

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Russiaville Town Hall
March 28, 2022

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

Jeff Lipinski gave prayer, sending up a special prayer for Ukraine. Jada Sceggell, a member of the local Boy Scouts, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting.

Minutes from last month's meeting and one special meeting on March 9th were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel gave written reports.

Streets/Wastewater – Paul Sattler was present. He reported of several repairs, including painting, that had been done at the Community Center. They have also cleaned the contact tank at the wastewater plant and the chlorine is fixed and ready to go. Myrna Claar asked if he had to paint again. Paul stated that he had because they had to repairs knicks in the walls, so had to paint over those. Pat Reel asked about the mowers, Paul said they are ready to go.

Marshal's Report – Josh Fulkerson was not present, but had left a written report. Pat Reel said the Durango is back in service, it had to have a new engine. All warranty.

Attorney Report - Corbin King said if we had opted out of the opioid settlement. He said they changed legislation and Kokomo had opted back in, so we may want to do so also. Megan Reel said she had filled out something online about this. She will check on it and send what she had to Corbin. Pat Reel made a motion to opt back in if we had indeed opted out. We would just need a resolution. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable was present and said he written 4 permits. A demolition at 645 E. Main St., fence and shed at 533 Chaparral Dr., new sign at Stout Funeral Home, and a shed at 495 Mesa Dr.

Don Parvin said there is still one vacancy that needs to be filled on this board.

Board of Zoning Appeals - #1 on new business – 113 W. College St. This building is for sale and the realtor has asked Megan about possibly rezoning it as residential. Corbin King said he is not sure why the owner would want to do that as it would be more valuable as commercial. He said that it could be done as the council would so choose. They would have to set up a meeting and approach the Board of Zoning Appeals as to the reasons why they want to do that, and then it would go to the council to make the decision to grant it or not.

TIF Board – Mark Fulk was present. He said the board had a meeting last Thursday and they had several things to approach the council about. The need clarification on a few things by legal counsel so they don't do it wrong. And also, who is the Economic Development Board. Corbin said he would get them a number to attorney that set up the TIF to begin with.

Mark asked about the \$1,758.12 that the town will pay to Duke Energy over the next 5 years, what is this for? Megan said that is the monthly amount they will pay over the next 5 years for the Main Street lighting. Mark also asked about how we obtain the funds. Megan Reel said it is just any other of our funds, it is in our account and part of it has been appropriated for this year.

Mark also said they would like to include more areas in town in the economic development area, if it can be done. Don Parvin said he thought it could only go so far, each way.

Their main ideas that they have is for signage and street scape at the center of town.

April 28th at 6pm will be the next TIF Board meeting.

Don Parvin asked about Linda Downey. He never sees her name on any of the meeting minutes. Mark Fulk said he has tried to email her and tried to call her numerous times about the meetings and she does not respond. Don asked if he wanted to replace her. Mark said they could use another member that would come to the meetings. Ned Sutherland was present and said he would be willing to serve on the TIF Board. Pat Reel made a motion to replace Linda Downey with

Ned Sutherland on the TIF Board. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Historical Society – No one present and nothing new to report.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby was present and said community/senior day will be May 12th, with a rain date of May 13th. They are looking for projects. Jill asked if we needed to mulch the park and around the trees this year. Don Parvin said he would look into this and let her know. It may be ok this year. The First Baptist Church will provide the meal for this day at the Community Center. Don Parvin made a motion that the town would purchase the meat for this meal. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Jill said they met with Justin and Sean from Play pros about the plan and costs for what they want at the Community Center Park playground. This will be talked about at the upcoming park board meeting and they presented to the council to gather their thoughts as well.

Jill said they did not apply for the Subaru grant as they didn't hear back from Waddells about doing the mural on the side of the building and time ran out. Hopefully this will present itself again in the future.

Rick Homkes said the 5-Year Plan was approved. This certifies that we are eligible to apply for land and water conservation fund grant. This is something we could use for part of the money for the Community Center playground and shelter. Jill Newby said that it is a matching grant. Rick agreed, even though it would not have to be all cash to match it.

Jeff Lipinski read a thank you note from the Russiaville Lions Club for the Towns contribution to their bathroom project.

Dave Kieser – Don Parvin said that he and Pat and John Ellison had done a walk through for the South Union St. sidewalk project. They will reschedule another one as they didn't get all the way through it.

Don said he had South Union St. from State Rd. 26 to the town's south boundary surveyed and North Union St. from Lions St. to County Rd. 330 South surveyed by 40th Parallel Surveying. No report yet. Don did meet with the surveyor and he said the residents on the west side of South Union St and the west Side of North

Union St. own to the center of the road, no right of ways. There is right of way on the east side of South and North Union Street.

40th Parallel will be surveying the Town Hall to the east end of the park soon.

Edit Fund Ordinance – Corbin King said we need to update the EDIT Fund Ordinance for projects. Think about ways to spend the money.

Nuisance Ordinance 2022-02 – Don Parvin had a few changes, mainly to do with trash, mattresses, furniture, etc. Some codes added. Also, noise issues. Corbin King said in section one where it says, the council is unaware of any nuisance ordinance, we do have an ordinance, so we should just say that this ordinance will repeal Ordinance 2010-03.

Myrna Claar made a motion to pass Nuisance Ordinance 2022-02 on the second reading. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Myrna, Greg, Don, and Pat voting for passage.

