

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Russiaville Town Hall
November 18, 2019

Council Present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Rob Hewitt, Kyle Parvin, and Pat Reel. Corbin King, the town's attorney was also present.

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting.

Ned Sutherland, minister of First Baptist Church, gave prayer and Don Parvin led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marshal Randy Vannatter was present to talk about Joshua Fulkerson. Marshal Vannatter would like to bring Mr. Fulkerson on to the police department as a reserve officer. The council previously talked to Mr. Fulkerson. Mr. Fulkerson's family was present to support him. The Marshal stated Mr. Fulkerson worked at IU Methodist in downtown Indy, as security. He has had schooling, he will just train with us to learn what he needs to, and then the Marshal will make the decision if he will become an officer for the Town.

Rob Hewitt said he thinks Mr. Fulkerson will be a great addition to the police department, Pat Reel agreed with this. Rob liked his comments when he came in to speak to the council previously, and said he handled himself very well. Don Parvin said he thinks he is an outstanding candidate, and will be excellent for the community. Don said he has read Mr. Fulkerson's resume, stating that he is very educated, and wherever he may go in his career, the sky is the limit for him. Jeff Lipinski said Mr. Fulkerson does have an impressive resume, and we are delighted to have someone with his background and his willingness to serve Russiaville. Pat Reel made a motion to accept Joshua Fulkerson as a reserve deputy for Russiaville. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Rob, Don, and Kyle voting for passage.

Mr. Fulkerson introduced his family. Corbin King, attorney swore Joshua Fulkerson in.

Minutes from October meeting were approved, with the exception of Rick Homkes saying he would like to double check the figures that were in there about the Historical Society and Community Foundation Grant.

Plan Commission – Megan Reel said that Mike Kanable reported to her, there was no new business.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No one present to report. Myrna Claar was present and is on this board, a replacement will be needed for her as she will be a town council member as of January 1st.

TIF Board – No one present to report.

Historical Society – Don Parvin asked Myrna Claar how the meeting went on the 12th. Myrna stated they had a new recruit, Jan Koloszar is planning on bringing a few things from the annex building so it can be winterized, and they plan on meeting at the Town Hall for their next meeting on December 10th.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby said the deep cleaning is finally done. They had them come back 4 times as things were not done that should have been. Jill asked about renting a scrubber/buffer for the floor. She said it is \$34 for 24 hours to rent one of these. She is not sure who would do it, but thinks it would help the floor.

Jill said they discussed a gazebo or a shelter for their next future project at the Community Center. She said they decided to do a shelter, they think it will be more fitting and useful for our community.

Jill stated that Rick Homkes noticed one of the playground pieces (the one right in the middle with the bridge) in Brady Park is wearing out. She stated there is \$4200 in the park rehab fund, and she wants to know if the council would like the park board to pursue replacing this item. Jill stated someone called her from a playground place, and said they had some sales right now. Jeff Lipinski said to pursue this and get back to the council with what they are thinking for this.

Rick Homkes asked about the money from the park rehab fund, could we expense it in 2019 to use the money from this year and then maybe put it in next year.

Jeff Lipinski said as long as we get a bill before the end of the year, we can encumber the funds or pay for it before the end of the year to use the 2019 appropriation.

Don Parvin asked about the shelter/gazebo/playground. His understanding was that this was going to be a project to do all of this at once with DNR. Rick does not feel they can digest it all in one year. Don said we could start accumulating donations for a grant match for this with a playground, but if they are not going to start this until they already have the shelter, that is way far behind. Rick said we can start fundraising in 2020, but look how long the trail took. Don said he talked to Dave Kieser, and he said he would do all the planning for this for \$8,000.00. Don wants to know what direction the park board is going with this. Rick said they have a 5-year plan, and they are delayed a year because of the trail, so they are assessing what they can do and when they can do it, so they have decided they need to do the shelter before the playground. Don said the original plan was a gazebo, shelter, and playground, and now they are flipping to where they want to do a shelter first. Don asked if he was correct in this statement. Jill Newby said the gazebo is completely out of the picture at this time.

Jill said maybe they could look at what grants they could get with just doing the shelter versus doing the shelter and the playground. Don Parvin said this is going to cost \$250,000.00 and they would have to come up with half of this for a match if we could get the right grant. Rick is concerned about getting donations for something very similar to Western's playground that money was raised for so soon after that.

Don Parvin asked about the Eagle Scout and the volleyball court project, he wanted to know if the park board had thought more about this. They are thinking about where they would put it at this time.

Streets/Wastewater – A written report was given. Don Parvin said Craig is working on getting the posts in for the new signs.

Don Parvin would like to give a shout out to Mark Rice for cutting the tree on North Street, it was very dangerous near the power lines. Also, he trimmed the trees on fourth street, it is the best Don has ever seen it.

