

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Public Hearing for 2021 Budget
Russiaville Town Hall
September 21, 2020

Council present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Myrna Claar, and Greg Landrum
Town attorney, Corbin King, was also present.

Jeff Lipinski gave prayer, and Pat Reel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jeff Lipinski opened the public hearing for 2021 Budget.

Jeff Lipinski read the figures for the 2021 Budget. Total unit total for the budget is \$828,849.00. Jeff stated that it was approved this year (second year in a row) without having to make cuts.

There were no other comments from the council or the people present.
Jeff Lipinski closed the 2021 Budget public hearing.

Jeff Lipinski – Council President
Megan Reel – Clerk Treasurer

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Russiaville Town Hall
September 21, 2020

Council Present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Myrna Claar, and Greg Landrum
Corbin King, the town's attorney was also present.

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting.

Minutes from last meeting and one special meeting were approved.

Plan Commission – No one was present to report.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No new business to report.

TIF Board – No new business to report.

Historical Society – No new business to report.

Park Board – Pat Reel said the town workers got the old cement out of the ground, so it should be ready to go.

Jill Newby left a report that Jeff Lipinski read.

Merry go round

The Town guys removed the old cement base. Play Pro would like to meet on Wednesday to look at the site. It is possible the new merry go round will be installed this week.

Disc Golf course

Tommy Ray is checking on the couplings to see how soon they will be in. Rick is going to mark off where the shelter, playground and volleyball court will go. Tommy is going to do a final layout of the course. Anyone on the Council is welcome to be there. I will let you know when that is happening.

Iron wheel sculpture

We have more than enough wheels to complete the sculpture. The Shepherd boys came and we laid out the sculpture at the park. Backyard Gardner's came and gave us some tips and will be giving us an estimate soon on laying the bricks. We are also looking into other art sculptures.

We hope to have all three of these projects completed this fall.

We are worried about vandalism at Community Center Park especially. We have had some problems recently. With the new additions to the park, we are concerned for their safe keeping. We not sure how far the cameras outside the community center will reach. Does our town Marshall have any suggestions?

Josh said he would look into the cameras.

Streets and Wastewater – There was a written report and Paul Sattler was present. Greg Landrum asked about the trees by the wastewater plant, he wanted to know if the volunteer trees were cut out of them. Paul Sattler said it had been taken care of.

Jeff Lipinski asked Pat Reel if he knew if there was salt for the winter. Pat said he had talked to Craig a while back and Craig was going to get some prices on this.

Marshal's Dept. – Josh Fulkerson was present. He had a report for the monthly stats. Josh stated the program that was bought for paperwork has been well worth it and has streamlined the office work considerably.

Axon, the new body cams, are working great.

Josh would like to consider purchasing the ones we were using from Greentown just in case.

Their new vests are very nice.

Josh would like to commend Carl Swan as he has recently found a missing person.

They are still working the bugs out of the new Calibur RMS system.

Josh is in the process of getting rid of and purging old evidence.

He is scanning all old reports into the computer, so that it's not in files on paper but yet we still keep it.

Josh would like to get a couple 2TB hard drives. Carl has donated his to the department, and Josh would like to replace Carl's and have another one.

Josh would like to talk about doing a small renovation on the evidence room in the near future. Josh talked to the evidence room person at the Sheriff's Dept., and has been made aware that our room is not as secure as it needs to be.

Myrna Claar asked about the SOP's and manuals. Josh said he is working diligently on this.

Greg Landrum asked about the speed limit east of town on State Rd. 26, specifically the 30-mph zone out so far. Josh said that is all the state, they regulate that.

Greg also asked Josh about people speeding on 775 W. (West St.). Josh said he and Carl are trying their best to get people to slow down out there.

Jeff Lipinski said community policing does work and police presence makes a difference.

Treasurer's Report – Written reports were given.

Dave Kieser – Pat Reel said the sidewalks going west out of town are done, and he had several comments on how nice the new sidewalks are. Pat said we have about \$3,300.00 left in the sidewalk grant. He had a quote for \$4,300.00 from Jr. O’Neal to do 90 feet of sidewalk from the alley at the bottle shop in front of Rollins’s house on Union St. and to the south a bit. So basically, we would spend \$1,000.00 on this portion and use up the grant money.

