

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Public Hearing on Annexation of Community Center
Town Hall
July 20, 2020

Council present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Myrna Claar, Greg Landrum
Corbin King, town attorney, was also present.

Jeff Lipinski opened the public hearing.

Ordinance 2020-03 annexing the Community Center into the Town was
introduced.

Council asked if there were any questions or comments from guests. There were
none. The public hearing was closed.

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Regular Council Meeting
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Landrum.
Corbin King, town attorney, was also present.

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

Planning Commission – Megan Reel reported for Mike Kanable stating he had
written 3 permits. Pool permit for Stucker, sign permit for Factory Direct, and a
fence permit for Bugher.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No one present and business to report.

TIF Board – Rick Homkes said there is no new business. Jeff asked if we had received money from that this year. Megan Reel said we had. Rick said they were still banking it for now.

Historical Society – Megan Reel read a note that Jan Koloszar had left with her stating they had no news to report, but they would like approval to have a meeting at the Annex on August 11th at 7pm. The council said they were ok with them having a meeting but there is no water on at the annex, and if they wanted to have it at the Town Hall that would be fine. Myrna Claar said she would talk to Jan about this and let Megan know so it could be put on the sign.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby said she contacted a company about replacing the merry-go-round in the park. The one they have is 7' 6" and costs \$4,620.00, shipping would be \$500.00, and installation would be \$1,500.00 for a total of \$6,620.00. Jill had a picture of it. Someone asked about the size compared to the old one. Jill said the old one was 10', so this was smaller. Jill said it would fit where the old one was, but we would need to remove the old cement footer. Erica Parvin said they had some fundraising that they were planning. She said RCO is putting together community garage sales days and were going to give the park board some of the proceeds from that. The donation boxes that are out now will go toward this. Erica said they are also planning a car wash. She is hoping to use the parking lot and water at the Town Hall to do this.

Don Parvin suggested tabling this until September to see how they do with fundraising for the merry-go-round. Pat Reel asked if there was a time constraint on the pricing. Jill said no.

Don Parvin said there was money left in the trail appropriation that was not and will not be used. He would like to pay for the merry-go-round out of this and then reimburse this fund with the fundraising money they get for the project. Don Parvin made a motion to purchase the merry-go-round for \$6,620.00. Rick Homkes said there is \$1,875.00 left in the Park Rehab appropriation that they will not be utilizing this year that could be used as well. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Jill Newby said Kaleb Hollingsworth donated mulch for the park again this year. Erica Parvin added to this by saying the Russiaville Babe Ruth League teams spread the mulch in the park this past weekend. Everyone agreed it looked nice and they did a good job. Don thanked everyone who helped including Rick Homkes who moved some of it from the bigger piles so it was easier.

Jill Newby said Makayla Lucas treated the ash trees in the park again. Jill said Makayla told her the trees looked good and she was feeling optimistic about them surviving.

Jill Newby had copies of the blueprints for the layout/setup of the course for disc golf at the Community Center Park. She also had pics of what the baskets would look like. The installer (Tommy) told Jill that they would need one pad poured and some signs. Tommy told Jill if we supplied the material for the signs, he would print them for free.

Don Parvin said there were a couple of the net placings that would interfere with future things that were planned. Jill said she would have them look into this. Don Parvin asked if the pad would be included in the \$2,500.00 price that was quoted at previous meeting. Jill said no it would be extra, and we would be responsible for that. Zach Parvin, present at the meeting, said usually it is a 4'x6' or 4'x8' pad, and it would not be that thick. Don Parvin made a motion to take care of the concrete pad for disc golf. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Jill Newby discussed the sand volleyball court. It started as an Eagle Scout project, but now that is no longer going to happen through him. Jill said she talked to some people about this. Jeff Davidson said he would donate the ground work that needed to be done. There will need to put in pea gravel, and then a special fabric, and they put down the sand. There were several other things Jill put out as far as information on the court. Greg Landrum suggested tabling this for now and looking into volunteers to install parts of this for next year to cut costs. Don Parvin agreed saying there were a lot of things to discuss about this further.

Jill Newby talked about the artwork grant for the Community Center Park. Jill had picture of what they were going to do for the artwork. She said Janna Hyman, park board member, brought the wheel artwork to light. Keeping with the

farming heritage, they would need about 20 wheels to do the artwork project, so if anyone has any, they would take the donation of them. They are looking at possibly doing the project this fall. Don Parvin made a motion to allow the park board to move forward with the art project. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Erica Parvin said Adam and Eric Shepherd are going to pick up the old merry-go-round this week and make a piece of art out of it also. They voted on it to look like a caterpillar. This will also go in the Community Center Park.

Streets and Wastewater – A written report was given. Paul Sattler was present. Jeff Lipinski said the flow at the wastewater plant is back down in the 60's. This is a very good thing.

