

Town of Russiaville, Indiana  
Regular Council Meeting  
Russiaville Town Hall  
December 20, 2021

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

Jeff Lipinski gave prayer, and Pat Reel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting. Jeff brought to everyone's attention that we have a new agenda. It has been changed around some.

Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel had reports. She added that she would like to thank Janna Hyman for cleaning the cobwebs, etc. off the front porch and decorating.

Streets and Wastewater – Don Parvin reported that Craig and Paul had fixed the Santa mailbox so that it is a little heavier and will not blow around. Craig came up after the wind we had and cleaned up some trees and cleaned some of the drains. Pat Reel asked if there was anything that Paul needed while Craig was out to let him know.

Marshal's Dept. – Josh Fulkerson was present. He said they received 260 books from the book drive. They received the radios back from the county that were previously talked about, they are the same radios. There is an issue with the pit bar for the Durango. They sent the right pit bar with the wrong directions for it. Passive Security (company this was from) is making this right. Josh would like to ask about the part-time police pay. Right now, we pay part-time police to come out and help with events \$18.00 per hour. Josh has found out that this is very low and has a hard time getting the county to come out and help on their off times for this pay. He would like the council to consider raising it to \$25.00 per hour for next year. Don Parvin asked if Josh and Carl would be okay with this as it is over what they make. Josh assured him that he and Carl had

talked and they were okay with it so they could get the help they needed if they do. After some more discussion, Don Parvin made a motion to change the part-time police to \$25.00 per hour for next year. Greg Landrum seconded. Pat Reel abstained. The motion carried with Don, Greg, and Myrna voting for passage.

Greg Landrum asked who was doing the testing for the wastewater while Craig was out. Don Parvin said that Paul pulled all the samples and took all the results to Craig for him to sign off on them. Don Parvin said this is a requirement for when the Superintendent is out.

Corbin King is not present tonight.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable reported he had no new business.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No new business to report.

TIF Board – No new business to report.

Historical Society – No new business to report.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby was present and said they had the hog raffle and had 2 winners each for ½ a hog. They brought in \$1,963.61 from this fundraiser for the playground and shelter at the Community Center Park.

Jill said they had put the Santa mailbox out here for kids to be able to mail their letters to Santa. Thank you to Craig and Paul for making it sturdier.

They need to replace a couple of the swings in the Russiaville Park, there is someone coming to look at this to see what it needs.

Jill Newby presented the Parks and Recreation 5-Year Plan. Jill said there was a public survey and the top things that people said they wanted in Russiaville were trails, picnic areas, water/spray parks, and playgrounds. They are going to concentrate on the picnic areas with the shelter at the Community Center Park and the playground. She said since we are a small town and don't have unlimited resources, the spray park is going to be too expensive to try to do right now. The Park Board is made up of volunteers and they have limited town resources as well, and they realize there are a lot of other things to do.

The primary action plan is laid out with in the years 2022-2023 they will complete the preliminary surveys and drawings for an accessible playground and shelter. 2022-2024 they will replace anything that may need to be replaced in the Russiaville town park. 2023 picnic shelter and possible restrooms at Community Center Park. 2024 build a new inclusive playground at the Community Center Park. 2025 hopefully the Cloverleaf Trail will come through Russiaville. 2026 parking and landscaping and picnic area at the Interurban Station as a trail head spot for the Cloverleaf Trail. They have changed the cost of the playground on the draft of the 5-year plan from \$130,000.00 to \$300,000.00.

Jeff Lipinski asked if the rest of the council had read the 5-Year Plan draft. They all concurred. Jeff asked if there were any comments from the council or the public present. There were none.

Jeff Lipinski commented that our Park Board has done a very good job on this and it was interesting what people said on the surveys. Don Parvin said when doing these surveys, we have to think about the people that are answering and if they live in Russiaville or if they live outside the area. That should have some bearing on the things that are recommended too. Don Parvin added that the Park Board does an outstanding job. Not only with this but all year. Don also stated they need to get together and figure out just exactly where they were going to put the playground and shelter.

Resolution 2021-06 Park and Recreation 5-Year Plan for the Town of Russiaville. Pat Reel made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-06. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Dave Kieser – South Union Street sidewalk project will be going out for bid in January. Dave is applying for a grant for the North Union Street Sidewalks. They are working on the acoustics at the Community Center. They are looking at possible acoustical curtains, he thinks they will work better and be more aesthetically pleasing. They are working on a couple of different things. Myrna asked for pictures to see what this would look like.

The interurban is under design. They will get it out for bid in the next couple of months.

Wastewater project is ongoing, they are still trying to get grant money.

Dave had plan and drawings for the feasibility for new Town hall and Police Dept. building. Dave asked everyone to look at the drawing of this and see what they

think and make changes to it, and we can go from there. He will apply for a Community Facilities Grant for this.

The Main Street Lighting project is almost ready to close.

EDIT Fund Ordinance – Corbin King is working on this. Megan Reel said she gave him all the info they requested up to this point.

Nuisance Ordinance – tabled for now.

Salary Ordinance 2021-06 (for 2022) – Don Parvin made a motion to accept Salary Ordinance 2021-06, and to give raises according to the salary ordinance effective for the first pay period in 2022 (payable 1/14/2022). Greg Landrum seconded. Pat Reel abstained. Myrna Claar was opposed. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of the motion, therefore the motion carried with Don, Greg, and Jeff voting for passage.

The employees holiday schedule was presented for 2022. Don Parvin made a motion to accept the holiday schedule for 2022. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

The council meeting schedule for 2022 was presented. The meetings will change to the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 5:00 pm. Pat Reel made a motion to accept the meeting schedule for 2022. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Megan Reel will make sure this gets changed on the Town's website as well.

Kokomo Humane Society Contract for 2022 – Don Parvin said he would like the contract to say that any of the council members can approve for the Humane Society to come out for an animal not just the Marshal. We have had instances where we need them and the Marshal is not on duty that day. Don Parvin made a motion to accept the Kokomo Humane Society contract for 2022. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Resolution 2021-07 to transfer to the Rainy-Day Fund. This Resolution will allow a transfer from the General Fund to the Rainy-Day Fund in the amount of \$60,000.00 for 2021. Don Parvin made a motion to allow Resolution 2021-07.

Myrna Claar seconded. Pat Reel abstained. The motion carried with Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

No comments from guests.

Don Parvin said he would like to thank everyone for a job well done this year. There is a lot of good things that got done this year because of all our good boards and departments.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, the claims were presented and approved.

Don Parvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Myrna Claar seconded, and the meeting came to an end.

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk Treasurer