

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Town Hall
April 19, 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.

Kent Milburn said prayer. Pat Reel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from March 2021 and 2 special meetings (3/18 and 4/7) were approved.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable said he wrote a fence permit and a shed permit.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No one present to report.

TIF Board – No one present, but Megan Reel stated there was a meeting scheduled for April 20, 2021.

Russiaville Historical Society – No one was present to report.

Park and Tree Board – Rick Homkes was present, he said the quality-of-life survey is being worked on, this is part of the 5-year plan.

Rick said the artist sculpture, done by Greg Steel, has been installed by himself and Greg and Brett Berry in the pollinator garden at the Community Center park. It will be called “Crane Soul.” It is one of the sacred animals for the Miami Nation. It was named by Mayor Tyler Moore, as he is a direct descendant of the Miami Civil Chief.

Jeff Lipinski said he, Don, and Megan had met with a gentleman about the Cloverleaf Trail. Looks pretty promising about the trail moving this way, the state and county will have a part in getting it funded. We expressed we would like to have the portion from 680 West to 775 West paved. Jeff thinks it is moving fairly quickly, but he does not have a time frame.

Jeff stated that hooking it to our trail was talked about. Rick Homkes said the "Around the Town Trail" had been approved using surface streets, and when the Cloverleaf is done this will hook the two using the streets in town, making it a 3-mile trek or bike ride around our town. This just consists of painting and signage. Rick asked about Norfolk Southern Railroad. Jeff said they are in negotiations with them right now to buy it.

Rick Homkes said we acquired two recycled benches from bottle caps, they were placed at the trailer court for the kids or whoever would like to sit on them.

Streets and Wastewater – Craig Thompson was not present but left a written report. Megan Reel said she made copies for every one of the Sensaphone subscription that is the alarm system at the wastewater plant. It needs to be upgraded as they are doing away with the program that we currently have. The pricing is included, we need to get something done with this in the next few months. It will be tabled for this month.

Marshal's Report – Josh Fulkerson was present and had a written report. Josh had the numbers for getting a 2021 Dodge Durango that was previously talked about. There is a quote for the car, one for the equipment for it, one for the radar system, and one for the dash cam. Pat asked if we had dash cams in everything now, and Josh said yes.

Josh said we are now certified with the DOJ (Dept. of Justice) for compliance with our SOP's. This will allow us to get grant money from the DOJ.

Jeff Lipinski asked how long the quote was good for on the Durango. Josh said he would imagine 6 months, but would get with them to check.

Josh said that Jim Skinner had donated a light bar for the 2016 Tahoe to us, he said Carl would put this on soon.

Pat asked the total for the car with everything. Josh said \$51,513.53.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel had written reports.

Dave Kieser – Pat Reel said he had talked to him today. ARP (American Rescue Plan) is being worked on. Pat said he asked about the wastewater plant upgrade, and said Dave told him they should know something in May or June.

Personnel Policy – Jeff Lipinski told Corbin King that the council had finished going over the personnel policy and Megan had been working on making the changes. She will get it to Corbin soon and hopefully by next month's meeting the council will be able to act on this and get it passed.

Extra Street Lighting – Corbin asked what the term for this was. The council thought it was \$7,030.18 one-time payment and the \$83.78 per month after that, forever. Megan said she thought Don Parvin was still waiting on Duke for some questions he still had.

Road Repairs – Pat Reel said he knew Don Parvin was working on this as far as reworking some of it and getting the money right.

Farmer's Market – Lexi Hunt was here, she said she and Myrna, and Megan had met a couple of times. Lexi said they had figured out the trash concern from Don at the last meeting. They are still working on insurance. The vendors will have to provide liability insurance. Megan said the town would need to add a special event to the insurance policy for \$75.00 per year. Lexi said she is looking into if the Farmer's Market itself would need to have coverage too.

Myrna said she is excited about the market being here, saying that they will do it every 2nd Sunday starting on June 13th through October 10th, from 11 am to 3 pm. Pat Reel made a motion to add the special event endorsement to our insurance policy for \$75.00 per year. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Greg, and Myrna voting for passage.

Pat Reel made a motion to allow the farmers market in town behind the town hall on the parking lot, and run every second Tuesday June 13th through October 10th. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Permit for Ricci's at 645 E. Kinsey Dr. for a driveway – The Ricci's were present to answer any questions the council had about what they would like to do to change their driveway location to help remedy the ongoing problem of the shared driveway that runs next to their house. The council was given pictures of their plan. Jeff Lipinski asked Corbin King for his opinion on this. Mr. King said there would need to be some sort of easement between the parties that the Ricci's would allow the neighbor to the south use the driveway, addressing the Ricci's to

make sure that was correct. That they would allow them to use it. Mr. Ricci said that would be correct.

Mr. King said he does appreciate the Ricci's trying to make things better. Mr. King would like to see an agreement recorded with Howard County as a perpetual easement of ingress/egress upon the driveway so we do not have the problems that we have been dealing with in the future. Mr. King said this was something Mr. Ricci's lawyer could draw up for them.

