

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD DECEMBER 09, 2024**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on December 09, 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

Dean Young made a motion to approve council minutes for a Regular Session held November 25, 2024. Roger Newsome, Jr seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

HUNTINGTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mark Wickersham presented the 2025 service contract proposal after summarizing HCED's county-wide accomplishments in 2024. He added there is no change to the scope of service or the annual support request of \$3,000.00, payable in two installments, one in June and the other in December. Clerk-Treasurer Powell presented Wickersham with John Harshbarger's reappointment letter to the 2025 HCED Board of Members. Dean Young motioned to accept the HCED 2025 Agreement for Performance of Professional Economic Development Services. Roger Newsome, Jr. seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

United With Love Mobile Food Pantry: Roger Newsome said that a miscommunication in scheduling between Wall's Sales and the building supplier has resulted in a delay with construction. He now expects work to begin next week.

AMP/LTAP Update: Clerk-Treasurer Powell reported that Lochmueller Group recently completed the PASER updates for the Town's streets and entered technical data online with LTAP. On November 26, she reviewed the updated data, certified, and submitted the completed AMP reports. Dillon said council members should review these reports and then early next year consider submitting a CCMG grant application, offering 75/25 matching funds, to help pay for improvements to the lowest graded roads and accompanying sidewalks in town.

NEW BUSINESS

Health Insurance: Clerk-Treasurer Powell said she has scheduled an insurance meeting for the morning of December 13 with Carrie Rees, Chittick Insurance, and all full-time town employees. Pricing for the current group health plan will be discussed along with several other alternatives, and Rees will answer any questions regarding health insurance coverage. Powell invited Council President Dillon to attend the meeting, as well.

Year-End Claims Review & Approval: Powell asked Council to appoint a member to review and approve all year-end claims to be paid before council next meets on January 13, 2025. It was unanimously agreed that Laura Dillon would do so for the Clerk.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Josh Platt reported that the Andrews Dairy Store robbery suspect is now in custody with the Hicksville Police Department and will also be facing charges here. Also, two recently cited abandoned vehicle situations have been resolved.

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Fire Department: Nobody was present to report.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock said the water plant's media filter change may be complete next week. He added that the job is taking longer than anticipated since extra work, such as the removal of excessive lime and the replacement of rusty internal plumbing, became necessary. The work being done is much more extensive than the original quote from Peerless.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported that all 2025 council appointments have been made with the exception of two vacancies on the Andrews Board of Zoning Appeals. The in-town board position replacing Cathy Johnson is the most important to fill at this time. She also presented a slate of utility account balances dating from 2015 - 2023 that need adjusted off the books to correct posting errors originating from Special Assessment Collections on liens, and also to remove deceased or imprisoned clients from the books. Roger Newsome motioned to accept the List of Balances to Write Off, 2015 - 2023, allowing Powell to adjust the listed account balances to zero. Dean Young seconded the motion, which passed 3-0. McNally and Powell have also identified and verified three utility accounts belonging to deceased clients, all closed between 2015 - 2021 that have a zero balance with meter deposits remaining on file. Known relatives still live in the Andrews area, so Powell asked permission to contact those individuals to have them submit a statement of claim for the deposits. Newsome motioned to allow Powell to proceed with her plan as presented, to contact local family and refund the three listed meter deposits. Young seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

CLAIMS

Roger Newsome made a motion to approve the claims as presented, which was seconded by Laura Dillon. The Motion was approved 2-0. Young abstained.

OTHER BUSINESS

Laura Dillon read correspondence from Region 3A requesting Andrews provide a 2025 appointment to their board of directors. Brief discussion followed and no action was taken at this time.

Braxton Craft, 87 E McKeever St, asked Council if they would sponsor the Andrews Christmas Light Contest again this year. After brief discussion, the board members unanimously agreed to sponsor the contest with \$100.00, \$75.00, and \$50.00 prizes for the top three winners.

With no further business, Young motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m., seconded by Newsome.

Approved this 13th day of January 2025.

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