Megan Reel said she got the jurisdiction of mileage report. Russiaville has 7.862 miles in town. This will help with tax dollars.

Marshal's Dept. – Josh Fulkerson, our new Town Marshal, introduced himself and had a written report. He explained that the Sheriff's Dept. had come to him and said they would no longer carry Russiaville PD on their RMS license (Calibur RMS), reporting system. Josh called Caliber to see what it would take to get us on our own. They were able take advantage of a grant and this lowered the cost to \$2,056.00 for the start-up cost, and then it will be \$1,228.00 per year to maintain it. This needs to happen before January 1st. Josh stated that if we didn't take care of this now, each license would be \$1,500.00 each. This is a necessity. There was some more discussion on this and how this will work, etc.

Pat Reel made a motion that we accept the Calibur program for the police department for the costs referenced above. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Josh Fulkerson told the council there were some other papers in their packet of new uniforms and vests that were previously approved. Jeff Lipinski asked Josh if he had been working on a schedule. Josh said yes and he would get it to the appropriate people at the first of August. The council said they have had several good reports about Marshal Fulkerson already.

Megan Reel said she had asked Josh about the cell phone that they paid for that the police department had used up to now. Josh said he does not need the phone. It is the only phone on our plan. Pat Reel made a motion to do away with the cell phone. Myrna asked why he didn't need the phone. Josh explained there was an app that if he needed to make a call it would block his number. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Greg, Don, and Myrna voting for passage.

Josh also said he has talked to Network Solutions (they hosted the PD website), Megan, and Rhiannon. Amongst them they have done away with the Police website (that looked awful anyway) and the email addresses. They will now just have a page on the townofrussiaville.com website and have their email addresses through there too. This will be better and save more money.

Josh Fulkerson said the engine light came on in the 2016 Tahoe. It is an O2 sensor, and it will get fixed soon.

Treasurer's Report – Written reports were given. Megan had nothing else to add.

Corbin King said we need to pass the annexation of the Community Center Ordinance on the first reading, and the Fiscal Plan.

Don Parvin made a motion to pass the annexation of the Community Center Ordinance # 2020-03 on the first reading. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin made a motion to allow the Fiscal Plan (ref. Ordinance 2010-06) for the annexation of the Community Center. Rick Homkes asked for clarification, wanting to know if this was all 9 acres. Corbin King said yes it was. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Sterling Johnson memorial – Don Parvin said the council would work on this further to decide what to do and a cost of what they would like. Don will bring up again next month.

ABC Insurance - Mike Schau and Terri Jackson were present from Brady Insurance to bring a quote to the town for insurance. Mr. Schau gave an overview of what they had put together.

Drainage – Don Parvin would like to increase the storm drain budget in MVH in the amount of \$30,000.00 on top of whatever we had set for next year. This will be for the drainage project on Chandler Street. Don Parvin made a motion to increase the MVH budget for 2021 in the amount of \$30,000.00. Megan Reel said we have set nothing in stone on our budget yet, so we could still change things. This is appropriation 201001363, the total will equal \$34,000.00 for it. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Back to the ABC Insurance – The council asked more questions and had more discussion on the matter with Terri and Mike. There are several things on our current policy that should not be and there are things that are not on there that should be. Jeff Lipinski said that if there were several things wrong with an insurance policy that he was currently supposed to be servicing, he would have his rear end here tonight giving an explanation of why these mistakes were made and what they were doing to solve it. No one is here from Ganger Insurance to make the effort.

Megan Reel said our options are to change totally to Brady Insurance with Mike Schau and Terri Jackson, keep what we have with Gangwer Insurance (agent and insurance), or keep insurance company but change agents. Megan said she spoke to another agent with Patriot Insurance to get a second quote, but the person she talked to said he would put us with the same insurance company that we currently have, but just transfer him to our agent.

Greg Landrum said what if we discuss this further if we are covered right now with the existing insurance. There was more discussion on the insurance.

Pat Reel made a motion to table the insurance to be able to discuss it further.

Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Greg, Don, and Myrna voting for passage.

Megan Reel said she needed to know what was going on soon as we have already basically renewed with the current company. She needs to pay the bill either to the current agent, or a different agent with the same company, or to the brand-new people.

Don Parvin said there is no comparison at this point with the insurance companies as there are things missing and need added on the current policy, adding however, that the current agency does not know when this will be done.

Don Parvin made a motion to change insurance agents to Patriot Insurance and stay with the same insurance company. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Jeff instructed Megan to call tomorrow and switch agents to Patriot so we can get a quote and get our current policy fixed. Don Parvin said he would like to have this done by the 31st of July if possible.

