

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Town Hall
August 16, 2021

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

Corbin King, town attorney, was also present

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting.

Jeff Lipinski said prayer. Don Parvin led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from July 2021 regular meeting were approved.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable was present to report he had issued one permit to Haley High for a garage, and a chicken coop permit to Erica Parvin.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No new business

TIF Board – Rick Homkes was present and said there was nothing new. Jeff Lipinski said the council had some potential uses for the funds, he asked Megan to set up a meeting for the TIF Board and the council.

Historical Society – Megan Reel said she had talked to Roger Waddell recently and he had said that Gary Chandler (Ray Chandler's son) had donated a refurbished wooden telephone switchboard to the historical society that was identical to the one that was used at the Russiaville Telephone Company and it was at the Police Dept. Roger said he agreed to store it until the historical society was ready for it. Myrna Claar stated that the switchboard was now down at the Annex building. Kent Milburn said the Telephone Company was in a building above the bank upstairs on the corner where Fire Pizza is now. Myrna said her grandmother Waddell worked up there.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby was present said we have finally received the recycled benches. This project has to be child originated, so it went under the

Western Environmental Club's name. We had 1200 pounds of caps. We received one picnic table, one toddler picnic table, six 4-foot benches.

Jill said the circle project at the Community Center Park is underway. Travis Wunderlich is doing this. They have 59 engraved pavers, and are hoping to get the rest of the plain ones in soon so he can finish the project.

Jill said they are going to replace a few mats around the cement where the ladder is for the slide.

Rick Homkes said they received the plaques from Tate Engraving for the iron wheel sculpture and the crane soul sculpture. We are waiting for a time when people can be there along with the sculptor and Kokomo Mayor, as his 4th great grandfather is the last civil chief of the Miami.

Rick said the 5-year plan expires 1/15/2022, we have to have this in order to apply for a number of grants. They will start rewording and will have to do a new community survey. This will have a quality-of-life part and parks and recreation part. Rick has sent the drafts of these to Greg Landrum and Don Parvin for review, and also to Greg Bielfuss from the DNR. He does the approval of the 5-year plans so it is good to include him.

Myrna Claar asked Rick about weeding the flower beds at the Community Center Park. Jill said Rick and Darlene mostly did it but if anyone would like to volunteer that would be great. Rick said 3 of the beds out there are natural pollinator gardens, and they are meant to look that way. The bees and butterflies love it. He would take care of those.

Streets and Wastewater – Craig Thompson was present and had a written report. Craig stated he received the quote from BL Anderson for the north lift station in New London for \$3,620.00 for the drives. This with a few other needed things will total \$3,915.00. After discussion this will not be turned into insurance for a claim. Pat Reel made a motion to have the New London lift station fixed, and pay it out of New London. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Jeff Lipinski asked about traffic control during the boring for the Main Street lighting project. They did not block traffic. He said it was pretty bad. Jeff was stressed because we hired this company. Corbin King said the boring company was liable for this situation.

Marshal's Dept. – Josh Fulkerson was present and had a written report. Josh had paperwork outlining the details of possibly getting Wex cards for the town. These would be for all the vehicles, there would be no cost to us, they would be able to be used at any gas station on the list (most gas stations are on there), we would get one bill and they would take care of the rest. After some discussion, Pat Reel made a motion to allow him to get Wex cards for the town. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage. Josh said Carl is close to having the Durango done. Should be by the end of the month.

Josh said the library is having a public safety day coming up in late September and he would like to order stickers for the kids for this event for \$300.00. Pat Reel made a motion to get the stickers. The council was fine with him getting the stickers.

Josh said the A/C in the 2016 Tahoe has been fixed.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel had written reports. Megan added that she had gotten a quote from Rose Pest Solutions to get the Community Center and the Town Hall sprayed. The Town Hall will be \$40.00 a quarter and the Community Center will be \$50.00 a quarter, there is a one time set up fee in the beginning. She thinks it would help a lot with the "creepy crawlies" and help keep things cleaner. Don Parvin made a motion to allow Rose Pest Solutions to spray the Town Hall and the Community Center and to come and quote the police station and wastewater plant too, and get those done as well. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Dave Kieser – Megan Reel had the certificate that Dave had brought to her that awarded the interurban station \$50,000.00 for the Heritage Support Grant. We received \$45,000.00 to get the project started. Thanks to Dave for going down and representing Russiaville to receive the award and check.

