

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

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on December 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 December 11, an Executive Session held December 15, and a Storm Water Board Management Meeting also on December 11, 2023. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR 2024 ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Huntington County Clerk Shelley Septer administered the oath of office for all four newly elected officials: Clerk-Treasurer Laury L Powell, and council members Laura A Dillon, Roger Newsome, Jr., and Michael D. (Dean) Young.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was brought up for discussion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion ensued between council members regarding candidates interviewed last week for the deputy marshal position. Two of three candidates showed up for their interview. Dillon favors hiring locals, bringing her choice in on an introductory basis before sending him to the law academy for Tier 2 training, naming Charles Raber as her pick. Agreeing with Dillon, Roger Newsome motioned to appoint Charles Raber as the new deputy marshal for the Town of Andrews. Laura Dillon seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously, 3-0. Both Platt and Raber will be sworn into office at the January 8, 2024 meeting. It was noted that Platt, who was promoted at the November 13 meeting, begins his job as the new town marshal on January 1.

In other business matters, Dillon announced that council members will meet at 11:00 a.m. January 24, 2024, in a special meeting with representatives of the USDA to discuss funding options available for a water project that will hopefully resolve the drinking water contamination issue in Andrews. Also, a Stantec proposal to build a new air stripper at the existing water plant may be discussed.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Town Marshal Austin Bullock reported that all logins and user accounts have been switched out to Josh Platt. Everything is in place to turn over the town marshal position to Platt. Council members and others in attendance thanked Austin again for his exemplary service as the town marshal since 2016.

Fire Department: Chief Evan Schenkel turned in a \$15,387.00 quote for 3 full sets of fire gear. After discussion, council said they would like to see another quote or two if possible while Powell added it is not possible to do an encumbrance of funds while moving the Fire Fund into the General Fund as a department beginning in 2024. A clean break is required this year.

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Utility Department: Colin Bullock said he had no report other than garage organization is underway and that his department is using the last of their PTO for the year.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell said the SBOA audit wrapped up with an exit conference last Wednesday and that she submitted the 1782 Report in a timely manner to the DLGF. Powell then introduced her recent hire Denise McNally and administered the oath of office to McNally as the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer for the Town of Andrews.

**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**

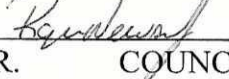
Phil Sunderman, 257 S Main St, gave thanks to all town employees and elected officials for their hard work and dedication.

Finally, John Harshbarger thanked the town for allowing him to serve 12 years as a council member. Laura Dillon and others thanked John for volunteering his time not only as an elected official but as the council president, stating his leadership and vast amount of knowledge attained over the years will be missed.

With no further business, Laura Dillon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m., which was seconded by Roger Newsome, Jr.

Approved this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

APPROVED BY  as  
LAURA A DILLON COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY  as  
ROGER NEWSOME, JR. COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ as  
MICHAEL D. YOUNG COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY  as  
LAURY L POWELL CLERK-TREASURER