Ordinance 2022-01 for the Capitalization Threshold Policy – Megan Reel said she added the word “threshold” to the ordinance name. Pat Reel made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-01 on the second reading. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Community Center Agreement – Corbin King said he talked to someone he knew and they said allowing alcohol is done all the time but there would need to be a separate agreement for that for people to sign, and people are properly insured, and they name us for the additional insured. People can not just bring it in, they would have to have someone insured and licensed. Corbin said he is working on getting all this together. This will be tabled until we have this.

Outstanding Community Service Award for 2021 is the Russiaville Park and Tree Board. The names have been added to the plaque that is in the Town Hall. Thank you again to the members of the Russiaville Park and Tree Board for their hard work and dedication to this town.

Eagle Scout presentation - Jada Sceggell is present and would like to do a raised bed project for the community and thought about putting them at the Community Center in front of the handicapped parking spaces as there is a water

spigot there for watering. She would like to do 3 that are 8' x 3', with about 2' in between with gravel around them. Jada would like to do one with veggies, fruits, flowers, and herbs as a community garden. She had a drawing but is open to suggestions on design and location. They are still working on fundraising for this project. Rick Homkes asked about maintaining it. Jada said she would take care of this for the first year, and hopefully get people involved to be able to keep it going for the future. There was some concern on the placement since they are trying to put in the shelter and playground in that area at the Community Center. Pat Reel suggested looking at the south side of the town hall just to the east of the overhead door. There is water close or Pat suggested putting in a rain barrel. There was some concern about putting it close to the walnut tree, will look into this before. The town will help any way they can.

EMA Agreement for 2022 – Corbin King looked it over. It is the normal agreement that we have had for several years. Jeff Lipinski signed the agreement.

Ned Sutherland was present to discuss the Turnabout Community Resource Center mission. This help people that are struggling in our area. There are three C's in recovery. Christ, Community, and Coffee. They hope to eventually have a place to be able to do this out of and have looked at the old doctor's office on Liberty St. They are doing an addiction program through the First Baptist Church right now but this mission is to get it in a place that is not a church as people are sometimes deterred by this. They have about 30 people who come every Friday night. There are other churches here in town that would like to put some other missions in the space as well. They would also like this to be a good place for senior citizens to come and hang out and talk. Hopefully they will have a coffee shop in here as well (coffee and recovery go together). They are going to have a fundraising event on April 24th at the Community Center at 5:30pm.

Don Parvin said he talked to Donnie Alexander at Duke Energy about changing the old street lights to LED lights town wide. We have talked about this in the past. Don said Mr. Alexander would get a cost for us in time for the April 25th council meeting, as it would be a substantial savings for the town. Don Parvin talked to Josh Marion from Duke Energy as well about more new lighting down Main St. He hopes to have a meeting with Mr. Marion next week.

Don Parvin had a quote to purchase new flags and fixtures for the new light poles down Main St. For the 18 light poles it will be about \$4,500.00. Pat Reel made a motion to get the new flags for and hardware for the new poles, paying part of it from MVH signs. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Rick Homkes asked about the other sets of flags that we have. He thought that it may be a little over done if we were to put flags on the new poles and also put flags on the tall regular light poles. Don Parvin said some of the old flags are ripped and worn pretty good but he would look into what to do with them.

Don Parvin said he talked to Bryan Crenshaw about paving/graveling project at the wastewater plant. Most likely this will be done in June.

Don Parvin talked to Roger Carter about purchasing 5 acres north of the wastewater plant for plant expansion. Don said he told Roger he would need to get appraisals done and after he got those back, they could talk more about the price. The Town would need to have an option to purchase contract, two appraisals, and survey the 5 acres. Don would like the council to give him and Pat permission to proceed in trying to purchase the 5 acres. Greg Landrum made a motion to pursue the properties and appraisals for the 5 acres. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Greg, Myrna, Don, and Pat voting for passage.

Don Parvin would like the council and the county to meet about possible help with the wastewater expansion project.

Don Parvin said he filed a claim with Duke Energy and their contractor for the sewage line they broke when they were putting in the new poles down Union St. This was about \$3,400.00 to recoup the costs that were incurred by the town to fix this.

Don Parvin filed a claim with Duke Energy also for the yard damage created at Mike and Jan Koloszar's.

Don Parvin would like to know what the council wishes are on the sound baffles at the Community Center. The rest of the council was unsure, so this will be tabled again until next month.

Don Parvin would still like to have a couple more cameras at the Community Center.

Elwood Fire has completed the sprinkler system repairs.

The floor company has completed the repairs.

The paint company has completed the touch ups. (Before Paul had to touch up again due to fixing some damage.)

Craig and Paul have been checking the Community Center after every rental for any damages done.

Don Parvin would like to get the Community Center rekeyed and have some of the rooms inaccessible to the general public.

Megan Reel said she changed the rug service to quarterly instead of monthly, and got different color rugs.

After some discussion about rekeying, Pat Reel made a motion to get the Community Center rekeyed. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Megan Reel said she had someone approach her about possibly using the Community Center for exercise class a couple times a week. Jeff Lipinski said they need to come and ask the council. Don Parvin said we had this in the past, we allowed them to use the building, and the instructor was getting paid to do the classes but none of the money ever came to the town for the use of the building. Pat Reel said if they are just using the facility and someone is teaching the class and not reaping in any money from it, it is for the wellness and betterment of the town then he is ok with it. Don Parvin agreed. Myrna Claar asked if it would interfere with rentals. Megan said it would have to be week nights because generally we don't rent it very often on a week nights.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, 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