

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD AUGUST 28, 2023**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on August 28, 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 August 14 and an Executive Session held on August 21, 2023. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Unsafe Order of Enforcement 237 E Columbia St: Council President John Harshbarger shared an update from the Huntington DCD that the house at 237 E Columbia St passed both electrical and plumbing inspections with no issues. Maggie Chino, speaking for the owner Hipolito Hernandez Rodriguez, said AC, heating, and cabinets were ready to install, and that the owner has applied with the DCD to build a covered porch on the front of the house. She requested by the end of October to have everything completed, however after much discussion, council members affirmed the original deadline, as stated in the OE, would remain in place. All interior work is to be done making the house habitable by September 25. The porch addition is a separate matter not listed in the Unsafe OE and has no council oversight. Council asked all parties to reappear at 6:00 p.m. September 25, 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Halloween Trick-or-Treating hours were set for Tuesday, October 31, 2023, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Powell asked council members to approve the write off a utility account balance of \$464.57. The account was closed in June 2022. Powell presented a write-off report and explained to council that the account owner is deceased, and that a sewer lien was placed on the property to collect the unpaid balance. She also presented a receipt showing that the full amount was received on December 30, 2022, as a special assessment collection. Council approved Powell's request to clear the \$464.57 from the account.

Dillon led a short pickleball discussion, which she mentioned two weeks ago as a possible new attraction at the park in lieu of making more green space. A quick show of hands revealed nobody in attendance currently plays the game, but it was noted school age children do play pickleball.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock reported he has received the Indiana grant award printer/scanner equipment. He is required to travel to Indianapolis to pick up the grant award laptop. Bullock next discussed the Axon body and dash cameras, saying that through a grant Huntington County has picked up the 5-year expense for two body cameras, coming in at \$18,206.63. The Town of Andrews will need to pay for the Axon dash cameras through a 5-year contract currently quoted at \$27,188.40. Bullock is currently negotiating with a sales rep to lower the quote. Council members unanimously said it was ok for Bullock to use the \$10,000.00 in Riverboat money to pay down the first two years on the Axon quote, however, he would need to work with the Clerk-Treasurer on funding the annual expense going forward. The money was previously approved at the July 24, 2023, meeting to use for a Digital-Ally body and dash camera quote.

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Fire Department: Nobody was in attendance representing the fire department.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock said he still has not received a quote on the old tennis court demo and makeover. Also, the utility department plans to flush water hydrants the week of September 11.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell said the 2024 budget was uploaded to Gateway on August 22 and formally advertised for the September 11 Public Hearing. As her first term comes to an end soon, Powell presented to council members a summary of her continuing education over the last 4 years. Also, she reported the web domain hosting issue was resolved with Chris Claghorn and ITI for the next year. However, Claghorn will submit a quote to rebuild the website as its current software is old and no longer updated creating a security threat to the host server. This matter will need to be addressed next year. In addition, Powell is reviewing several resumes for interviews.

**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**


Kevin Miller, 191 N State St, reported a group of kids have been climbing on top of the equipment building and attempting to break into it. To relieve the town of liability, it was discussed fencing and signage was an option. Meanwhile, the police will watch the park closer and asked park neighbors to call county dispatch to report active vandalism and trouble.

With no further business, Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.

Approved this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 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