

## **ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD MAY 10, 2021**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on May 10, 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 April 26, 2021. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Eric Woodmansee, AME Consulting: Eric reported that Watson Excavating should start construction on the CCMG 2020-2 project soon and that supplies were being staged in town this week. He also presented a PSA for the sidewalk improvement project and other documents for signature which give him consent to work with the State on the project. The Town will still need to secure a performance bond since the contractor did not have one. Powell will contact Mettler's Insurance about the matter. Council agreed that both electrical conduit and signpost sleeves were not a necessary addition for the project. The State has no existing signage in the areas that are to be replaced. Dillon reported the County Commissioners were in favor of the downtown sidewalk improvements and will pay 75% of the total project expense. Also, Woodmansee presented to Council a PSA to begin work on the Town's Comprehensive Plan update. However, it was advised Mike Hartburg should do the ordinance to accompany the new comprehensive plan. Laura Dillon made motion to accept both AME Consulting Professional Service Agreements, one for the 2021 Sidewalk Improvement Project and the other for the 2021 Comprehensive Plan Update, as presented. Roger Newsome seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Antioch MHP Lot 16: Robert Mathess, property manager, was present to inform Council that a contractor would not move the trailer from Lot 16 due to the weight with all the debris inside. Mathess said MHP owner Brian Salerno still wishes to empty the trailer and refurbish it while on the lot. Harshbarger told Mathess it was already decided that the trailer is to be moved out of town and is not to be refurbished here. It was suggested that Salerno's attorney immediately contact the decedent's family and gain permission for entry or ownership in order to get the trailer removed from Andrews. Council expected the trailer to be gone today and were disappointed it remained. Mathess then asked Council to consider taking over the water infrastructure and metering within the mobile home park to free up funds for Salerno to purchase new trailers for the park. Council took note of the request with no action taken.

Council revisited the request to resume AA meetings at the town hall. Clerk-Treasurer Powell relayed she was contacted and informed that the group's organizer may contact Pastor Lois Canon at the Trinity UMC in Huntington to inquire about holding weekly meetings there. After brief discussion, Council felt this option was best suited to serve Knorr's AA group, and denied the request to resume meetings at the town hall. Powell will contact Robert Knorr with their decision.

Powell updated Council on the FEMA Buyout stating DCD Director Kim Hostetler forwarded the first invoice to the town for legal fees. Hostetler has submitted the information to IDHS for reimbursement to the Town. Powell also said there is no news on the 237 E Columbia St litigation, but the Town can expect a decision from Judge Davin Smith by month's end regarding the motion for dismissal.



## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Summer Sprinkling Credit program was discussed amongst Council and Clerk-Treasurer Powell. Beginning in the month of April each year, residents who have been a customer of the town water utility from January of that year and is not delinquent in the payment of any of the rates and charges at the time of application, may apply for the credit. The billing software compares the average wastewater charge from the first 3 months of the year to that incurred during the summer months of May, June, July, and August, for a prospective credit on the wastewater charge. In other words, customers are not penalized with higher wastewater charges for summer water usage such as gardening, power washing, and pools. Powell's office is accepting applications now to use with the June billing cycle.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Deputy Town Marshal Dean Young asked to have the "No Parking" signs replaced on Leedy Lane across from the Lions Club Ball Park. The signs have faded over the years and are illegible. Traveling teams are using the ballpark this year and have resulted in increased traffic and a congested parking situation. People are not parking in the available field to walk to the games but choose to park along both sides of Leedy Lane blocking the road for use. Town Marshal Bullock, who was on vacation, had previously turned in a list to Council President Harshbarger of ordinance violations cited.

Fire Department: Dean Young also reminded everyone that the AVFD will hold a tenderloin dinner fundraiser on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the fire station.

Utility Superintendent: Colin Bullock reported that a large water leak has been fixed and several bad meters have been replaced. The vactor truck has been clearing septic lines in town, mainly on the west side. Bullock will apply for a state permit to work in the right-of-way of SR 105, North Main St, in order to take down the bad trees. He has not received contractor estimates for the work yet. Bullock also reported he was approached by the owner of Vernon Manor MHP about implementing policy and procedure to keep master keys in town for use in the event of an emergency at the trailer park. Both Colin and Deputy Marshal Young will defer that proposal and decision to Marshal Austin Bullock.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported the first of three payments from TRECS, this one in the amount of \$1,191.32, will be in the bank tomorrow. In addition, the State will transfer the CCMG 2020-2 money to the Town's bank account tomorrow. She also gave a reminder for customers to turn in their Summer Sprinkling Credit Forms now if they want it applied to the June 1 billing.

## **CLAIMS**

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

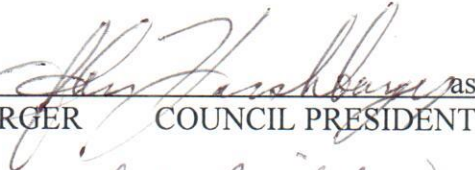
## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ed Asher, proprietor of the Ice Cream Vault at 63 N Main St, informed Council that the storm drain in front of his business is extremely slow during heavy rain events. Harshbarger and Colin Bullock explained the structure is in the State's right-of-way on SR 105 and they refused to replace the structure several years ago when brought to their attention. The storm sewer along the street appears to be open and functional but is blocked with gravel where it crosses under the railroad tracks, likely due to the weight and vibration of trains overhead. The Town has attempted several times to blast the storm water line open to no avail. Railroad bureaucracy and red tape have prevented any attempt to pursue a repair in years past.


No other business was brought before Council at this time.

Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion carried 3-0.

Approved this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 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