Pat Reel made a motion to have Jr. O’Neal do this for \$4,300.00 and take \$1,000.00 from stone and gravel appropriation to pay for the rest. Greg Landrum seconded. Rick Homkes thought this was great, but asked about the trailers (from Stellhorn’s) being pulled across the sidewalk. Pat Reel said it should be no problem as it will be 5 inches of cement, and has fiber in it.

The motion carried with Pat, Greg, and Myrna voting for passage.

Pat Reel said he knew Dave was working on the Wastewater project grant. This is his priority right now. He is still got the feasibility study and the interurban he is working toward. Megan said we did not get the grant Dave was trying to get for the Interurban this time.

Personnel Policy – Jeff Lipinski asked if the board would like to take any action at this time for this. Pat Reel suggested we start at page 1 and go through this. Jeff Lipinski said he would like to have an executive session for this. It will be tabled for now.

Corbin King read some notes that Don Parvin had discussed with Megan - Painting touch ups at the Community Center have been done by Kent Milburn. The town paid for the paint, thank you to Kent for donating his time.

Don Parvin went to the Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting that the county held recently (FEMA). They do it every 5 years.

Don Parvin made them reseed by the new sidewalk in front of the Dollar General. We will need to water it.

Don called in to get the light fixed at the Post Office.

Jeff Davidson watered the grass by the Dollar General.

Steve Jones – Jeff Lipinski said to table this for now as there is something going on with commissioners about internet.

150 W. Kinsey Dr. – This was brought up at the special meeting we had earlier in the month. Mr. Bugher would like to park his trailer in the grass easement next to his house. Jeff had to leave the meeting early and 2 council members were ok with Mr. Bugher parking it there and 2 were not. Therefore, it had to come to this meeting for a vote. Jeff Lipinski said he talked to Mr. Bugher, and Mr. Bugher told Jeff that in the event that the town needed access that he would move it at any time. There are other people that park in the grass easements in town, and if they ever need to be moved, they would be. Rick Homkes expressed concern with this, as he has had trouble with his. Greg Landrum understood his concern but didn't see a problem with letting Mr. Bugher do it. He feels each situation is different.

Jeff would like a motion. Pat Reel made a motion to allow Mr. Bugher to be able to park his trailer in the grass easement next to his house. Greg Landrum seconded. Myrna Claar was opposed. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of the motion, therefore the motion carried with Pat, Greg, and Jeff voting for passage.

Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve – There was question at the previous special meeting whether the town employees should have full days or half days off for these 2 listed holidays. Jeff Lipinski said that he thought Christmas Eve should be a full day off and New Year's should be a half day. Council decided to table this for this meeting, and decide at the October or November meeting for the 2021 holiday schedule.

635 N. Union St. – Megan Reel said she had some complaints about this property with doors open and rodents. Megan said that she had talked to the owner of the property and he stated the house was gutted but would probably not be doing anything for a while as COVID hit and the prices of lumber, etc. had went way up. Megan said she asked him to secure the doors, and put some rat bait in the house, and keep the yard mowed. He said he would do this. Jeff Lipinski asked Corbin King about sending a nuisance ordinance letter. Corbin said yes, he would as a formality.

Pat Reel made a motion to send the letter to the owner of 635 N. Union St. for nuisance as a formality. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Trick-r-Treat – Jeff Lipinski told Marshal Fulkerson that we typically do 5-8pm on Halloween. The Marshal said he would have police presence all evening. His wife Tiffany has some ideas for Halloween, following the CDC guidelines.

Rick Homkes said that he was opposed to changing any setback for new building (this was discussed at previous meeting). He was also opposed to putting anything in the alleys.

Kent Milburn said we might want to talk to the health department about doing stuff for Halloween. Tiffany Fulkerson said she would do that.

Megan Reel reminded everyone that the next regular council meeting would be October 26th. This is the 4th Monday due to fall break.

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

Pat Reel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Greg Landrum seconded, and the meeting came to an end.

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk Treasurer