

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Russiaville Town Hall
January 24, 2022

Council Present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Myrna Claar, and Greg Landrum

Jeff Lipinski gave prayer, mentioning the Erb family, the Reser family and the Townsend family. Don Parvin led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting.

Election of officers for 2022 – Pat Reel made a motion for Jeff Lipinski to be president. Greg Landrum seconded. Jeff Lipinski said he had put his name in the hat to run for Howard County Commissioner and if elected would not be able to finish his term here, so he would be ok if the council elected someone else for president this year. Pat Reel said his motion stood. The motion carried with Pat, Greg, Don, and Myrna voting for passage.

Pat Reel made a motion for Don Parvin to be Vice President. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel had reports. She added she was working on end of year reports.

Streets and Wastewater – Craig Thompson was present and had a written report. Craig thanked Greg Landrum for helping him last week helping him pull the return pumps at the plant. Jeff asked how we were running at the plant. Craig said the average for 2021 was 63%, and this month is at 68%. Jeff Lipinski said Russiaville's wastewater is doing extremely well. The flow and the revenue are in good shape. He thanked Craig for keeping things running well and Megan on the collections end of things.

Marshal's Dept. – Josh Fulkerson was present. He had a written report, including the annual summary. Josh said they had purchased Class-A uniforms. The

Durango is complete now. The pit bar is on. Josh would like to purchase a handheld radar. Don Parvin asked how much it would cost. Josh replied, about \$1,200.00. Don Parvin made a motion to allow the purchase of the handheld radar. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Jeff Lipinski asked how Max (k-9) was doing. Josh said he is doing well, and said that Carl feels he will be ready to go hopefully around September.

Josh said he had sent council the reserve program manual that he is hoping to implement as soon as the council is ok with everything and approves. Josh said it would be after Max (k-9) is ready to go.

#3 on new business is the EMA appointment for the advisory board. Pat Reel is the current EMA advisory member. Don Parvin made a motion to have Pat Reel remain the EMA advisory member. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, and Myrna voting for passage.

Corbin King is not present tonight.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable reported he had no new business. Don Parvin said there are 2 member that need to be replaced.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No new business to report.

TIF Board – Rick Homkes was present and had no new business to report.

Historical Society – Myrna said she didn't know of anything new.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby said their officers would stay the same for 2022. Jill said she had talked to Julie Newlin about painting the mural on the side of Waddells, but Julie hadn't had a chance to talk to Jon yet. Jill wants to make sure it is ok for her to apply for the grant for this project, and it would be contingent on whether we get it or not to be able to do the project. The council was ok with Jill applying for the grant for the mural project.

Rick Homkes said he sent out 2021/2022 accomplishment and planning documents to the council. This is a requirement that we do once a year. He went over a few of things that were done.

Jeff Lipinski and Don Parvin thanked the Park Board for their hard work and dedication in getting projects here in town completed.

Rick Homkes said he had been working on the 5-Year plan for several months now. It was submitted, however, there were a few things that needed fixed or included in it that were not. A few things were easy fixes. Other things have taken some work, mainly the ADA grievance procedure, form, and notice. These have to be posted on the website and bulletin board here at the town hall. These documents after some work from Rick and Megan have been created, we already had the grievance form. They were sent to the council previous to the meeting. Don Parvin made a motion to approve the grievance procedure and the notice that were created. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Dave Kieser – Dave was present and said John Ellison would start working with Don and Pat on the South Union Street sidewalk project, and get it bid out the end of February or first of March.

Dave will apply for a grant for the North Union Street sidewalks the end of February, and we should know by the first of April if we are approved.

We need to bid out the work on the interurban, Dave said materials are up so we will have to see where it comes in at.

Community Center acoustic panels are not enough to absorb the sound right now. Dave is looking into acoustical curtains; they would go on the walls and be 10' in length. It would 25oz. weight and take 160 lineal yards to do what needs to be done. It will cost about \$10K-\$12K for the acoustics. There was some concern about the curtains. Greg Landrum said we are getting ready to put in a new floor, he suggested we see how it sounds after this gets done. After some more discussion, Pat Reel made a motion to revisit the acoustics after the floor is done. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin would like to redo the contract for the Community Center after the updated get done that we are currently doing.

Dave said he will be putting in for the grant for the wastewater project again this year when it is announced.

EDIT Fund Ordinance – Megan Reel said Corbin King is working on this. She gave him all the information he needed up to now. We will table this again until we hear from Corbin.

