

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JANUARY 25, 2021**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on January 25, 2021 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 held January 11, 2021. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

DCD's Jessica Campbell appeared with bids to haul away building debris from 421 S. Clifton St. Mrs. Natasha Wicker was in attendance and explained to Council why the debris was not removed as stated in the Order of Enforcement. The Wickers planned to burn the wood for heat in their home. Fire Chief Tom Weunsch advised against this action citing State and Local laws on the burning of building materials, and he warned of the danger of creosote buildup. Huntington County DCD's Brant Ricker agreed with Weunsch's commentary. After a brief discussion, John Harshbarger recommended Council uphold the violation. Laura Dillon and Roger Newsome were both in agreement, so the bids were opened. TW Excavating's bid was \$1,200.00 and Dirt Excavating's bid came in at \$2,865.00. Laura Dillon made a motion to go with TW Excavating for debris removal at 421 S Clifton St, Roger Newsome seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Eric Woodmansee, with AME Consulting, had a lengthy discussion with Council on the recently completed CCMG 2020-1 project. Topics covered included quality of the work done, utility adjustments, a change order, liquidated damages, and the preparation of necessary documentation to claim contractor reimbursement for the Town's resources utilized due to the gas main rupture. DC Construction pay application #1 was approved for payment except for utility adjustment #4 and pay item #11 for pipe, grout fill, which was not used during the construction. Council anticipates meeting with DC Construction in the spring before approving any further payments.

Woodmansee explained he is approximately halfway complete with the design and bidding documents for the recently awarded CCMG 2020-2 project. He then asked Council if they would like to apply for the first round of CCMG 2021 funds. Council declined at this time and will reconsider for round 2 later in the year. The need for a new domestic water study was then brought up by Eric Woodmansee and he asked if the Town wants to initiate an update through AME Consulting. The last study done was in 2012 which is too old for use in applying for OCRA and SRF grants. If needed, Council would like to have these options available for use to help fund the purchase of property for a new public drinking water well field and water plant. Eric will bring a proposal to the next meeting on February 8th.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Brant Ricker shared information on an Order of Enforcement for Lot #16 at Antioch MHP. Town Marshal Austin Bullock had provided photographs to Ricker documenting the need for the enforcement. Brant then sent out notices with a February 15<sup>th</sup> clean-up deadline and he posted an unfit for human occupancy notice on the trailer. Antioch MHP owner Brian Salerno has also been copied on the Order. The responsibility to clean up the mobile home will either fall to the homeowner or to the owner of the mobile home park. Ricker will return on February 22, 2021 with an update for Council.



**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock was not in attendance however John Harshbarger reported that Ford approved warranty work to replace the turbo charger on Bullock's police car.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Tom Weunsch announced a former assistant fire chief for the Andrews VFD, Matt Tyner, had passed away. Tom asked to use a fire truck for the funeral procession, to which Council gave their permission. A thermal camera was recently purchased and Tom plans to replace more gear this year. He also wants to replace the department's 1996 fire truck with a newer model. He inquired about the truck replacement fund and how to build it up. Funds, cash balances, and tax rates will be reviewed in preparation for further discussion on this subject. Weunsch also reported that the County Commissioners are paying 100% of the radio grant match which will be a \$20,000 savings for the fire department. In addition, the fire station is finally online with a new generator.

Utility Superintendent: Colin Bullock reported his crew's next project will be tearing down the old barn.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell said H & H Disposal sent a reminder notice of rules for residential trash pickup. The notice does state that H & H will now pick up larger items for an additional fee, but residents must first contact H & H Disposal to pay in advance and schedule pickup. Powell spoke today with Town Attorney Adrian Halverstadt for an update on the 237 Columbia St. litigation. He asked the Judge to dismiss the case on January 4th. Judge Davin Smith then gave notice to 237 Columbia St. Land Trust that they had 30 days to file a response. Adrian has had no communication from the Land Trust or their attorney. February 4, 2021 is the deadline for the Land Trust to file a response. If no response is filed, the town should be able to move forward with the Order of Enforcement process at the February 8, 2021 meeting.

**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**


Cheryl Chopson asked for news on the preliminary injunction filed in response to the Town's drinking water contamination. Council stated the judge has yet to make a ruling on the case.


Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 P.M., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion carried 3-0

Approved this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February 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