

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Town Hall
November 16, 2020

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

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting.

Jeff Lipinski said prayer, mentioning the Scott family, as Judy Scott had passed away and Joe Scott had passed not long ago. Don Parvin led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable was present to report a fence permit for S&K Properties. Mike said that had talked to Steve Jones (owner) about a manhole within the fence. Mr. Jones said he would leave a key with the town or give us the code for the lock.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No business to report

TIF Board – No business to report

Historical Society – No business to report

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby was present to report. The new Merry-Go-Round is in at the park. There are a few scratches, that the company is to send some touch up paint for. The Merry-Go-Round was paid for out of the Rainy-Day Fund and the donations that were collected went back into that fund to help with the cost. There are a few donations from the coin boxes to come in for this still. Don Parvin made a motion that any monies collected going forward for the Merry-Go-Round would go into the Park Fund. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Jill said that JR. O’Neal got all the cement work done for several project – The Merry-Go-Round, iron wheel sculpture, Heron (bird) artwork, the pad for the disc

golf, and also the cement for the base for the Sterling Johnson memorial. JR. also installed the Merry-Go-Round.

Don Parvin asked about the old Merry-Go-Round that was approved in a previous meeting to be made into a caterpillar. Jill said the caterpillar was going to end up being 35-feet long, and she does not know where to put something that big. They are still deciding on the caterpillar for that reason.

Don Parvin asked about the iron wheel sculpture and how much it would cost. Jill said it was being done now, and it will cost \$2,600.00.

Don Parvin expressed his concern about all the park board's projects. He thinks the projects are not getting done in the order that they have talked about. Jill said that there are other things that have happened with some of the projects that have put them in a different place than they were originally, and some of the projects were grants and had to be spent a certain way. Jill agreed they had several projects that came together all at the same time.

Tommy Ray, who put in the disc golf, is doing the signs for it.

Greg Landrum said complementing the park board, that they do have several projects but they do a lot for the town. Things they have been doing are blending the Community Center into the town nicely.

Jill said they are still selling bricks to be placed in the roundabout spot of the trail by the iron wheel sculpture.

Don Parvin said he is a little put out with Howard County. He loves the Carl Koontz memorial sign at the Southeast corner of Main and Union Streets, and he thinks the landscaping that they recently did around it looks very nice. However, he feels that the town of Russiaville should have been informed of both of these things since it is in our town.

Greg Landrum said that a park board member approached him about it, and asked about calling Paul Wyman on the landscaping. Greg said he told her to go ahead and call him if she wanted to. Greg said he was surprised that she got it done by the county, but he is glad it is. It looks very nice. The whole council agreed.

Streets and Wastewater – Paul Sattler was present, and a written report was given.

Marshal's Dept. – Josh Fulkerson was present and gave a written report. Josh has the SOP's ready for review, and they were given to all council members and Corbin King. Josh requested for these to be approved by the December meeting as he is on a deadline with the federal government. They have to be sent to ILEA and approved by January to be able to get Dept. of Justice grant funding. Jeff Lipinski said hopefully we can get them approved by the December meeting. Josh said he completed chief school.

Josh said there was a post about a woman on Facebook, and the woman praised the officer that helped her on a traffic stop. Josh found out that it was Carl, and after asking him about it, found out that she was sleepy from working long shifts and trying to provide for her family. Josh would like to commend Carl for his work and compassion. They may try to put something together for this woman. Josh said we are working on our own stuff more and not being so dependent on the county. Josh feels Russiaville PD has a very good relationship with the county. Josh also gave kudos to Carl for taking on several cases and working on things within the PD to make it better.

Josh asked about the ride along policy/application that he had attached to his paperwork. He has someone that he may like to have do this. Council said to have Corbin look at this, and then will let him know a decision.

Jeff Lipinski commended Josh Fulkerson and Carl Swan for their ability to work together, their attitude toward each other, and their willingness to get Russiaville Police Dept. back to where it should be. The council appreciated them working to do what is best for Russiaville.

Jeff Lipinski thanked Tiffany Fulkerson for doing Halloween in the back of the Town Hall, stating it was his grandkids favorite stop.

Don Parvin said Craig and Paul fixed the light on the north end of the maintenance building by the police dept. Duke Energy fixed the light on the pole in the same area that they took out in error not long ago too.

Don Parvin asked Josh about the light on the flag pole at the police dept. Josh said it does not work, but is unsure what is wrong with it.

The Sterling Johnson memorial sign was dedicated on November 7th at the police dept. Megan Reel read a thank you note to the council from his family. Don

Parvin (Sterling Johnson's son-in-law) thanked everyone for the nice dedication/small ceremony. It meant a lot to their family.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel gave a written report. Megan said the 3 CD's at the bank are coming due and wanted to know what the council would like to do. After some discussion, Don Parvin made a motion to put all 3 CD's back into 6-month (182-day) CD's. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Megan also thanked Josh Fulkerson for getting and having a map of Russiaville with the town limits and parcels on it laminated. It is hanging on the wall in the town hall.

Dave Kieser – Don Parvin said all of his projects are in process, there is nothing new to report.

Personnel Policy – tabled again this month.

647 E. Kinsey Dr. – Jeff Lipinski said there was a lawyer here just before the meeting started that was asking about this issue that has been ongoing. Jeff said he told him that he needed to talk to our attorney, Corbin King, about this issue.

Setbacks on Properties – Don Parvin said the side setbacks on properties right now are 15-feet. If someone wants a variance for this, they need to come to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Don said we are working on an amendment to get the 15-foot side setbacks remedied.

New London Hookups – Craig is working on this. Tabled for now.

Telephones – Megan Reel said the telephone system is failing and we probably need a new phone system. Megan had a quote from Huston Electric for \$2,850.00. This would be buying them and still having Comcast for service. The other option is to get the phone system from Comcast, the first month bill would be \$606.00 and then our new monthly bill would go up \$77.00 (this would include service). Megan said if we go with Huston, it would be cheaper in the next 3 years that it would be for Comcast. It is just as good of service. If Huston lasts this time as good as it did last time, it would be good for us to go with them.

Salary Ordinance for 2021 – After reviewing the ordinance, Don Parvin made a motion to accept the 2021 salary ordinance. Greg Landrum seconded. Pat Reel abstained. The motion carried with Don, Greg, and Myrna voting for passage.

2021 Holiday and Board Meeting Schedule - After reviewing both of the schedules, Don Parvin made a motion to accept the 2021 Holiday and Board Meeting Schedule. Myrna Claar seconded motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Humane Society Contract – This will be tabled for now as the county is working on a county-wide ordinance.

Don Parvin said the smoking in the park that was asked about at a previous meeting is in the ordinance.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, and no more comments from council or guests, the claims were presented and approved. Pat Reel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Myrna Claar seconded, and the meeting came to an end.

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk-Treasurer