## ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on September 25, 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 September 11 and an Executive Session on September 18, 2023. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2023-6 BUDGET FORM 4**

After stating the 2024 budget was introduced and had its first reading at the September 11 Public Hearing, Council President John Harshbarger conducted a second reading of the ordinance and asked if there was any further discussion on the budget. With none brought up, council member Laura Dillon made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-6, the 2024 Budget Form 4, on its second read, which was seconded by council member Roger Newsome, Jr. Motion passed unanimously 3-0.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Unsafe OE for 237 E Columbia St: Harshbarger relayed information from DCD's Kim Hostetler regarding building inspector Greg Ricker's final report on this property. He declares the house to be in great shape and ready for occupancy aside from a few small interior items still on backorder which are outside of the owner's control. The water is on, the electricity is on, and the natural gas company has been contacted but hasn't responded to the owner's request for service hookup as of today's date. Ricker will reinspect the property once the loose ends have been completed, but otherwise recommends that the Notice of Enforcement be released at this point. All council members agreed the property looks nice and will make a great home for a family in Andrews. Laura Dillon motioned to release the order of enforcement for 237 E Columbia St. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion, which was approved 3-0.

Sidewalk Project Update: Speaking on behalf of Eric Woodmansee, Powell asked Council to decide how they want to proceed with the sidewalk issue. Attorney Tim Claxton, with Burt Blee, is awaiting a decision on the matter. Council members were in unison stating they want the pitted surfaces recapped with the contractor agreeing to a 1-year workmanship warranty to accompany the warranty. Should the contractor continue to refuse to sign the previously intends to pursue litigation. Powell will contact Woodmansee and Claxton on behalf of council, to say more pressure is needed to have Mr. Bolinger comply, otherwise the issue will go to court.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Powell informed council members of a request she received last Thursday from Templar Farms' Anita Nofsinger to set up a temporary farm stand on town property located at the corner of Main and Jefferson Streets. Newsome gave preliminary approval to the request last week and this evening Council unanimously agreed this is good for the community, granting permission for the farm stand.

Harshbarger read through several AIM seminar invites to gauge if there was interest in attending any of the events this fall. No action was taken at this time.

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Dillon said she was approached by Rachel Brown and Neal Snyder seeking support to sponsor a Scarecrow Contest in Andrews. Several judges will award prizes on October 30 in the amount of \$100, \$75, and \$50. Council approved this request unanimously, stating they like to see the community take pride in their town.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock said Josh Platt will attend Red Dot sight training and that the department will complete their rifle qualifications this week. He also said the county health department will inspect 133 S Jackson St on a complaint. Town attorney Halverstadt gave Bullock legal advice in moving forward with two previously discussed ordinance violations at 443 E McKeever St and 756 N Market St, of which the health department will also inspect the latter.

Fire Department: Dean Young announced the fall fish fry will be on November 4 at the fire station.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock said the metered software is now up and running at the wastewater treatment plant. In addition, the department has been doing maintenance work on septic lines using the vac truck and sewer camera.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported that 58 shut-off tags were issued last week, and training continues this week with the meter read and billing process. She also reminded everyone of the Early Vote Center that will be held at the Town Hall Friday October 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday October 28 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Finally, Powell shared her recent experience searching through old ordinances in an attempt to document an alley vacation marked on an old map. By luck, she found the ordinance which was passed in 1953 but was never recorded at the courthouse since it wasn't required at that time. Powell asked if council wanted her to have this ordinance recorded now that it had been found, adding that a copy of it was all the surveyor needed for his job. Discussion ensued amongst council members, who finally agreed that they will take no further action on this matter unless there is a request.

**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

No other business was brought to the attention of Council.

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 10 <sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.
APPROVED BY
JOHN HARSHBARGER COUNCIL PRESIDENT
APPROVED BY HOLLON COUNCIL MEMBER
APPROVED BY Top Nous as ROGER NEWSOME, JR. COUNCIL MEMBER
ATTEST BY June 1 as LAURY L POWELL CLERK-TREASURER