Road repairs and Alleys – tabled for now

Ordinance 2018-05 – Ordinance 2021-03 and ordinance amending 2018-05 for controlling of animals was read with the changes from last month. Don Parvin made a motion to pass ordinance 2021-03 on the second reading. Pat Reel seconded. Rick Homkes asked if bees were allowed. In section 4 (4.5.2.1) it says

you can have bees but nothing about them in a residential area. Council said they would add in this section to where you could have them in a residential area. The motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Ordinance 2018-11 – Ordinance 2021-04 and ordinance amending 2018-11 for traffic and parking was read with the changes from last month. Don and Josh will work on this further to make sure it is the way it needs to be. Don Parvin made a motion to pass ordinance 2021-04 on the second reading. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Fire Contract – We have received a fire contract from Russiaville Volunteer Fire Dept. Jeff Lipinski said under state law, the fire department in this town has to have a contract with the town if they want their funding, and we have just now received it for 2021. Greg Landrum asked if we have to have this. Jeff replied that we did. Don Parvin said we fight them every year to get a contract. We gave them extra money last year since they took on the ambulance, but we cannot get a contract timely, in December for the following year is when we should have it. Greg Landrum made a motion to accept the contract. Myrna asked if they were wanting to change the amount of money. Jeff said they money has been appropriated. Corbin added it is just that they are late with the contract. Jeff Lipinski said he feels we should accept the contract and change going forward that we need the contract by the date we specify. Megan Reel asked if the date at the top of January 1st was an issue and the pay dates are not when we normally pay them and asked when this should be paid. Jeff suggested we do the contract ourselves and give it to them to sign since it takes them so long to get one to us. After some more heavy discussion, Pat Reel seconded the motion, and it carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

House to the south of the cemetery – Myrna Claar would like to have this mess cleaned up. The actual address is 3949 S. 775 W. Don Parvin said we need to send her a letter of intent to have her clean it up.

215 E. Seward St. sidewalk – Heather Pickens and Chris Coopridner are here to discuss wanting to remove part of the sidewalk to be able to run a water line to their barn. She stated the sidewalk has not been maintained for a long time. Heather said they checked into getting Indiana American Water (IAW) to put in a

tap for a new meter, but it will be \$1,300.00. Instead of this they would just like to tack it on to the current meter and have their wastewater prorated. Craig Thompson said they would not need to remove the sidewalk if they put in another meter. Heather said the contractor suggested this. Craig also asked if they had a well in the back. They said they did but there were issues with the pump and some other stuff. They said they had someone quote what it would cost to fix that as well and it was going to be over \$1,300.00 too. Craig said in the long run that would be the way to go in his opinion. Craig said if they did not want to do that his other suggestion would be to have a contractor put in a separate water line off their current line and put in a meter from us for the line that will go to the barn. It would take some extra work from the town but we would then get the reading from IAW and read the separate meter we put in and subtract the gallons of ours from the IAW reading. The meter from us would cost the \$120.00.

As far as the sidewalk – Don Parvin said if it gets tore up it would have to be replaced. Heather asked if there was a way to get the sidewalks on the list to be maintained by the town. Don Parvin said they are working on the sidewalks slowly in town. Craig Thompson said he thought by our ordinance the homeowners were responsible for the sidewalks in front of their house.

Don Parvin said the trailer at 315 E. Seward St. needs to be gone ASAP. Josh said that Carl has talked to them about this. The council all agreed that it needs to be removed, it is a violation. The yard needs to be cleaned up as well. Don Parvin said the trailer should not have been brought in in the first place, it has been long enough and it need to be removed. Council wants a letter sent for the weeds and for the junk and for the trailer, this all needs to be cleaned up.

Don Parvin said he and Jeff had looked at the lighting on Main Street and said there were some spots that they thought should have lights that don't. It was recommended that we wait until the lights go in and then look at possibly adding more in the future. Jeff said if there was a change order done at this point of the project it would be another year for the lights to be put in, and they didn't want that. Jeff said the lights are not placed where you think they would be. They were told it was about lighting not about aesthetics. Jeff said to make it look right we need to add about 4-8 lights. He would like to fix the gaps in the spring, that way it will not hold up the current project that is supposed to be completed by

November. Greg asked if we do add lights how will that work for the wiring. Don explained that it could be done.

Pat Reel said he would like a weed letter sent to A&J Farm Supply. They are mowing more now but the weeds look awful. It is a business and it is not being kept well anymore and feels the town has been more than patient.

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

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk-Treasurer