

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JANUARY 10, 2022**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on January 10, 2022, 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 December 13, 2021, and a Storm Water Management Board Meeting held December 13, 2021. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Council President John Harshbarger mentioned the recent loss of long-time resident, Henry "Perk" Miller, who was 98 years old. Several reminisced about Perk and said he would be missed in the community.

Harshbarger also announced that Ross Clark, one of the famed Clark Twins from Andrews, would be 100 years old on February 5. John had received an invite to Clark's birthday celebration and hopes to attend. A Birthday Greeting Certificate was presented for those in attendance to sign.

**ERIC WOODMANSEE**

Woodmansee relayed that AME Consulting is continuing work on the study for regionalization of the Waterworks Project. Also, he is still pulling together a case against 2020-1 CCMG contractor DC Construction to resolve performance issues in phase 2 of the East McKeever Street Storm Water Project.

**OLD BUSINESS**

237 E Columbia Street: Russ Kennedy addressed Council stating his intent to purchase this property and to work with the Huntington County DCD allowing inspection and making necessary repairs of the structure. He stated he has a background in construction and plans to live there once the home is fully remodeled. Kennedy looked for reassurance from the Town that the demolition order would be dropped once he begins work. Council stated they would prefer to see a rehab over demolition of the structure however the Order of Enforcement stays with the property even when sold. The current situation is due to the deeded owner refusing to work with the DCD on correcting visible deficiencies. Should Kennedy buy 237 E Columbia St, allow inspection, and complete all required work per the DCD, the Town would drop the OE. Council also informed Kennedy the property sold at the 2021 tax sale. The owner has one year from the date of sale to redeem the property or even sell to an interested party such as Kennedy. He was advised to inquire on that status at the Courthouse and to consider back-taxes while negotiating a sale.

75 S Main Street: Jessica Beal, Huntington County DCD, and property owner Elmira Castillo were in attendance to discuss the roof work on this building. Much progress on the roof has happened over the last several weeks despite the weather. Castillo said once the roof is complete, she will begin to work on the interior and power wash the exterior of the 3-story brick building. Council appreciates the work being done and agreed to extend the DCD's Order of Enforcement out another 90 days asking all to reappear at the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting for another update.

**NEW BUSINESS**

C-T Powell informed Council that the Huntington DCD contacted her office about Andy Eckert's BZA term expiring at the first of this year. Powell reported that Eckert was contacted, and he agreed to serve another term. Laura Dillon motioned to appoint Andy Eckert to the Andrews Board of Zoning Appeals as an ETJ representative. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.



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Powell presented to Council Resolution 2022-1 which would balance the 2021 year-end budget. John Harshbarger read a synopsis of the resolution. Council members looked over the list of transfers. Laura Dillon then motioned to pass Resolution 2022-1 End of Year Transfers to Balance the 2021 Budget. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Marshal Austin Bullock said he has been working with Canal Lock of Wabash to fix a door lock issue. A part has been ordered to complete the repair. Bullock reported that part-time officer Greer has been promoted to detective in Wells County and can no longer hold his position in Andrews. Austin asked for Council's approval to hire a replacement, which he received. Also, the new police radio is ready to be installed later this week. Finally, Bullock briefly discussed changes with animal control services that began the first of the new year. Nothing is final yet as there are ongoing discussions between County Officials, their legal counsel, and the Huntington County Humane Society. Eventually he expects this matter to involve all towns in the county, as the City of Huntington has already signed an agreement.

Fire Department: Nobody was in attendance to report.

Utility Department: Superintendent Colin Bullock stated the materials for the ADA ramp railing is in and he should be able to install soon. Peerless Midwest has begun work on well 3. It will be out of service for 3 to 7 days while the rehabilitation is finished. Also discussed was a repair to one of the two furnaces at the town hall. The heat exchanger and electronic control board both needs replaced and fortunately are still under warranty. The ventilation for this furnace is also an issue and requires a line run to the outside. The Town will pay for all labor plus parts to make proper ventilation.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell stated her office is working through year end procedures. The State mandated Fund Number Conversion is done and ready to apply after the year end is complete. HSA checks and W-2s will be distributed early next week. Also, Powell is setting up an account with the Federal Treasury for annual reporting on ARPA funds. She also stated there was not much progress with the FEMA Buyout over the last month. The Newsome and Dobson properties both have appraisals and Attorney Halverstadt is working on the offer packets for those owners. Unfortunately, the remaining properties have yet to be appraised by Buzzard.

**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 Member Newsome inquired if there was an update on the old fire truck which was to be advertised for sale. Nothing more was known other than Fire Chief Wuensch was to list the truck for sale online with a broker. Newsome suggested the Town store the old truck in the red barn instead of letting it set outside in the weather. Colin Bullock agreed and said that would be done this week.


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.


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Approved this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022.

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