Town of Russiaville, Indiana

Regular Council Meeting

Russiaville Town Hall

April 17, 2017

Council Present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Rob Hewitt, Kyle Parvin

Corbin King, town attorney, was also present.

Jeff Lipinski called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer.

Minutes from the March 2017 meeting were approved.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable said they just had their meeting for the new McClure Store. They gave their approval for them to proceed and build the new store. Mike also had 2 new home permits and a concrete slab permit.

Jeff Lipinski expressed his thanks for the Plan Commission’s work and time getting the 2 new businesses here in town recently.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Roger Waddell reported there was no new business.

Russiaville Historical Society – Marsha Berry was present gave a written report of updates. Marsha also asked if we would appoint one of their members as a Town representative so they could get the utilities turned on. Jonathan Russell is the person they would like to do that. Don Parvin made a motion to appoint Jonathan Russell as a Town representative to be able to turn on the utilities. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Marsha stated they are almost ready to move in, but they still need $50K to finish everything.

Park and Tree Board – Rick Homkes stated they had no new business. Don Parvin would like to thank them for the special meeting that they had recently to go over the 5-year plan. Rick Homkes said they would meet with the DNR April 20, 2017.

Summer Fest – Rhiannon Thompson said the new signs are up. Jeff Lipinski said they look nice. On the pavilion, she stated Craig got the asphalt out and they will be ready to pour concrete soon, and then it should go up in a matter of days after this is done. Don Parvin asked about ADA compliance. Rhiannon stated that she had everything done for that. The ramp will be on the north side of the pavilion. Jeff Lipinski asked if all the bands were booked for Summer Fest. Rhiannon said yes, they are usually booked about a year in advance. Jeff had a guy ask him, he thinks the name of the band is “The blind guy and the seeing eye dogs.” Rhiannon said she could put him on the list.

Streets and Wastewater – Mike Collins was present stating that he was not here a lot due to some health problems recently. There was a written report given. The playground piece of equipment that council had asked them to take down is done.

They got the concrete out around the pavilion.

Jeff Lipinski has had a couple people ask about patching, when do they think that will be open. Mike said as soon as the plant is open (plant has had some issues) they will get a couple tons and get the holes fixed. They will do hot patch and also graveling of the alleys soon.

Marshal – Roger Waddell gave a written report. Tornado siren had issues again. The switch would not cycle, Roger tried it several times with no luck, and after trying it later it all of a sudden it powered up and worked. He has no explanation as to why. At any rate, it is fixed.

Randy Vannatter brought Ellie (Deputy K-9) to meet everyone. Rob Hewitt asked about her blinking collar. Randy said it was an e-collar. It is a little stimulation for training purposes.

Randy asked to have the water turned on at Functional Devices building. He said the traps get dry, and then it smells like sewer gas in there. Don Parvin asked why he wanted it on in there, since no one was in there. We are trying to keep bills down. Randy said if we were going to try to sell the building, he didn’t think it should smell like sewer gas. Megan Reel said she thought the minimum would be around $20.00 per month. Rob Hewitt made a motion to turn the water on and pay the minimum. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Rob, Don, and Kyle voting for passage.

Treasurer’s report – gave a copy of financial reports. Also, there are 2 accounts that were given to Jeremy Peelle for collections that he has advised us to write off/adjust. They are both around $150.00 each. Rob asked why he advised us to write them off. Megan said it was about the timing of when they were owed verses when they moved out. Jeff Lipinski asked Corbin to please look into these 2 customer accounts. Don made a motion that if Corbin says to write these off then we will do so. Don stated that since we got Jeremy Peelle to do this, he has advised us to write off 5 customer’s bills. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

TIF – Corbin King said he would give Blake a call to see if he has come up with a proposal for us.

Kieser – Don Parvin talked to Dave Kieser. Mr. Kieser sent a letter to McClure Oil about contingents on building their store on Main Street. McClure had agreed with all three of the contingents in the letter from Kieser.

The rest of the zoning and comprehensive plan is moving along and should be done soon.

NL Grant – there was a public meeting about that before this meeting.