Jeff Lipinski said currently the streets and wastewater department is taking applications for employment, due to a termination of an employee.

Don Parvin said the banners would go up sometime next week, hopefully.

Marshal's Dept. – A written report was given. Randy Vannatter was present and would like to discuss the siren at the Lions Club. He has gotten a quote of

\$4,100.00 to fix it. Don Parvin made a motion to repair the tornado siren at the Lions Club for \$4,100.00 to be taken from the Riverboat fund. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, Kyle, and Pat voting for passage.

Randy also had quotes for camera for the community center in the amount of \$2,200.00 and for the police station in the amount of \$1,800.00. Randy said Jordan suggested putting a camera inside the community center for liability purposes. Don Parvin made a motion to allow the cameras for the community center and the police station for a total of \$4,000.00 to be taken out of the Riverboat fund. Randy said that Jordan told him he would probably be able to do the work and the end of November or first of December. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Randy Vannatter said he and Carl and Ellie and Niko would be attending the funeral on Wednesday for the Fishers police dog, Harlej, that was killed.

Treasurer's Report – A written report was given.

Dave Kieser – Don Parvin would like to have a meeting with Mr. Kieser on December 12th at 6pm. Council will look at their schedules, and we will try to work this meeting out.

New London Grant - Not much going on with this right now.

Ethel Morgan compensation – this has been tabled until next meeting, for more info.

Ordinance 2019-02 - restricting the use of fireworks in town. Pat Reel made a motion to suspend the rules to be able to pass ordinance 2019-02 on the second and third readings. Kyle Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Kyle, Don, and Rob voting for passage.

Pat Reel made a motion to pass ordinance 2019-02 on the second and third readings. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Naming the Russiaville police station - Peggy Hollingsworth wrote a letter to the council a few months ago, asking them to consider naming or memorializing

Sterling F. Johnson in some way at the police station, as he was the first Marshal in Russiaville. Jeff Lipinski said he thinks it is a great gesture, and it is something he feels we should consider and do. Jeff also thinks that if we do it, and have a dedication, he would like to do it in the spring so the weather is warmer and people would be more apt to attend.

Rob Hewitt made a motion memorialize Sterling F. Johnson by naming the police station after him, and do the ceremony in the spring. He would like it to say something like "The Sterling F. Johnson Memorial Police Station." Pat Reel seconded. Don Parvin and Kyle Parvin abstained, as they were related to Sterling F. Johnson. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion, and the motion carried with Rob, Pat, and Jeff voting for passage.

Jeff said the date for this would be determined at a later date.

Letters to people on North Street and Walnut Street – Don Parvin said since the parking has changed on these streets, he is wondering if we should send letters. There are other streets that the parking has changed too, so Don thinks maybe we should send letters to everyone. There was some further discussion on this, there will be more signs put up and we can put "new parking ordinance enforced December 5th" on the sign at the Town Hall.

CD's at bank – Megan Reel stated the 3 CD's at the bank are coming due on the 26th. The term was 182-day. Don Parvin made a motion to put the CD's back in at the 182-day terms. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, Kyle, and Pat voting for passage.

Salary Ordinance – The salary ordinance was given for 2020. The council will look at and bring about any changes, and this will be passed at the December meeting. Ordinance 2019-04 for the salary was introduced. Don Parvin made a motion to pass Ordinance 2019-04 setting the salaries for 2020 on the first reading. Kyle Parvin seconded. Pat Reel abstained. The motion carried with Don, Kyle, and Rob voting for passage.

Don Parvin said on Ordinance 2018-12 for salaries for 2019 on section, 15 it states the utility clerk and Wastewater Superintendent shall get bonuses of \$600.00 each and be paid from the New London wastewater fund. The Town Marshal shall get a bonus of \$600.00, and the Town Deputy Marshal shall get a bonus of

\$300.00. These will both be paid out of the general account. Don Parvin made a motion to pay these bonuses out of the 2019 budget. Don added this would be Megan Reel and Craig Thompson out of the New London Wastewater Fund, and Randy Vannatter and Carl Swan out of the General Fund. Rob Hewitt seconded. Pat Reel abstained. The motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Rick Homkes asked about the wastewater flow. Rick asked when sewer ban discussion kick in. Don Parvin said there has been a lot of planning going on to do an addition to the wastewater plant. This is what we are meeting with Dave Kieser about. Rob Hewitt said as long as we are meeting our permit and testing specifications, they should not put us on a sewer ban. Jeff Lipinski said as of right now our lots are tapped out so there should not be any more home building for quite some time. Pat Reel said we are working on the storm water that is being put into the system too. Rick asked if the letter went out for this. Don Parvin said it has not gone out yet, they are still working on the details of the letter.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, and no more comments from council or guests, the claims were presented and approved. Rob Hewitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pat Reel seconded, and the meeting came to an end.

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk-Treasurer