

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on November 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Andrews Town Hall in accordance with applicable law and pursuant to appropriate notice.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Laura Dillon, Roger Newsome, Jr., and Michael Dean Young were in attendance. Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell declared a quorum was present and the meeting would continue.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Roger Newsome, Jr made a motion to approve council minutes for a Regular Session held October 28, 2024. Dean Young seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

2025 Salary Ordinance 2024-5: Council President Dillon read the synopsis of Budget Year 2025 Salary Ordinance 2024-5 for the second time, while noting employee salaries were discussed in detail at the prior council meeting. With no further questions or discussion, Dean Young motioned to approve and pass on its second read, 2025 Salary Ordinance 2024-5. Roger Newsome seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously 3-0.

United With Love Mobile Food Pantry: Roger Newsome reported that he has an updated quote breaking out the individual cost of two projects, a bicycle pad and a light building structure pad, rolled up into one price of \$5,328.00 from David Stoffel, Inc. Unfortunately, he left the revised quote at home and will bring it to Clerk Powell tomorrow. Otherwise, he is waiting to hear from the concrete contractor at any time, regarding a start date. Newsome also shared there is a 2-week wait on delivery of the storage building once ordered. He will place the order after the concrete is poured. In addition, he learned no permit was required to place the building on town property. It was decided to place the building west of the town hall across from the post office.

NEW BUSINESS

Andrews BZA Vacancies: Powell discussed filling two vacancies on the Andrews Board of Zoning Appeals with council members. She explained one is to replace Cathy Johnson, a town resident, who has been appointed to the Norwood RWSD board disqualifying her from being appointed to the BZA, while the other has been vacant for quite a few years. It must be filled from the ETJ area, not within the town limits, and must also be a Democrat or Independent to maintain political balance with the other ETJ appointee while sitting on the Andrews Plan Commission. Anyone interested in either open position should contact a town official right away. In addition, Powell said three appointments will expire at the end of this year and that she will contact the current volunteers to see if they wish to reup for 2025.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Josh Platt informed council he would like to see external security cameras placed at the fire station. Council stated this matter isn't their call and he should speak with the township trustee, who owns the property and building, for her opinion. Jay Rhoads stated he was not in favor of this idea. Citations for disabled vehicles will be ready to mail tomorrow if the nuisance hasn't been abated. He also gave a brief report on the recent armed robbery at the gas station, adding that it appears the same suspect robbed a gas station in Liberty Center this morning. He is coordinating efforts with Huntington County investigators and other local agencies to apprehend the suspect.

Fire Department: Jay Rhoads thanked everyone for attending the recent fish fry which had a good turnout. He also reported that there has been an increase in medical runs and grass fire calls. Council

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President Dillon asked who is responsible for maintaining the digital sign at the fire station, noting the time does not reflect the recent daylight savings time change, and an August event is still scrolling on the sign. Both Young and Rhodes said they will follow up on who has the instructions for the sign.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock said they have been busy with leaves and trees for the last two weeks.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported the US Postal Service caused a significant delay with the delivery of the town's November billing statements. Customers received their water bills five days late and are now making payments. She is also working with Carrie Rees with Chittick Insurance on next year's group health plan. It appears rates will increase a minimum of 8% so Rees is searching out competitive rates from other insurance companies at this time. Powell added that several liens have been placed for unpaid mowing abatement billing statements. Dillon asked Powell if she has heard from the Integrity RV owners since council agreed to support their request to apply for county CREDIT money in their quest to fund a digital sign on Main Street. Powell said she hasn't, but Neal Snyder, 55 N Main St, said he was told they were denied funding. This was news to town officials, as they had not yet received all the documents to accompany their request to the county. Powell replied that council did agree to back Integrity RV's application and that she currently has a formal letter of support ready and waiting to accompany their application but questioned if they ran into a roadblock with Huntington County DCD's zoning regulations. Dillon said she would call Kim Hostetler tomorrow and stop by the business to speak with the owners, to learn more about what happened.

CLAIMS


Roger Newsome made a motion to approve the claims as presented, which was seconded by Dean Young. The Motion was approved 3-0.


OTHER BUSINESS

Laura Dillon stated that the Andrews Town Council will have an executive session tomorrow afternoon.

With no further business, Roger Newsome made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m., which was seconded by Dean Young.

Approved this 25th day of November 2024.

APPROVED BY  as
LAURA A. DILLON COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY  as
ROGER NEWSOME, JR. COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY  as
MICHAEL D. YOUNG COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY  as
LAURY L. POWELL CLERK-TREASURER