

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

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on February 27, 2023, 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 February 13, 2023. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

FEMA BUYOUT PROJECT: OPENING OF DEMOLITION BIDS FOR 181 S BERRY ST.

Councilmember Dillon opened the bids and presented to council president Harshbarger to read, as follows:

- Amor Excavating, Huntington, IN - \$7,455.00
- Dirt Excavating, Huntington, IN - \$9,480.00
- Zahm Excavating, Huntington, IN - \$6,670.00
- TW Excavating, Andrews, IN - \$6,050.00
- Williams Excavating, Huntington, IN - \$8,200.00

Council asked Powell to notify Huntington DCD's Kim Hostetler of the winning bid from TW Excavating, however the award is contingent on having an update to the bid clarifying the scope of work to be performed. Dillon motioned to accept the low bid of \$6,050.00.00 from TW Excavating, contingent on its clarification regarding job details. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance 2023-1 to Appropriate Additional Funds to the ARPA Fund had its second read to the public by John Harshbarger. With no questions raised, Laura Dillon motioned to approve and pass Ordinance 2023-1 on its second read to appropriate an additional \$81,100.04 to the ARPA Fund. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion, which was approved 3-0.

FEMA Buyout Project: Clerk-Treasurer Powell reported that Dana Howell's offer packet for 237 W McKeever St is currently under review with his attorney. The demolition process is underway with 181 S Berry St with a bid award this evening, and remediation at 498 W McKeever St is scheduled to take place this week, weather permitting.

Eric Woodmansee, with AME Consulting, informed Council that his work on Title VI is complete but ADA is still in the works. He also told council he placed the Comprehensive Plan on the back burner for now as Huntington is the lead applicant on the water regionalization project.

NEW BUSINESS

Council discussed a leak adjustment request from Living Waters Community Trailer Park, the third in seven months. Powell relayed that the new March 1 utility billing shows the leak is ongoing and has not been repaired as stated. Council said the leak must first be repaired and they tabled the matter for now.

Utility customer Luis Verdeal, 756 N Market St, asked Council to deviate from town ordinance concerning NSF check policy on not accepting personal checks for 12 months afterwards. Verdeal explained it would be a hardship on him considering his personal situation: no credit or debit card in his name, no transportation other than a scooter to withdraw cash from his bank in Huntington, and that he is a long-time resident and utility customer in good standing.

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He apologized for his banking transfer error. Clerk-Treasurer Powell confirmed Verdeal pays in a timely manner, is not delinquent, and has no history of insufficient funds. After discussion all three council members agreed to allow Verdeal to continue to write checks for payment on his utility account.

Laura Dillon, who is also a member of the Andrews Community Helpers, read a letter to council from chairman Sandra Bowers requesting a donation to the group's annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on the grounds of the Andrews Dallas Township Fire Department. Roger Newsome, Jr. motioned to donate \$300.00 to the Easter Egg Hunt. John Harshbarger seconded the motion, which passed 2-0. Dillon abstained from the vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock said Deputy Marshal Platt is now at the Academy for Tier II training. He also reported verbal warnings have been made to those residents with property not in compliance with Andrews town code. He plans to recheck in 2-4 weeks for improvement and then issue written notices as needed to those still in violation.

Fire Department: It was reported that the receipt of new gear ordered in 2022 is still 3-4 weeks out yet. Also, a reminder that the annual auction and tenderloin dinner fundraiser will be held on March 18 at the Huntington VFW.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock said plant maintenance is ongoing, especially at the wastewater treatment plant. A pump is still being maintained for operation since no replacement pump is available yet. Also, Bullock is working with Merrell Brothers on a biosolids contractual agreement.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported she is attending a utility lien webinar tomorrow morning. She also began work on updating the town's Sam.gov account and learned she will need to submit proof of the Town of Andrews' founding or incorporation date, which is a new requirement this year and will take time to research and document. Finally, Powell said she submitted water department rates and three years of water financial reports to Baker Tilly on February 17 in regard to the Huntington regionalization project.

CLAIMS

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

OTHER BUSINESS

A letter from AIM announcing a Roundtable Meeting in Middlebury, IN was read. No action was taken. Dean Young, 450 W Terrel St., asked if the town was interested in selling the west lot at the end of Terrel St, and if so, he would be interested in purchasing it. Mowing time and expense were discussed. Harshbarger explained the town has invested in walking trails for residents to use and council has no plans to sell the property. Dillon said if this were to happen in the future that there would be a process to follow, such as bidding. No action was taken.


With no further business, Roger Newsome, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m., which was seconded by Laura Dillon.

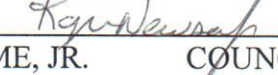
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Approved this 13th day of March 2023.

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