

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING HELD JANUARY 27, 2023**

A special public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on January 27, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Andrews Municipal Building in accordance with applicable law and pursuant to appropriate notice.

ROLL CALL

Council Members John Harshbarger, Laura Dillon, and Roger Newsome, Jr. were present. Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell declared a quorum was present and the meeting would continue.

Attending via Zoom were Eric Woodmansee and Paul Vincent with AME Consulting, financial advisor Steve Brock, and OCRA grant administrator Mike Kleinpeter. Utility Superintendent Colin Bullock was also present. No members of the public were in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 SRF Application for the Waterworks Project: AME Consulting's Eric Woodmansee called the special meeting to discuss the prior year's application scorecard and a recently revised application that must be made ready for submittal by April 1 of this year to be considered in the first round of funding.

Council President John Harshbarger said he should speak first and then shared what he learned at a recent meeting with Huntington Mayor Richard Strick. The regionalization option for a safe source of water was discussed which included a new and interesting offer: Huntington will be the grant applicant to run water supply lines to Andrews from the area of the new industrial park west of SR9 and repair the aged water infrastructure in town. Mayor Strick said federal and state money is available to fund this project in 2023. The high percentage of non-revenue water loss has been a factor in council's discounting of the regionalization option in the past. Andrews would become a part of the Huntington water distribution system. Town residents would become Huntington water customers, possibly even with the same rates.

Harshbarger has been invited to an SRF meeting in Indianapolis on February 3, which will include Huntington city and county officials, project engineers, and financial representatives with Baker Tilly. John stated the Town needs safe, clean water without the worry of contamination. He plans to attend the meeting to learn more about the new regionalization option and to ask questions.

Steve Brock discussed wholesale rates, limits, excess charges, and IURC rules. He also expressed caution proceeding into such an agreement. Brock recommends, if possible, moving forward on our own with an independent SRF application to keep our options open. However, at this time Andrews is currently ranked 48th out of 60 applications for SRF money according to Brock.

Council agreed to do what is best for Andrews. Harshbarger wants figures from Indy before a final decision is made. He is not in favor of pursuing both routes whereas the town would be spending money on an independent SRF application to relocate the town's water plant and public wells that cannot be recovered should the latest regionalization option be agreeable. Council tabled the SRF application presented by Eric Woodmansee until after the February 3 Indianapolis meeting, and then asked Clerk-Treasurer Powell to schedule a special meeting of council for February 7 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss this matter further.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Concerning CCMG 2020-1 contractor DC Construction's job performance, Roger Newsome, Jr. updated Council on a recent discussion with Burt Blee's Tim Claxton, Utility Superintendent Bullock, and Clerk-Treasurer Powell. Faulty workmanship and damaged septic lines are both documented in the area defined as McKeever St Storm Water Project Phase 2, It has been determined that all work completed in Phase 2 must be torn out, redone, and made right for the 3-phase project to work correctly along East McKeever St. Burt Blee's attorneys will move forward with the process, which may take two to three years to resolve in court.


Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.

Approved this 13th day of February 2023.

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