Town of Russiaville, Indiana

Town Council Meeting

December 15, 2014

The Regular Town Council Meeting was opened by President Jeff Lipinski with Vice President Don Parvin, Members Cindy Aeschliman, Rob Hewitt, Greg Landrum and Town Attorney Corbin King also present for the Council.

The bids for trash removal service for Russiaville for the years of 2015, 2016 and 2017 were opened by Jeff Lipinski and are as follows:

Company 2015 2016 2017

Clinton County Disposal $13.95

Republic Trash Removal $12.44 $12.81 $13.20

Waste Management $10.05 $10.30 $10.56

Attorney Corbin King will need to review the bids and the contract will be awarded at a special meeting to be set before the end of December. Jeff Condo asked if the lids could be closed after the containers were emptied. He stated that it would be a courtesy to do so.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented and approved. Mike Kanable, Executive Secretary of the Planning Commission reported issuing another permit to Majestic Custom Homes for a home in Honey Creek Hills. He stated that this was the ninth permit he has issued to Majestic for homes in Honey Creek Hills and Western Heights.

No one was present for the Historical Society.

Josh Welch was present for the Park & Tree Board. He stated that a revised contract had been prepared between the Park & Tree Board and the Summerfest Committee for use of the grounds for the tractor pulls. The majority have agreed. He would also like approval to reduce the Community Center rental to non profits by fifty percent. Jeff Lipinski stated he appreciated the work that Don Parvin, Rob Hewitt, Rhiannon Thompson and Josh Welch have put forth to come get this accomplished. Summerfest would like to have six tractor pulls to raise money for the Festival. Serving food would be another good source of revenue and can be done by the Festival or any other organization in Town. A vendor could also be used. The bleachers at the ball park can be used for seating. Jeff stated he would like part of the proceeds to come to the Town. The Park Board has stated it would like the Festival Committee to grade and reseed the entire park area. It was noted that the cost could be between $3,000 to $5,000 and they could not afford to do that. The tractor pull people have agreed to reseed the track area. Greg Landrum recalls that Summerfest was to grade and seed the track area only. Josh has hopes that maybe local farmers may help. That would be an area to investigate. Matt Scott stated that there may be some help using the extra dirt to level and grade the low spots and offered the assurance that when they are done it will look better than it does now. Rhiannon noted that the entry fee is $15. Summerfest will get the admission fee... Anything damaged will be fixed by Summerfest.

Don Parvin would like to make sure we acknowledge the guys who help. Summerfest’s name will be in the agreement for six tractor pull fund raisers for the Festival. The monies will be split 75% for Summerfest and 25% for the Park & Tree Board. Summerfest will host the food for the first pull at the Community Center. Any group can make arrangements for the remaining five pull. Rick Johnson has also volunteered. The Council agreed to all of the above on motion made by Cindy Aeschliman and seconded by Rob Hewitt. Josh Welch stated that Five Year Park & Tree Master Plan that was presented by the Park & Tree Board needs to be confirmed. Don Parvin has reviewed the plan and thought it was well written but contained a lot about trees and shrubs. He would like to see more park related items. Josh stated that they would get more specific as the moved forward and now that the tractor pull is established. After a short discussion Don Parvin made a motion to approve the Plan with a couple concessions the he and Josh will work out, Greg Landrum seconded and the motion carried. Don made a motion to approve a sign directing people to the Community Center. Cindy seconded and the motion carried. Josh stated that the Russiaville Girls Softball League will do a fundraiser opening day of ball season.

Craig Thompson was present with the Water, WW and Streets Report. Mike Ward, Josh Cox and Jeff Henson were present for Indiana American Water. They stated they are ready for the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. Jeff Henson stated he was leaving Indiana American the first of the year but would be available to help with the process in any way. Jeff Lipinski stated he appreciated Jeff Henson’s efforts in getting where we are today. He has walked with us through the sale from the start. They were losing a good man. Jeff Henson stated his new position would be an entirely different kind of job and he was leaving In American on good terms. He also said he would like to be invited to any celebration we might have on the completion of the sale. It was recently learned that the Bond Bank was still going to require a 2% prepayment fee of about $17,000. Indiana American has generously stated that they would pay that on top of the price of the sale. Motion to authorize Jeff Lipinski to sign the Asset Purchase Agreement and the Water Usage Date Agreement was made by Don Parvin and seconded by Rob Hewitt. The motion carried. The town will pay $.30 per customer for meter reads after the first year. It was noted that Corbin King had the land excluded from the agreement. There would be no issue with storm drains. Town will have control over cell town and antennas. Property lines will be identified.

Marshall Roger Waddell presented the Marshall’s Report. Jim Bishop was present concerning a theft. Roger stated there had been some vandalism and thefts. He reiterated that the days where things could remain unlocked and safe are gone. We need to lock our vehicles, homes, garages and sheds. He also encouraged everyone to report any lose or damage of property. Don Parvin stated he did not appreciate the comments on face book. Roger stated that the social media was not a concern for him. He informed the Council that the statistics for criminal incidents for this area are not increasing. He stated that Russiaville people can be proud of who they are! Radio equipment valued at $1144.00 was replaced for $766 thanks to Terry Tribe getting approval thru the County.

Tina Henderson, our Grant Administrator, was present to discuss the New London Wastewater situation. We need to start with an income survey and an application for a Planning Grant. She recommended Ball State or Purdue for the survey. The cost could be about $2,400 and some volunteers may be needed to complete the last phase. Jeff Lipinski has spoken with the Commissioners about paying the local match. We need to procure an engineering firm. The grant is for $30,000 and the application process could take thirty to forty five days. Don Parvin made a motion to authorize Jeff Lipinski to sign the letter entering into an agreement with Tina Henderson to proceed with the grant process.

Corbin King research has indicated that the Community Foundation is a good place to invest the Gene & Wilma Parks Estates Monies. On motion made by Don Parvin and Cindy Aeschliman the Council voted to proceed with the investment in the organization.

Jeff Lipinski presented Ordinance 2014 -5, an ordinance amending 2012-10 amending the rates and charges for the sewage works utility of the Town of Russiaville, Indiana. The proposed rate increase would be $16.00 for each customer. Motion was made by Don Parvin and seconded by Rob Hewitt to pass the ordinance on the first reading. The motion carried. A public hearing on the rate increase will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday January 20th before the regular council meeting. All residents are encouraged to attend.

A system of getting information to residents is still in the works.

Motion was made by Cindy Aeschliman and seconded by Rob Hewitt to give $1,500 to the group organizing a community wide recognition of the 50th anniversary of the 1965 Palm Sunday Tornado. The motion carried.

Motion was made by Cindy Aeschliman and seconded by Rob Hewitt to approve the 2015 contract with the Humane Society. The motion carried.

The Council will prepare a list prioritizing the streets that need paving.

There being no further business, claims were presented and approved and the meeting was adjourned.

Jeff Lipinski, President Linda Downey, Clerk Treas.