

Town of Russiaville, Indiana  
Regular Council Meeting  
Russiaville Town Hall  
March 20, 2017

Council Present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Rob Hewitt

Corbin King, town attorney, was also present.

Jeff Lipinski called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer. This date, one year ago, Deputy Carl Koontz was shot while protecting our community. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Minutes from the February 2017 meeting were approved.

Streets and Wastewater – Craig Thompson was present, and stated that Fluid Waste would be coming on March 21, 2017 to Jet and Camera lines that were approved a month or two ago on Kinsey Street and West St. There will be training at the Town Hall for Confined Spaces and Trench Safety. Craig will attend.

The first planning grant meeting for New London will be held on April 17, 2017 before our regular meeting. This will be to start to determine what they are going to do with the plant.

Don Parvin asked Craig about getting a total of the flags and poles and the cost of these, that need to be replaced due to being destroyed last June during the storms. If the budget allows we need to get those replaced.

Craig Thompson asked about entering manholes. Don Parvin said that there was a tripod and air monitoring system that we had bought in the past. Craig was unsure where they were and if we still have them. They were not bought since he has been here. Don said if we do not have the proper equipment, then no they are not to go in to the manholes.

Craig was dismissed as he had another commitment.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable was present and stated that he had written 2 permits for fences, one for Debra Harvey and the other to Angie Turner.

Mike also said he had a call from Paul Wyman about the 36 acres that is behind the Honey Creek Hills subdivision. Someone was looking to buy it and put a house on it, Mr. Wyman asked what needed to be done. Mike told Mr. Wyman he need to get a building permit. Don Parvin stated they would have to run sewer lines at their own cost. Rob Hewitt said there was well head protection, so he didn't think they could put a well in. Don Parvin said that would be between them and Indiana American Water. They cannot have a septic since it is in the town limits. Megan Reel gave Mr. Wyman a letter stating that the property was zoned residential, and that there is \$1,000.00 tap fee to tap into our sewer. However, there are not sewer lines out that far and that it would be at the home owners expense to get this done. All this was put in the letter.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Roger Waddell reported no new business.

Russiaville Historical Society – No one was present to report.

Park and Tree Board – Park and Tree Board 5-year Plan is due April 14<sup>th</sup>. Megan stated that she sent the electronic version of this to the council. Laura would like everyone to look it over so they can get it submitted. If they don't get it done on time they cannot apply for some types of grants. Don Parvin would like to meet in a separate special meeting to talk about this after everyone has time to go through it. The meeting will be set for April 3, 2017 @ 5pm. Rick Homkes said the resolution does say "as amended" so things can be put in verbally and they can make the changes.

Park & Tree board met with the DNR – they got the grant for the recreational trail. They now need to go on the next step and find someone to do the environmental checks and engineering. They are thinking about Dave Kieser, they would like to know what the council thinks. Don Parvin said Dave Kieser is fine, but maybe we should check with Ethel Morgan or get a couple more ideas. They have to do all the legal paperwork and the archeological. Council congratulated them on getting the grant and all the hard work they put into it.

Community Center rental rates. Megan got information about how many rental and on what days they were in 2016 for Jill Newby. She presented this (it was rented 25 times), council gave feedback. There was some more discussion from Laura and Jill. They all think it needs to be advertised more, there still needs to be more discussion on this. In the end, nothing was decided or changed on the rates. Don Parvin said after all this discussion he thinks the rates will stay as they were in the past.

Rick Homkes gave a public presentation of the draft plan for the 5-year plan. They passed around a sign in sheet for everyone to register that they were present. They did a public survey where they had 55 responses. He said they had a public meeting with 11 people.

The first thing on their presentation for 2017 is the recreational trail at the Community Center. The estimated cost is \$30,000.00. Also in 2017 is the rebuilding of the Chandler pavilion, with a cost of \$10,000.00. The 3<sup>rd</sup> thing was the refurbishing and replacing equipment on the playground at the Russiaville park. This is in there as a 3-year plan to make sure it is all ADA compliant, at a cost of \$40,000.00. All of these are for 2017 – 2019. The year 2018 is when the recreational trail really comes into play for the remainder of the project totaling \$120,000.00. They would also like to have a second playground at the Community Center in 2019. Funding source on this is to be determined at a cost of \$120,000.00.

Picnic shelters for 2020, landscaping and trailhead in 2021 for the Intercity Recreational Trail. This would be a connector to the Nickel Plate and Walk of Excellence Trails. They would also like to plant more trees.

They will talk about this further at the special meeting they set for April 3, 2017.

Trina from the library sent an email with an update on the Nature Explorer Classroom, and the date of May 23, 2017 for their ribbon cutting at 2 pm. They invited the council and Park & tree board to attend.

They will also be having an Arbor Day Celebration on April 28, 2017 from 5-7 pm. Trina also said in her email that she had mentioned the \$3,500.00 that did not get spent on the sand volleyball court, if they could be re-allotted possibly for the outdoor classroom. Don Parvin said that this project fell through and this money was no longer there. They are still looking for the last bit of funding in the amount of \$12,000.00, so any donation would be greatly appreciated.

