discussed recent work performance and pay raises for certain utility employees. Since a salary ordinance for 2021 has already been approved, the only option for potential discipline is time off work unpaid.


Ed Asher was present to discuss the sewer line issue at his Colorado St property again. Portions of the wastewater ordinance was reviewed. After discussion, it became clear there has been a misunderstanding between Asher and the Town. Asher stated this process began 4 months ago to put an office in his storage building. A new water service line from the building to the meter pit has already been installed at his expense. Asher's contractor has been unable to locate the old sewer line, so now he is asking to tie a new line into the sewer main. Council stated Asher can pay to have a licensed contractor run a sewer line and tie into the Town's sewer main. There is no tap fee for sewer. A water service line from the Town's main currently exists so there is no tap fee for water. However, the water department will need to reinstall a meter in the pit.


Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 P.M., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion carried 3-0

Approved this 11th day of January 2021.

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