

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JUNE 12, 2023**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on June 12, 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 May 22, 2023. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Sidewalk Project: Clerk-Treasurer Powell said that after further conversations with Woodmansee, INDOT still recommends the Town and contractor work out an amicable agreement on recapping the pitted sidewalk surfaces. INDOT says there are good resin compounds on the market that will do the job and advised that ADA compliance still needs to be adhered to with the recap process. Woodmansee has begun research on the best products available and is reviewing their specifications while waiting to hear which direction council wants to go. After a brief discussion, all council members agreed to move forward with recapping the pitted concrete panels and asked Powell to contact Woodmansee.

FEMA Buyout Project: Powell reported that the project is winding down and that the Town has three outstanding reimbursement claims with Indiana DHS totaling \$12,584.25.

Powell said she was recently contacted by Scott Wallace, 117 W McKeever St., about why he still doesn't have water service at 167 W McKeever St as approved at the May 22 meeting. Utility Superintendent Colin Bullock said Wallace must first set up the account with the clerk's office before the water department turns it on.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2023-4 To Amend Salary Ordinance 2022-10 was introduced and had its first reading to the public. This ordinance, if adopted, would amend the hourly rate paid to Part-Time Police Officers of the Town of Andrews. It would bump up pay from \$23.37 to \$25.00 per hour, as approved at the May 22, 2023, meeting at the Town Marshal's request. Laura Dillon motioned to approve Ordinance 2023-4 To Amend Salary Ordinance 2022-10 on its first read. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The second read and final passage of this ordinance will be at the June 26 meeting.

A discussion ensued on planning for the 2024 Budget. Powell said she will ask for a 6% wage increase for all town employees. Also, after reaching out to insurance agents, she learned that both health and liability rates are expected to increase 8-10% heading into the new year. In addition, a recent SBOA training module stated that the MLGQ should be no more than 4%. Powell asked department heads to review 5-year budget reports she handed out and to communicate with her on any thoughts or suggestions they may have on planning the 2024 budget.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock said all qualifications for this year are complete. The new 2023 Ford police vehicle is 80% complete with additional work on the lights still in progress. Bullock added he is researching a grant to help pay for new electronic ticketing equipment in the department's cars. He then shared a recommendation from the prosecutor's office that all body and dash cameras must be upgraded soon to meet new thresholds required in court cases. Austin is seeking quotes on two dash cameras and three body cameras to bring to council for consideration.

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Fire Department: Dean Young reported that the circus had approximately 200 in attendance and overall went well despite the short notice and rain. Dean, along with Jay Rhoads, discussed the department's plan to obtain a quote and bring before council soon. To stay compliant with regulations, the AVFD wants to purchase 16 bottles from Aboite Fire, all less than five years old, to replace the fire air pack bottles on Truck 201, which have been tested three times and are now at the end of their 15-year life. Aboite Fire is purchasing new air packs that use a different type of bottle and wish to sell their old equipment to smaller fire departments that may not be able to afford new bottles that retail at \$2,500.00. Laura Dillon then shared a request to council from the Dallas Township Trustee Sandra Bowers to consider a monetary donation towards a landscaping project planned at the fire station this summer. After discussion, Laura Dillon motioned to donate \$357.00 to the Dallas Township Trustee in support of the planned landscaping project. Roger Newsome seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock had no report.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported the sale proceeds for the old fire truck and police reserve car have been received from GovDeals. She has instructions from Crossroads Bank on how to apply the \$12,700.00 towards a principal payment on the new fire truck. Powell said she recently updated the Capital Assets worksheets, completed, and submitted SBOA pre-audit forms as well as the Pre-Budget Report on Gateway.

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


Cathy Johnson, 215 S Main St, said she has volunteered to coordinate the town wide garage sales planned for August 18 and 19 in conjunction with the Andrews Community Day to be held on the 19th. She asked council if they would waive the fees for that weekend and they agreed to do so.

With no further business, Roger Newsome, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m., which was seconded by Laura Dillon.

Approved this 26th day of June 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