

Town of Russiaville, Indiana  
Regular Council Meeting  
November 21, 2016

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

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting with a prayer, mentioning the terrible house fire tragedy in Flora where 4 little girls were killed.

Minutes from October were approved by council.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable stated he had 1 new permit for a fence.

Board of Zoning – no new business.

Russiaville Historical Society – Nothing new to report.

Park and Tree Board – Rick Homkes was present. He stated both Eagle Scout projects have been completed. The actual park area had been made bigger, by one Eagle Scout and the other Eagle Scout planted hundreds of daffodils bulbs.

Rick also said the DNR would like additional surveys for the grant. He will be distributing these around town so residents can pick them up.

The beautification grant is mostly done, except they are waiting on banners to be delivered. This will finish everything up.

Don Parvin stated that he would like a change in the website at the community center. Megan was put on as admin by the website company that we use now, so that the owner of the company did not have to do cancelations etc. for the website. Don asked the park board to discuss this and maybe have Rhiannon Thompson handle this website too and also save us money.

Jeff Lipinski stated that Rick Homkes and Laura Redding were present at the Howard County Commissioners meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November to discuss the

Recreational Trail. Jeff said they did a great job, and the commissioners will be giving the Town \$15,000.00 toward the Recreational Trail.

Streets and Wastewater - a report was given and Mike Collins was present to add to it. He and Craig had filled some miscellaneous pot holes around town. Also, the bucket truck from Davidson's that they use to put up the holiday flags is down, so it may be a little later than normal for those to get up. Jeff said if in a couple of weeks, they still did not have it to let him know.

Mike also stated that the well at New London has been winterized, so it doesn't freeze.

Don Parvin stated that the piece of playground equipment needs to be taken down. It had been said at the previous meeting to take it down. There was some discussion about repairing it, but since the piece is not commercial grade they will remove it.

Jeff Lipinski talked to Ted Miller about the trees, that are a driving hazard, at the corner of First and Seward streets on Ted's property. He doesn't want them cut down but would be willing to trim them back. Jeff asked Mike for him and Craig to go talk to Ted about getting this done. Mike said they would get on it.

Marshal's Department – Roger Waddell gave a written report, and that he had nothing to add. Randy Vannatter was present and gave a quick report on the new K-9 we will be getting. He stated there were 2 dogs that came from Czechoslovakia. One of them is perfect for the job. Lady in Westfield is training her, and she (the dog) will be ready to work in February or March after Randy goes and gets trained on how to work her. Her name will be Ellie as her given name is too close to her bite command. (full given name – Helen Foxy Queen)

Roger Waddell also stated if there is a time we need a dog, there will not be a problem in getting one for the time being until Ellie is ready.

Treasurer's report – report was given. The CD's at the bank are mature once again and Megan needs to know what the council would like to do with them. Jeff said he would like to put them in a 6-month CD at First Farmers bank and Trust for now. Don Parvin made a motion for Megan Reel to put all 3 CD's in 6-

month terms. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

TIF – Jeff has talked to Corbin. There was talk about getting a new firm for this.

Ethel Morgan was here to discuss the New London Grant. Running a sewer line from Russiaville to New London She gave a written report of the highlights, New London plant is failing (it is 25 years old). She had some more things to add to the overall report, and she would have it ready for the December meeting. Don Parvin asked if the money that has not been paid to us for labor had been included in her report. Ethel said yes it was. Don also asked if there was depreciation value. Ethel has included replacement values which would be the same thing in this instance.

Jeff Lipinski asked how far it was from Russiaville to New London. Ethel stated it was about 1-1/2 miles.

Ethel stated she talked to the Howard County Highway, and they were ok with us putting the sewer line in the Howard County right-of-way. Ethel stated we could go under the road if we needed to without tearing up the road.

Steve Brock will be here with Ethel at our December meeting.

Tina Henderson sent an email for the 60% complete claim #1 for the New London planning grant, and the breakdown of the invoice from Hometown Engineering. Rob Hewitt made a motion to approve for Howard County to make payment on Hometown Engineering invoice for 60% completion on the New London grant. Kyle Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Rob, Kyle, and Don voting for passage.

New London property Insurance – Ashley at Ganger Wyrick is working on this.

Kieser – gave written report on Zoning.

OSHA – Mark Fulk met with Megan, he is working on it.

Dog ordinance – Corbin working on

Trash ordinance – Corbin working on

Claim for storm damage – still have heard nothing. Corbin was in contact with them about this. Will ask him.

Emergency Storm damage plan – Don working on.

Crail road cut – Corbin working on

Water Utility Sale Fund – Megan would like to close account. We need to ask Corbin about a resolution and moving the money correctly.

Functional Devices building – Jeff has scheduled a walk through for Wednesday (23<sup>rd</sup>) at 2pm.

Town resident here to discuss issues he has had with his neighbors burning leaves. There is an ordinance that town residents cannot burn leaves. The resident called 911 and the Fire Department was dispatched, but did not put it out. The ordinance stated if the fire/smoke becomes a nuisance, it is to be put out.

Council and Pat Reel said let's look into curbside leaf removal for the Town.

Contract for the Humane Society for 2017 – Don Parvin made a motion to accept the Humane Society's 2017 contract. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

There are 2 people who have outstanding bills for - council said send them letter that we will take them to court, if we still here nothing we will take them to court.

Ordinance 2016-07 amending the charges for the sewage works utility of the unincorporated area of New London was introduced. Don Parvin made a motion to pass ordinance 2016-07 on the first reading. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Salary ordinance for 2017 was introduced. To possibly raise council salaries to \$3,500.00 for council president and \$3,000.00 for council members. To possibly

raise Clerk Treasurer/Utility Clerk salary to \$15.16 per hour. To possibly raise all other salaries 3%. This will be discussed and passed at December meeting.

Billing for houses that are vacant – there was a question that came up about charging our minimum or not for houses that were vacant. Our ordinance states that, yes, we do charge a minimum of \$26.76 for houses that are vacant. Even if they have no water service. There was discussion on this about changing it, and about leaving it the same. No decision was made, therefore, it stays the same as is with a minimum charge of \$26.76 per month.

Mike Collins asked if we could possibly set up an hourly rate for someone to come in and help for storm damage etc. Rob Hewitt said what if we use the hourly rate of for part time person. Council agreed that would be fine.

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

Jeff Lipinski, President  
Megan Reel, Clerk Treasurer