

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JULY 26, 2021**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on July 26, 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 July 12, 2021. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

DAVE METTLER, METTLER INSURANCE-

Mettler presented to Council the 2021-22 insurance renewal premium recaps for both the Town and the Andrews-Dallas Township VFD's Liability, Workers Comp, and Accident & Sickness policies. He explained the various areas of coverage and notated price differences with the new renewals.

OLD BUSINESS

CCMG 2020-2, Watson Pay Voucher- After review of the document, which was recommended by project engineer Eric Woodmansee, Laura Dillon made a motion to pay Watson Excavating \$139,194.00. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Colin Bullock told Council that Watson Excavating would not be in town for paving until the second or third week of August. Town Marshal Bullock stated he would contact the school to let them know.

22 S. Main St. – Brant Ricker, DCD, and Adam Yoder, co-owner of the property, discussed the cleanup underway inside the building. Yoder stated he has received one quote and one estimate for a new roof, with a huge difference between the two, but may choose to do the job himself because of the lack of response from contractors and the expense. Council reminded him of the 90-day deadline for roof repairs and that they will continue to monitor the situation.

NEW BUSINESS

After being informed just this week, Council President John Harshbarger informed those in attendance of a court decision to the Preliminary Injunction filed last year regarding the drinking water contamination. Judge Chad Kukelhan, in Adams County, denied the town's motion on February 18, 2021. There is no explanation for the filing delay and resulting late notification to the Town and Taft Law. Apparently, the Judge felt no emergency existed since test results never indicated finished water with VOCs present over the MCL, but right at the maximum allowed.

Now the Town must wait until the full hearing on the case filed in 2016. Meanwhile, Council has decided to proceed on their own with relocating the wells to a clean water aquifer. Multiple funding sources for this project are currently being pursued and Council has no indication at this time as to the amounts that the Town will receive, nor effect on residential water rates. It is an intricate puzzle to piece together. Several questions and comments were made by residents in attendance eliciting responses such as: the preliminary sites for the new wells are south of Town, off Highway 105 and that connecting to surrounding municipality wells is not an option. Assessed Values and real estate transactions were discussed, to which Council stated they have no input or control over those activities. Residents were encouraged to contact local state representatives to assist with state funding and recommend the highest award amount possible.

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Council also relayed that after Labor Day, wells 2 and 3 will be cleaned by Peerless Midwest to allow higher flow capacity since well 1 is no longer being used. All town residents will be required to conserve water during this process. More information on this subject is forthcoming.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock said he is still waiting to receive radios ordered last spring due to the global chip shortage. He also informed Council that his choice to hire for the department's part-time position would not be cleared to work a second job until next April, his two-year mark. Bullock will either wait until this candidate is eligible or look for somebody else to hire. Also, the police department has been monitoring Main Street for speeding.

Fire Department: Nobody was present to report.

Utility Superintendent: Colin Bullock reported that hydrant flushing began today. His department has been busy removing brush and tree trimmings from yards to the town's brush pile. Also, another reminder that Watson Excavating would not be in town until the third week of August, which is after school starts. Watson is aware they will need to accommodate school traffic while paving East McKeever St. and Leedy Lane.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell relayed that Eric Woodmansee inquired about a logo design for the cover page of the Comprehensive Plan he is currently working on. He plans to attend the August 9th meeting and discuss further. Powell also said Kim Hostetler, Huntington County DCD, is ready to bring the next round of zoning and subdivision amendments to council for approval and will be at the August 9th meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Powell has her budget meeting online with the DLGF Thursday, July 29th.

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

Laura Dillon relayed that Boyce Systems-Keystone Software was sold. She also stated the SBOA has new requirements for reporting Capital Assets, which may soon become a new expense for the Town. The Town currently uses a spreadsheet but required changes will be much more detailed and likely require the purchase of new software from Boyce Systems to allow Gateway uploads to the State.

Ray Tackett, 420 N Market St., stated there is a cat problem in his neighborhood. Discussion was that the Huntington County Humane Society may be able to help with a catch and release program which would spay/neuter the feral cats.

Annette Shively, 1063 N Main St., inquired on a neighboring property with inoperable cars in the yard. Town Marshal Bullock replied both the homeowner and tenant have been notified in writing of the violation. Thirteen days remain for the property to be compliant and prevent further action from the Town.

Kathy Gamble, Monroe St, reported that while walking along West McKeever St. she found several holes, the remnants of old drains in the right of way. She felt the old drains pose a danger to pedestrians. Colin Bullock will inspect the situation after the meeting.

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Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 p.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion carried 3-0.

Approved this 9th day of August 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