

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Town Hall
February 27, 2023

Council Present – Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Myrna Claar, Greg Landrum, and Jake Gibson.

Corbin King, the town's attorney was also present.

Myrna said a prayer, and Greg Landrum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the January meeting and a special meeting on January 30, 2023 were approved.

The Outstanding Community Service Award for 2022 was given to Marcia Talbert. Myrna Claar recognized Marcia's ministry to our town and its residents. Marcia has made countless visits to our residents in nursing homes, sent thousands of cards to people over the years, and cares about our people in this town. Marcia is one of the icons of Russiaville, always sporting her beautiful smile, and she truly makes our town a better place. Marcia said she truly loves doing these things for people. She has lived here 85 years. She added that her husband Jack Talbert had been on the first town board that Russiaville ever had, and had done many things along side of her. Marcia said these things the we all do we don't need recognition for, we do it because we love people, we love God, and we love you.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel gave written reports. Megan added that she had submitted the Annual Financial Report for 2022, and was working on getting 2022 put away.

Streets/Wastewater – Craig Thompson was present and gave a written report. Don Parvin said there was a sewer issue in Honey Creek Hills. There is a line between 2 houses that has too many bellies in it and needs to be repaired. Craig said there wasn't anything backed up on our end. The lateral is just so long. Jake Gibson made a motion to get it fixed. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Jake, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Greg Landrum asked if we were going to hire summer help. Council asked Craig Thompson. He said yes, if Benton Kanable is interested again this year that would be fine. Jake Gibson made a motion to have Benton help again this summer if he could. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Jake, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Marshal's Dept. – A written report was given.

EMA Advisory – No business to report.

Fire Department – Don Parvin appointed Jake Gibson as an advisory/go between with the council and the fire department.

Landen Bartley was present to discuss the fire contract for 2023. They originally sent us a contract with an amount of \$25,000.00 for 2023. We sent them back a contract with a new amount of \$17,000.00, being that our appropriation started at \$20,000.00 and then we had to cut all our budget line items this year. Landen said they were not good with \$17,000.00, as everything is going up including their run numbers. Landen had stats from 2005 when they were receiving \$17,600.00. They had 62 calls for service, diesel \$1.96 per/gal, and they had 18 members. For 2022, They received \$20,000.00 from the town. They had 159 calls for service, diesel fuel was \$4.39 per/gal, and they have 28 members. In 2019, they also took over the Russiaville Ambulance service as it was not self-sustainable any longer. With this they got 2 ambulances that were extremely outdated, and under-maintained. He stated they got debt and headaches from taking on the ambulance service. Landen said when he asked for the \$25,000.00, he felt there should be some negotiations and there was not. Don Parvin said in 2019 when the budget was increased to \$20,000.00 it was agreed upon that the council would receive reports on how it was going with the ambulance being added and how they were making it. Don also said, the council has a meeting every month and this was the first time since the increase to \$20,000.00 that someone had even been at a meeting with information from the fire department. This is why Don has asked Jake to be the go between so that there is a better relationship with the fire department. Don said the town cannot pay any more than is appropriated, adding that the police department was cut by \$8,500.00 for 2023. Landen said, in regards to Don saying there was an agreement about reports, that is not in the contract. There is nothing in the contract that states that someone