

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

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

FEMA BUYOUT PROJECT

Demolition Bids for 498 W McKeever St were presented to Council. Laura Dillon opened the envelopes and John Harshbarger read the bids aloud as follows.

- TW Excavating - \$9,450.00
- Amor Excavating - \$8,835.00
- Dirt, Inc. - \$9,840.00
- Zahm Excavating - \$7,720.00

Council announced Zahm Excavating submitted the lowest bid. Dillon motioned to accept the low bid of \$7,720.00 from Zahm Excavating. Roger Newsome seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Powell will notify Huntington County DCD's Kim Hostetler of the winning bid.

OLD BUSINESS

237 Columbia St. Unsafe Order of Enforcement: Huntington County DCD's Jessica Campbell conducted a public hearing to discuss the newly reissued Notice of Order of Enforcement for unsafe violations at 237 Columbia Street. A prior Unsafe OE for 237 Columbia St had been placed on hold due to pending litigation and expired during that period of time. Since the town won that case in the Court of Appeals last year, the DCD moved forward with another inspection of the property and found many unsafe violations of county and/or state building codes continue to exist. New land contract owner, Hipolito Hernandez Rodriguez, was also in attendance and a lengthy discussion ensued concerning details within his land contract agreement and the list of corrective measures he is now required to complete as the new owner. It was determined that the new owner was not made aware of the dwelling unit's numerous structural issues as well as fees and taxes due to the county this year. This may be in violation of the recent court order in this case and the land contract Rodriguez presented at the meeting. Council agreed to table the matter at this time and asked the DCD to consult with attorney Adrian Halverstadt about the situation. The Andrews Town Council unanimously agreed to accept Huntington County DCD's Notice of Order of Enforcement dated March 6, 2023, and asked all parties to reappear at the May 8th meeting for an update.

FEMA Buyout Project: Clerk-Treasurer Powell reported that demolition bids for 237 W McKeever St are due April 10 at 6:00 p.m. She also said Andrews has expended \$124,957.80 on the project in 2023 for which she is awaiting state reimbursement for 75% of that amount.

NEW BUSINESS

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Huntington, the Town of Andrews, and Huntington County, Indiana was discussed. Council President John Harshbarger explained the MOU describes the proposed project, reciting roles and responsibilities as all three parties work together to explore the feasibility of, and funding of, running uncontaminated water to Andrews from Huntington City and a near complete replacement of the Andrews Distribution System. For the PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) and SRF Application, costs not to exceed \$40,000.00 for engineering (Lochmueller Group) and \$20,000.00 for financials (Baker Tilly) are spelled out in the agreement as reimbursable

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

expenses to the City of Huntington that will be shared by both the County and the Town. Harshbarger said the Town would pay its portion with ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds, which council previously designated for infrastructure use, specifically its waterworks improvement plans. Also, once awarded, this expense should be reimbursed to the Town through the SRF Grant. After brief discussion, Laura Dillon motioned for the Town to accept the MOU and have John Harshbarger sign the agreement. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Eric Woodmansee, of AME Consulting, presented and discussed three resolutions with council that are tied to the now complete Title VI Plan, the ADA Coordinator, and ADA Guidelines. An additional resolution, specifically related to the ADA Plan itself, is forthcoming once the ADA Plan inventory is complete. Resolution 2023-4 Adopting the ADA Coordinator and Procedures, Resolution 2023-5 Approving the Title VI Implementation Plan, and Resolution 2023-6 Adopting Accessibility Guidelines were each discussed briefly. The town must be Title VI and ADA compliant to remain eligible to receive federal funds as a subrecipient through INDOT grant programs such as CCMG. More discussion centered around the upcoming ADA Plan inventory and study of sidewalks, curbs, and ramps. Laura Dillon moved to approve all three resolutions within the same motion: Resolution 2023-4, Adopting the ADA Coordinator and Procedures, Resolution 2023-5 Approving the Title VI Implementation Plan, and Resolution 2023-6 Adopting Accessibility Guidelines. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock shared news that Deputy Marshal Platt scored exceptionally high on his criminal law exam at the academy. Bullock also reported that out of the 22 cars initially tagged in town, he is now down to haggling with 3 owners to resolve ordinance violations. Also, the new police vehicle is now expected to be on the dealer's lot in early May.

Fire Department: Volunteer fireman Trey Wuensch said the annual auction and tenderloin dinner fundraiser last Saturday was a success. He also reminded everyone about the Easter Egg Hunt this coming Saturday, April 1, at the fire station.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock reported the town's air stripper rehabilitation is nearly complete. It is located inside the town's water plant. Also, a recent IDEM inspection at the wastewater plant went well.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported that she successfully updated the town's SAM account and has done required certifications at treasury.gov in preparation for the 2022 fiscal year ARPA report which should go live by April 1. Deputy Clerk Julie Bowers continues to work with H&H Disposal on a consensus of trash tote totals in Andrews. Powell also said that due to a conflict with H&H's schedule, the town wide annual spring cleanup will be on May 12 this year.

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

Neal Snyder, 55 N Main St, asked when the contractor was going to repair the defective sidewalk panels downtown which were poured in the fall of 2021. Much discussion ensued between council, Eric Woodmansee, and citizens in attendance over the proposed repair plan versus a total replacement. In conclusion, legal counsel's advice will be followed with an inspection of the concrete panels by early May and then a test repair on one section using an industrial grade overcoat to determine if it is an acceptable solution or not to the surface deterioration.

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

With no further business, Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.

Approved this 10th day of April 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