Farmers Market – Lexi Hunt was present to discuss possibly starting a farmer’s market here in Russiaville. Lexi had handouts for the council as to possible places to set up within the town. Jeff Lipinski asked when this would start. Lexi said it would be next year for sure. There is a lot of preliminary work that would need to be done. There was some more discussion on the issue. Jeff Lipinski said to bring her plan of everything next year, he thinks it is a great idea. Don Parvin asked about liability. Lexi said all of the other places that do this that she has looked into, the town takes on the liability.

Waiting period for health insurance – The waiting period is currently 90 days, but we have been asked if we would look into making it 30. Myrna Claar asked if we do this would it be for all employees, and if so, would we want to insure employees through their probationary period. Josh Fulkerson said he did not realize there was a 90-day waiting period for his health insurance to start. There was more discussion on this matter. Don Parvin said, in order to be fair to Paul, who waited 90 days for his dental and vision, Josh will get only his health insurance and wait 90 days for the rest. Don Parvin made a motion to make an exception for Josh Fulkerson and allow him to have health insurance only at 30 days. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Moving forward it will be 90 days unless an exception is made by the council.

Ordinance 2020-02 Amending the fireworks ordinance – There are some dates that needed to be change to align with the Dept. of Homeland Security. Don Parvin read the specific days and times allowed. Don Parvin made a motion to

pass Ordinance 2020-02 on the first reading. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Personnel Policy – Don Parvin asked that Megan send out digital copies of this to all employees and council members. If anyone wants it printed out, ask Megan. Don Parvin asked everyone to review it and note any changes that they may have. We will revisit this in the August meeting and hopefully pass it soon. Corbin will look at it as well.

Comments from guests:

Chris Rust (407 S. Union St.) was present to request more speed limit signs down there by his house. There is only one after the tracks going south.

There are no 50 mile per hour speed limit signs indicating where it would start.

Jeff Lipinski said the 50-mph sign would be outside of town, so that would be county. He is concerned that people do not slow down coming into town, and speed up too quickly as they go out. Jeff Lipinski said he had just talked to Marshal Fulkerson about this very area right before the meeting. Pat Reel will look into this and talk to Ted Cain about this for the Howard County Highway side. Don Parvin will look into this for the town side.

Zach Parvin (360 N. Union St.) was present to ask about the noise ordinance. He has a dirt bike that he ran around his yard for maybe 30 minutes, and before he knew it there was a deputy at his door about it. He was not violating the noise ordinance.

Comments from Council:

Don Parvin said:

-Carter Street drainage project was done.

-Don Parvin asked Kent Milburn, who was present, if he was satisfied with the work that had been done with his yard up the side of Carter Street. Kent said he was.

-The 4 drains that were put in are working great

-The rip rap in Western Heights was put in by the retainage wall – it looks great

-West Main Street sidewalk project was started today, should be complete in a couple of weeks

-Main Street lighting project on hold – negotiating with Duke Energy on this

- Duke Energy was called for 3 street lights that needed repaired – they are done
- Drainage on Chandler section was dredged – if the budget allows in 2021, we can complete it
- Pat, Don, and Greg met about Mike Vary's driveway holding water. Crenshaw said he wouldn't do it. So, they are waiting for Baumgartner to get back with them about it
- Wastewater plant expansion is in progress
- The wastewater plant gate needs to be locked after hours. For people to have gate unlocked on a weekend – they need to see their district council member Don Parvin made a motion to have the wastewater plant gate locked after hours and on weekends. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

- town vehicles will be locked
- Don told Jill if there was a need for another project, the train at the Interurban Station and the picnic tables need to be stained again.
- tree trimming will be done before school starts
- Indiana American Water moved the pit in the alley across the street from the Police Dept.
- The new Ford truck is here
- Don would like Jeff to talk to the County about putting a gate up at the New London plant site. There are people dumping things back there.
- Fall trash cleanup – Don wants to make sure it happens. He would like Corbin to look into it if they tell us they are not doing the fall clean-up. They canceled the Spring one due to COVID, but Don feels they breached their contract.
- Residents must put trash into bags before they put it in their trash containers. This helps with there not being trash all over the streets when the trash truck dumps them
- Residents should not blow grass out into the streets. It is unsafe and it plugs up the drains in town.

Still working on future projects:

North and South Union Street sidewalk projects

Major drainage

New Town Hall, Police Dept., Fire/EMS Dept.

Interurban restoration

Community Center playground and shelter

Greg Landrum asked what constitutes a sidewalk being improved or replaced. Jeff Lipinski said usually money. Jeff also said we could enact the Barrett Law, where the town would take care of half and the homeowner would take care of half. We may be met with a lot of resistance with that though.

Greg Landrum said there are 2 properties on North Union down by his house where the vegetation has grown out into the sidewalk area. What can be done about this? Jeff Lipinski said we could give the homeowner an amount of time to take care of it and if they don't, we can come in and trim it off our easement.

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

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk-Treasurer