

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD AUGUST 14, 2023**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on August 14, 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 July 24, 2023. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Additional Appropriation Fire Fund No. 2243: Council President Harshbarger conducted a second reading of Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2023-5 for the Fire Fund. Powell then explained why the additional appropriation of \$12,700.00 is necessary. Laura Dillon made a motion to approve and pass Ordinance 2023-5 Additional Appropriation to Fire Fund No. 2243 on its second reading. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FEMA Buyout Update: Clerk-Treasurer Powell said two outstanding reimbursements for demo and legal expenses remain in her file and there will likely be one more legal invoice to pay. Powell also said that DCD's Kim Hostetler and attorney Adrian Halverstadt were to attend a conference call August 9 with FEMA to learn what needs to be done to close out the project.

2024 Budget: Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell discussed final tweaks she made to the 2024 budget as well as an update on the DLGF Budget Workshop proceedings. All is a go however Powell did find an error on the Form 4B General Fund where the total does not match Form 1. It appears that during the Workshop, the Fire Department totals were added in twice on Gateway's Form 4B. She has contacted the DLGF for assistance in getting the matter corrected.

Council President John Harshbarger read a thank you note for the landscaping donation from the Dallas Township Trustee Sandra Bowers.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Early Vote Center: Clerk-Treasurer Powell announced that there will be an Early Vote Center at the Andrews Town Hall on Friday, October 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and again on Saturday, October 28 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Council President John Harshbarger read a letter from Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita regarding recent legislative changes to the opioid settlement distribution plan announced last year. Beginning this year, a distribution of less than \$5,000.00 will go to the county instead of a city or town. The previous threshold was \$1,000.00. The chance of Andrews receiving additional opioid money is unlikely.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock said he has been contacted by the county grant administrator who relayed the county commissioners wish to include all towns under their grant umbrella in the acquisition of Axon body cameras, up to \$18,000.00 per town. He said Andrews would still need to purchase Axon dash cams. Bullock said more conversations are to be had regarding this matter and expects to have more information by the next meeting.



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In addition, he reported that he has been selected to attend Active Shooter School and that Deputy Marshal Platt is enrolled in a red dot training class.

Fire Department: Dean Young said the department is busy with final plans for the festival, asking for assistance from the town employees to get the stage ready. An inquiry was made about additional parking spaces downtown for visitors and vendors.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock reported they have been busy working at the WWTP including quality control standards. He added that he is still waiting on a quote to revamp the old tennis court to a basketball court and additional green space at the park. Discussion ensued to possibly consider a pickle ball court instead of the planned green space.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell said she has stayed busy working on the new budget, especially the details to incorporate the Fire Fund under the General Fund for 2024. In addition, Powell said she has advertised for part-time utility billing assistance.

**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**

Dean Young, AVFD, informed Council that the department has loaned out the Hummer to Huntington Township FD while they are overhauling their grass rig.


Neal Snyder, 55 N Main Street, asked for updates on the downtown sidewalk recaps and the water regionalization project with the City of Huntington SRF application. The Town is still waiting to see a draft of an agreement that, once signed by both parties, would kick start the work on recapping the pitted concrete panels. Council President Harshbarger next shared he recently learned that the Town of Andrews was not awarded money on their SRF application this year despite being at the top of the list for funding. The State of Indiana doesn't have the money to do the full scope of the project in a timely manner, so the IFA asked for monetary assistance from Raytheon, the polluter prompting the need to look outside of the town's well field to source safe drinking water. Raytheon did not comply with the request, causing the town's application to be written off as unfunded this year. The only option at this point is for the Town of Andrews to reapply in next year's first round with hopes that the current funding issues can be resolved. Discussion ensued and council members, along with town residents in attendance, shared their dismay and frustration with the situation. Council President Harshbarger said he would contact Huntington Mayor Strick and Taft Law in an attempt to gather more information on the matter.

With no further business, Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.


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Approved this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 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