Pat Reel wanted to know if this had been discussed with the other parties involved. Mr. Ricci said he had not gotten with anyone as of yet, he wanted to come to the town to make sure it was something that could be done before he went further with it.

Enter Don Parvin to the meeting.

Myrna Claar asked if this would solve the problem.

Mr. Dunnuck (owner of 647 E. Kinsey Dr.) was present and said he was not aware of this that is going on. Mr. King asked if what the Ricci's are proposing sounded like a good idea to him. Mr. Dunnuck said if they would allow the driveway to exist, then yes. Mr. King wanting to clarify said, meaning the driveway that they are proposing coming off of Fourth Street. Mr. Dunnuck asked about the driveway coming from Kinsey Dr. Mr. King said they would plant grass seed and do away with that driveway, and just have the one coming off Fourth Street. Greg Landrum asked who is putting in the driveway and who will maintain it. Ricci's said they would.

Myrna asked and Pat Reel clarified by saying it would be just like the shared driveway it is now and still be on Ricci's property, but the driveway would be on the south end of the Ricci's property instead of going right by their house every time someone is leaving.

Jeff Lipinski said he appreciates the efforts of the Ricci's for trying to resolve this issue. Mr. Dunnuck said he would have to discuss this with the Hales (residing at 647 E. Kinsey Dr.).

Greg Landrum brought up the words shared driveway and it made him leery. Corbin King said it would not be "shared," they would get the perpetual easement of ingress/egress, so that when they are not there anymore the next owners do not have this problem.

Corbin King said he thinks this is workable, but he feels it should be tabled to make everyone aware, he is cautious to make any kind of decision at this point. Mr. King's hope is to make a decision on this soon. Myrna asked what happens next with this process. Mr. King said there is a restriction with this that Mr. Ricci will show us a perpetual easement with a nice legal description of the driveway that he has signed that says that the neighbors have ingress/egress to be allowed to use the driveway. Mr. King said Mr. Ricci was just seeing where we stood on this before he went to more work on this before he proceeded.

Mr. Dunnuck was worried about changing the address if the driveway was moved. Mr. King said if that is all we have with it, let's try to find the solution and get this fixed.

Don Parvin told Ricci's to make sure to get a survey done before this would take place if it is approved and they can come to an agreement. Mr. Ricci said he definitely would, pending the outcome of what he is proposing.

Ordinance 2021-02 to establish the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Grant Fund # 176. Don Parvin made a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-02 on the first reading. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage. Corbin King would like to look into the details of this ordinance further before moving on with it.

Taylor Rathbun, an Eagle Scout is present tonight to earn his merit badge, and to do that he needed to attend a council meeting.

Don Parvin brought up the lighting quote from Duke Energy. This is for the \$7,030.18 one-time payment and the \$83.78 per month after that, forever. Corbin would like clarification on this. Don Parvin said we could pay the \$7,030.18 as a one-time or we could spread it out over time, and the \$83.78 was for the fixtures. Pat Reel made a motion to accept the agreement with Duke Energy. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin said he talked to Duke Energy about fixing the holes in the easement by Kent Milburns' house.

Don Parvin said Davidson Excavating has finished the Chandler Street project.

Don Parvin said that he had met with Jill Newby and the trailer park manager about the recycled benches, so they could be placed where they wanted them. Don Parvin and Paul Sattler placed the benches at the entrance by the mailboxes to the trailer park.

Don Parvin knows the TIF Board is going to meet tomorrow and would like them to think about some project they would like to do. Possibly signs on the edges of town and possibly the sidewalk project.

Don Parvin said the seniors will be here May 18th and would like to get mulch to put around all the trees at the Community Center. Rick Homkes said for this they would need a number of adult supervisors. Don would like to know about purchasing the mulch.

Rick Homkes asked about the seniors possibly painting the curbs in town. Don Parvin said he is in favor of it. Jeff Lipinski agreed. Rick also asked about us getting the debris out of the gutters before the painting began. Don Parvin said Paul has been working on cleaning these.

Don Parvin said that he and Josh Fulkerson had talked and would like to come up with something for the older kids to do in town.

Josh Fulkerson and Carl Swan said they recently had an ordinance violation for a dog that was loose and getting into the neighbor's chickens. The resident expressed that she will have trouble paying the \$250.00 violation, and she has to come up with money to remedy the dog situation of getting out. Carl asked if there was a possibility, they would allow the resident to use the money to get the kennel to put the dog in to remedy the situation instead of paying the fine. She will need to make payments on the fine if it stands. After some heavy discussion, the council decided to allow her 60 days to remedy the problem with the dog, or if the problem is not fixed, she has 30 days to pay the ordinance violation in full. Carl said he would tell her that tonight what the council had decided on the matter.

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.

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

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk-Treasurer