Council commended them on a great presentation.

Summer Fest – No one was present to report, therefore nothing new. Don Parvin asked if we had enough money allotted for the part time police during Summer Fest. Jeff Lipinski said, yes, we did. Jeff also said he had someone ask how to get a band booked for the Summer Fest. It was stated to just call Rhiannon.

Jill Newby present to report about Western Seniors Community Day for this year, said the date is set for May 16<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 17<sup>th</sup>. Last year was the first time they used the rain date, and she felt it didn't go as well because people that they would have helped had other commitments. She needs plenty of things for the seniors to do, because they are getting ready to graduate and they get a little bit "squirrely." She said her only other issue was with brooms and shovels when they clean the streets, they don't have enough, and would like the Town to get more. Don asked about a list of things for all of them to do, Jill does keep a list of where all the kids are to be and what they are doing. They also get as many people as they can for supervision.

Rick Homkes asked if they could use Park money to purchase the shovels and the brooms. Council said yes that's fine.

Council asked if they would still provide the meal for the seniors like in years past. Jill Newby said she was going to get a hold of Linda Schermer at the First Baptist Church, they graciously put the meal on for them each year.

Pat Reel asked about taking some of the seniors to Howard Haven County Home, as they always have things that can be done. Jill Newby said that the principal does not want them to do that because of supervision.

Marshal – Roger Waddell gave a written report. He also stated there was an issue with the repeater for the tornado siren, this is why it was not tested on Sunday. It is fixed now and they will be set off for the statewide test on March 21, 2017 @ approx. 10:15am and 7:35pm.

Don Parvin stated that we have our new K-9. Roger stated that her name is Ellie, and her training is complete. If you have not met her, you should. She is beautiful! Roger has gotten several congratulations for having a female police officer on the force! Roger also said she is very approachable, and that is a plus.

Randy is not here tonight as he is at the Statehouse in honor of the one year anniversary of Deputy Koontz.

Treasurers Report – Megan Reel gave a written report. She added that she met with Jeremy Peelle about the customers that are delinquent that he is going to try to collect for us. He advised that there were 3 customers that he would not be able to collect on because of bankruptcies. Don Parvin made a motion that we follow the advice of Jeremy Peelle and write off/adjust the 3 customers that need to be. Rob Hewitt seconded and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Jeff voting for passage.

TIF – Jeff Lipinski and Corbin King met with the firm. Sounds like we can go forward with this. This guy seemed like an expert on this. It will cost some money upfront (more than what we thought) about \$15,000.00. It can be recouped over time. If they can get this done in 2017, we will be able to get money as soon as 2018.

Kieser – Nothing new to report. Dave Kieser was not present. Lighting and landscaping ordinance is part of this. Don Parvin thought that this should have already been done.

New London Grant – there will be a public hearing April 17, 2017 on this.

Emergency Storm Damage Plan – Don Parvin and Mark Rice have been working on this. It will be ready to sign next month.

Trash Ordinance – Corbin is working on.

Dog Ordinance – Corbin is working on.

EMA Mutual Aid Agreement – Corbin looked this over and said it looked fine. Don Parvin made a motion to accept the mutual aid agreement with EMA. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Jeff voting for passage.

10.42 acres – Corbin gave more info to the appraiser – they are just waiting for him to get done and then we can proceed.

Claim for Storm Damage - Megan Reel got Corbin more info on this and he will resubmit to the insurance.

Contract for Fire Protection – Don Parvin made a motion to accept this contract. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Jeff voting for passage.

Person in the audience asked about the bidding process for the 10.42 acres. Corbin King said we will advertise and then we will have a bidding process and sell it all in one night. Everyone interest with show up and bid on it, like an auction. This should be within the next 30 days.

Corbin brought up the issue with the Social Security administration with a discrepancy in 2015. He gave paperwork to Megan paperwork to look at and then they will go from there. If employees want to refile their taxes, the town will pay to amend them.

Don Parvin asked about smoking issue – are we under this law? Corbin stated that we are not affected! This would only be at public events such as Summer Fest, and town owned places such as the Community Center.

Spring trash cleanup is set for April 15, 2017.

Insurance issues – The insurance audited us with a few issues that they would like for us to fix. Rob Hewitt will talk to the Town workers about this.

Health Insurance is coming up for renewal – Jeff and Megan both had renewal rates and we will discuss at the next meeting.

Jeff Condo asked about hot patch. Pat Reel said they will probably open the first part of April. Don Parvin said we have other things that will take precedence before the plant opens up, but we will try to patch roads as soon as we can. Don stated we are watching our money this year as this budget is the worst he has seen.

Megan Reel stated that all of 2016 is finally closed out and all the numbers for the appropriations are plugged in to Keystone for 2017.

Pat Reel said he would like to say what a wonderful job the Town Clerk is doing. She has worked her way through a myriad of problems. Not just because she is his wife. The Council all agreed and thank her.

With there being no further business to bring before the council, the claims were presented and approved. Don Parvin made a motion to adjourn. Rob seconded and the meeting came to a close.

Jeff Lipinski – President

Megan Reel – Clerk Treasurer