

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD MAY 9, 2022**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on May 9, 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 April 25, 2022. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING – DWSRF LOAN PROGRAM**

Council President Harshbarger opened the public hearing at 6:01 p.m. Eric Woodmansee with AME Consulting spoke about the PER and DWSRF Loan Application for the Town.

*“Good evening and thank you for coming to the Andrews Town Hall for this public hearing. A notice was published in the Herald Press on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. The public Notice not only gave notice to this public hearing but also stated that there would be a hard copy of the Preliminary Engineering Report available on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Clerk’s Office right here in Town Hall.*

*The public hearing tonight is in regard to the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) which will be submitted to the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) Loan Program seeking federal assistance in the form of loans and forgivable grants.*

*As the Town of Andrews Engineering Consultant, I am here to present the recommended upgrades to the Town of Andrews drinking water infrastructure, which will include new wells, a new water treatment plant and watermain improvements, as described in the PER. The new wells and treatment plant location has been selected so that the water source is from a completely different aquifer than the current wells. The new treatment plant will be a Tonka Dualator III plant that is extremely efficient and user friendly so that the operator can easily monitor the treatment process. There will also be a watermain constructed from the new plant to the existing system along State Road 105 up to the Jefferson Street intersection. The project is estimated to cost roughly \$5.5 million. The project will be funded through a DWSRF loan.”*

At this time the meeting was opened to public questions and comments. Two town residents commented on the project. While it is not known at this point how much water rates may increase, Dillon said “If we want good drinking water, we’ll have to move forward with this plan. We’re getting nowhere with Raytheon.” Woodmansee also clarified that no land has been purchased for the project, but the Town does have an option to buy property south of town. Test wells have yet to be drilled.

The PER is available for public review at the Town Hall during regular business hours. Written comments on the PER will be accepted by the Clerk-Treasurer through May 17, 2022. With no further comments, Laura Dillon motioned to close the Public Hearing at 6:08 p.m. Roger Newsome, Jr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

FEMA Buyout: Clerk-Treasurer Powell told Council both the Newsome and Dobson properties have been purchased out of the CEDIT Fund for a total of \$108,270.00, remediation will take place soon and then finally demolition of the structures. In anticipation of the remediation expenses (approximately \$11,000.00 total for both) and the unknown demolition expenses, as well as Council’s wishes to cooperate with Huntington County Commissioners to acquire a small vacant lot adjacent to the McKeever Street bridge, Powell has sent copies of recent claims and a disbursement request letter to the Commissioners for the remaining \$55,755.00 of their contractual obligation to the Town’s CEDIT FEMA Buyout Project. She



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also presented to Council Resolution 2022-4 CEDIT Fund Transfers to Support the FEMA Buyout Project. The 75% reimbursement from the State of Indiana for recent large expenditures will likely dictate when Council can move forward with plans to purchase the next two properties located at 218 and 237 W McKeever St. Before the reimbursement money is received Council could consider moving forward with purchasing one property at a time as the appropriation allows. State reimbursements are currently taking 10-12 weeks.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution 2022-4 CEDIT Fund Transfers to Support the FEMA Buyout Project was read by Council President John Harshbarger. Laura Dillon motioned to pass Resolution 2022-4. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

H&H Disposal: With the beginning of a new trash contract, H&H contacted the Clerk's office about residential issues in violation of the contract such as putting out excessive trash, using totes not affiliated with H&H, and construction debris causing the totes to be overweight. Town Marshal Bullock has contacted the violators listed by H&H Disposal. Powell also stated the new trash rate per tote is \$11.25 monthly for the first three years and \$11.75 monthly for the remaining two years of the contract. A second tote can be added to one's trash service for an additional fee by contacting the utility clerk.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Marshal Austin Bullock said he is writing ordinance violations on high grass and weeds, as well as excess junk and debris. He is informing residents of the spring cleanup date of May 13. Also, state mandated training will be complete soon and Bullock announced he won another trial with a drug dealer operating in town. In addition, he said there has been vandalism at the park where a recently purchased heavy-duty basketball goal was destroyed this past week. Austin will coordinate efforts to place better quality video cameras in several areas of concern in town.

Fire Department: Firefighter Josh Young announced the fire department will put on a tenderloin fundraiser on May 21, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the station. He also asked Council if they would permit the AVFD to hold a demolition derby on town property at the end of Terrel Street. After discussion, Dillon told Young to work up a map and written plan of what they want, contact Dave Mettler to discuss insurance, and then reappear before Council with more information at the next meeting. The subject was tabled at this time.

Utility Department: Superintendent Colin Bullock said he will order new cameras to place at the park, recycle bins, and compost pile to catch those responsible for vandalism and illegal dumping. He also reported the gas meter was finally removed from the old barn last week so that project can move forward. In addition, Bullock expects IDEM to be in town for water inspections.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell said the ROW Bond for the Sidewalk Project has been renewed. In addition, she has received an engagement letter from the Indiana SBOA to conduct a 3-year audit of financial records. Pre-audit documents are in review for completion. Department heads were asked to coordinate a time with her so all can work with Larry Tippin on the capital asset project next week.

**CLAIMS**

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

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**OTHER BUSINESS**

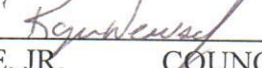
Council Member Dillon said she was contacted about whether the Town would Facetime Live council meetings to which she answered no. She feels the Minutes are sufficiently full of information. However, Dillon stated she may consider using Zoom, but it would come with equipment expenses. The matter was tabled at this time.

Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.

Approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 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