

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Special Meeting
Russiaville Town Hall
January 17, 2023

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

Don Parvin opened the meeting.

Don Parvin said there had been a gas leak at the generator behind the police department. King's Heating was out to look at this and the heater in the maintenance building. We need a new heater, and the council discussed this and said we need to get a couple of quotes.

The fire department contract was discussed. They hadn't brought it to us by the December meeting, but have now brought one as of last week. They proposed in the contract to be paid \$25,000.00 from the town. Don Parvin would like some communication as to why they need extra money than the amount they received the previous year since we have to appropriate for these things. Myrna Claar made a motion to keep the appropriation for fire department the same as last year at \$20,000.00. Greg Landrum seconded. Pat Reel was opposed. Don Parvin was opposed. Motion did not pass.

There was further discussion on this. Pat Reel said he felt that we needed to cut their budgeted amount from last years amount of \$20,000.00 as we had to cut our whole budget this year including the police department funds. Pat Reel made a motion that we pay them \$17,000.00 for 2023 (½ in June and the other ½ in December). Greg Landrum seconded. Myrna Claar was opposed. The motion carried with Pat, Greg, and Don voting for passage.

Don Parvin said they are still working on the Main Street lighting project and the LED changeover. They are waiting on supplies for this.

Don Parvin said Dave Kieser said they were working on the bids for the interurban and sidewalk projects. They have until the 30th of this month.

Don also said Dave was working on a grant for the Kinsey Street sidewalk project.

Don Parvin asked the other 3 members of the council if there was anything they would like see within the town in the future. Myrna Claar said she has not give n up on the mural that was being talked about some time ago on the side of Waddell's. Pat Reel he would like street lights on College Street, make the town hall and police station more energy efficient, and a sit-down restaurant.

Don Parvin said he would like to have an assisted living place.

Rick Homkes was present and said the TIF Board had previously discussed at their meetings not only TIF \$ for lighting and a sidewalk on Kinsey Dr., but a generator at the Community Center, a pharmacy, safe walk to school (which would involve the trail), and cleaning out squirrel creek.

Don Parvin also said he and Craig would be assessing infrastructure again soon, looking into the crossroads grant and road assessment.

Greg Landrum agreed with all of these things. He said Donnie does so many things for this town, he would like to help more and have us all be involved as much as we can be. We all care about this town, and want to do what is best for it. All were in agreement, and Don added he would like to have more work sessions like this one so everyone can be in touch with all that is going on.

Pat Reel asked if we could do election of officers at this meeting and Don said we could as it was an open meeting and had been advertised.

Pat Reel made a motion to nominate Don Parvin to be president. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage. Greg Landrum made a motion to nominate Pat Reel to be Vice President. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Greg, Myrna, and Don voting for passage.

Don Parvin said we needed to appoint advisory members for the different departments too. After some discussion, Don and Myrna will remain advisory for the Streets/Wastewater department. Pat and Greg will be advisory for the Marshal's Department, Greg will remain advisory for the Park Board, and Pat Reel will remain for EMA. Rick Homkes who was present asked if it should be noted that he was the Health Department advisory. Don Parvin said absolutely.

Megan Reel said she had talked to Rhiannon Thompson about taking control of the Community Center website for updates, etc. as the current host is closing her business. Rhiannon said she would but would only do it if she could build a new site, as the current one is difficult to navigate through, and she had reached out