Nuisance Ordinance – This will be tabled for now.

Addresses on residences – It was brought up that there was an issue looking for someone's residence when there was an emergency call here in town. It was passed by Howard County to have green signs on residences, but after talking to our attorney, Russiaville does not fall under this. Pat Reel said he had talked to Josh and Carl about this and said most houses are marked with their house numbers, but there are some here in town that need to be more clearly marked. Pat said it does not necessarily need to be a green sign here in town. After some more discussion, Pat is willing to work with Josh and Carl and get some of these resolved. He doesn't want there to be a fine for not having them, he just wants to make it better.

Dunnuck/Hale driveway (647 E. Kinsey Dr.) – Vincent and Kelly Hale were present and said that the judge in their situation has ruled for them to put in a driveway on their property and can no longer use the driveway that they currently share with Ricci's as of April 15th. They would like direction on where to put their driveway from the town's standpoint. Jeff Lipinski said he had talked to Corbin King, town' attorney, and he would like to review the order, and then proceed. Don Parvin said they would have to adhere to the same things that Ricci's were told when they came to the council for a permit for a driveway off of Fourth Street. Kelly Hale asked if there was a place, they could come in off of Kinsey Drive to the East of Ricci's property. Craig Thompson said there is no easement in there.

Waste Management – Don Parvin said there had been some issues lately with hydraulic fluid coming out of the trash trucks here in town. He has been in contact with them and hopefully the issue is getting resolved. Also there has been an issue recently of trash being all over the town after it is picked up. Don

had watched the driver fill the hopper too full and things were falling out before he dumped it into the holding tank. Don picks trash up every week, and after approaching the driver and getting attitude from him in return, Don has gone to the driver's boss.

Painting Community Center – Myrna Claar said the inside of the Community Center is in need of painting. She has contacted a few different companies for quotes. A couple could not do it, so we ended up with a quote from Royal Painting for \$6,200.00, and one from Heritage Painting for the same realm of work for \$8,598.40. After some discussion, Pat Reel made a motion to allow Royal Painting to paint the Community Center for \$6,200.00. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Greg, Don, and Myrna voting for passage.

A question of what to do with the “sound baffles” that will be taken down before painting. Greg Landrum said he would take them and get rid of them.

Darlene Homkes from the Lions Club was present. She wanted to discuss grant money for non-profits whose income has been hurt by COVID. The Lion's Club is working toward putting in new updated bathrooms (these were done in the 1950's). The quotes they have gotten are averaging around \$37,000.00. They have not been able to do some of their fundraisers that they normally do because of COVID. The building gets used almost daily, and most of the time they get no money from the people that are in there unless it is like an actual rental. It is also scheduled for 17 days this year for elections. They have raised about \$10K toward this project, and are asking for a possible contribution from the COVID money from the town. Jeff Lipinski said he talked to Commissioner Wyman about this a few months ago, and he seemed interested in helping. Jeff said he would reach out to him again about this and see what they would be willing to do. Don Parvin said if we give money to the Lion's Club, he would feel obligated to give money to all the non-profits in town, and we just can't do that. Greg asked about the use and ownership of the Lion's Club with the ball park. The Lion's Club owns most of the ball fields. Can the ball club help too? Greg Landrum said he would contact some one from the ball club.

Arbor Day Resolution 2022-01 – Arbor Day is April 29th. Pat Reel made a motion to accept Resolution 2022-01. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Megan Reel said she had talked to Jill Newby and Vonda Carter about the rugs and if we need them to be changed out every 3 weeks like we currently are doing at the Community Center. It costs about \$600.00 per year. They had all agreed to put out the money to buy rugs and they should last quite a while. Even if we had to replace them every few years, it would save money. Don Parvin made a motion to do away with the rug company cleaning the rugs every 3 weeks and purchase rugs for the Community Center. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin made a motion for the “sound baffles” at the Community Center to be gotten rid of. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin said there 2 lights that Duke Energy forgot when they did the lights around town. He had a contract from Duke Energy to take care of this for \$166.40 and \$24.02 per month for them. Don Parvin made a motion to allow this. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Don said all the lights after this will be fixed. The lights on main street will be fixed as well. There have been a couple that have been staying on.

Don Parvin said he would like to put the Park Board members names on the Outstanding Community Service Award for 2021. Don Parvin made a motion to do this. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, the claims were presented and approved.

Don Parvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Myrna Claar seconded, and the meeting came to an end.

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk Treasurer