

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD MARCH 13, 2023**

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

OLD BUSINESS

237 Columbia St Unsafe Order of Enforcement: The Huntington County DCD notified the property owner and the town by letter that they have scheduled a public hearing for the house at 237 Columbia St which will be held at the March 27th council meeting. Discussion ensued with Neal Snyder, 55 N Main St, opposing the enforcement and Cheryl Chopson, 212 Columbia St, speaking in support of moving forward with the enforcement. The property has continued to sit vacant, is deteriorating further, and is an eyesore in the neighborhood. In conclusion, all three council members agreed to let the DCD move forward with the March 27 public hearing.

FEMA Buyout Project: Clerk-Treasurer Powell reported that demolition at 181 S Berry St was complete on March 7. Remediation at 498 W McKeever St was wrapped up on February 28 with demolition bids due to be opened at the March 27 council meeting. The last property to acquire in the buyout project, 237 W McKeever St, is scheduled for closing tomorrow morning, March 14.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2023-3 To Establish in Writing a Brief History of Significant Events in the Founding of the Town of Andrews was read by Council President John Harshbarger. Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell explained new requirements she encountered at the Sam.gov website while attempting to update the town's entity profile and how the resolution would physically back up what she enters at the website in the absence of original documents. Laura Dillon made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-3. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A request from HCCSC Food Director Ken Akins concerning the Summer Meal Program was read and discussed. According to the latest census and a change in demographics of the town's population, the USDA will only allow the school to offer meals on the west side of State Route 105, or Main Street. Laura Dillon motioned to let the school use the town hall parking lot and to provide several picnic tables in the grass lot behind the town hall. Roger Newsome Jr. seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

C-T Powell presented Council with a new proposal from Joy of Coming Home Cleaning Company. After a brief discussion on the 10% increase since 2021 and the weekly checklist, Laura Dillon motioned to approve the new proposal from Joy of Coming Home at \$308.51 per month. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock shared Deputy Marshal Platt's academy schedule with council members and reported Josh is scoring well on exams. Bullock also reported he issued tags for disabled vehicles in town and asked council what direction he should take with unresponsive owners. It was agreed that disabled vehicles could be towed away after appropriate notice was given and there has been no communication with the police department. Austin will speak with the noncompliant owners one more time before the vehicles are towed.

Fire Department: Dean Young reminded everyone that the annual auction and tenderloin dinner fundraiser is this Saturday, March 18, at the Huntington VFW. Young also said the AVFD hopes to set this year's festival date on August 19th, and they are looking for volunteers and additional ideas for the one-day event.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock reported they have finished wiring and new lights at the old barn. Another project just underway is the refurbishing of the town's air stripper inside the water plant. Finally, an old generator and other recyclables from the wastewater plant will be hauled in soon for scrap.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell said she was contacted by Huntington County Clerk Shelley Septer with dates for early voting in Andrews. The Town Hall will be an Early Vote Center on Friday, April 21 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 22 from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Powell relayed that she has had another conversation with H&H Disposal concerning trash tote totals and compensation. Her research showed that the two tote customers were being double counted and that the explanation she provided, along with printed utility billing information, were received well and understood.

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

Cheryl Chopson, 212 Columbia St, asked about a date for the annual town-wide spring cleanup. Council said it usually is the first Friday of May, which is May 5 this year. Council asked Powell to contact H&H Disposal with this information.

Neal Snyder, 55 N Main St, asked if the town has plans to replace another basketball goal that was broken by young vandals last fall. Colin Bullock replied that the town is having a new steel backboard made, like the goal specially constructed last year in response to the vandalism.

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

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Approved this 27^h 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