Emergency Storm Damage and Tree Removal – Don Parvin and Mark Rice worked on this to come up with an agreement/contract that Rice Tree Company would work with the Town if we had any storm/tree removal that may be needed in an emergency situation. Don Parvin made a motion to accept this agreement with Rice’s. Kyle Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Don Parvin also stated there was a tree on North Union in front of Gary Sipes’ house that the top was rotted out of that needed to be removed. Rice gave Don a price of $975.00 to remove the tree and the stump. Rob Hewitt made a motion to have the tree removed. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Rob, Don, and Kyle voting for passage.

Dog Ordinance – Corbin King said it was in process. It will be complete and we will pass it next month so that it can be done before Summer Fest.

Trash Ordinance – Corbin King said this will be combined with our Waste Management. Looking at the bid and Corbin and Don have been talking about this. Don had given Corbin additional information to look at on this.

Claim on Storm Damage – Corbin King said he needed to get with the adjuster again.

Community Center rental rates – Linda Schermer asked if they will have to pay for use of the Community Center for the lunch on Senior Community Day. Council said no.

As far as the CC rates – Rob Hewitt thinks the rates are too high. Jeff Lipinski agreed. Don Parvin proposed no extra fee for the kitchen and charge the $50 for a refundable cleanup. He also thought there should be 2 different fees – 1 for a “birthday party” and a different fee for a “wedding.” Erica Parvin said the only way you will have more wedding rentals is to allow alcohol. She gets calls about this. Megan Reel said that having alcohol is the number one question when people want to rent the CC for a wedding. If the wedding is catered they may have their own insurance and they may be able to do it that way. Corbin said he will check into this.

10.42 acres – May 8th at 4pm will be the date for the sale of the acreage. There will be a special meeting. It will be held here at the Town Hall. There will be open bidding, the sale will be completed and sold at that bidding unless all bids are rejected. The successful bidder must be prepared to have a check payable to the Town of Russiaville for 20% of the purchase price due at the conclusion of the special meeting. The Town will pay ½ of the closing costs normally charged by a local title company, bidder will be responsible for the rest of the closing costs. Bidder will also be responsible for Spring 2017 payable 2018 property taxes. Bidder also responsible for any costs associated with getting a mortgage if they need to. Closing will be within 45 days of May 8th, 2017.

Jeff Lipinski asked if Corbin would set the opening bid? Yes, Corbin will throw a number to start, and then the council will have the final say. It will be open bidding like an auction. This will be posted in the paper twice before the May 8th date.

Health Insurance renewal – tabled to till special meeting on May 8th.

Issues on Insurance Audit – Rob Hewitt did not have guys fix it. Megan will get another copy from Ashley at Gangwer Wyrick Insurance, so that we can get these issues fixed.

Functional Devices – Don Parvin wants to start the process of putting it up for sale. The rest of the council agreed. If the people that Cindy Aeschliman had interest come forward before May 8th fine but otherwise let’s get it listed. Corbin will look into starting process of what needs to be done. Jeff Lipinski would like to wait until after the sale of the 10.42 acres, to start this.

Pam Gullion asked when the council changed. This council serves 2016 – 2019.

Jeff Condo doesn’t think the 36 acres (phase 3) behind Honey Creek Hills subdivision is annexed into the Town. He thought only phase 1 was annexed. Don Parvin said he was not sure either. Corbin will double check this. There was discussion about the sewer lines and water. Don said it was in their ordinance that they will have to put all that in themselves. Condo talked about the road to go back there to the 36 acres. Don said they would have to comply with all our ordinances.

Jeff Condo also asked if they could get more lighting in Honey Creek Hills. Don stated that he was trying to work on this. There was more discussion between Condo and Council. Don Parvin told Jeff Condo to pick another board member to direct his problems to. Don Parvin said Cindy Aeschliman is his council member.

Linda Schermer asked about having the “breakfast club” back at the Town Hall on Monday mornings. Council said it was fine as long as Megan was ok with it. She said it is fine.

Don Parvin asked if we could condemn Wayne Clark’s property at 635 N. Union St. Corbin will check into the process for us to start this.

With there being no further business to bring before the council, the claims were presented and approved. Rob Hewitt made a motion to adjourn. Kyle Parvin seconded and the meeting came to a close.

Jeff Lipinski – President

Megan Reel – Clerk Treasurer