

Town of Russiaville, Indiana  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
April 20, 2015

The Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order by President Jeff Lipinski with Vice President Don Parvin, Council Members Cindy Aeschliman, Rob Hewitt, Greg Landrum and Town Attorney Corbin King also present for the Council. Kent Milburn offered prayer.

Residents in attendance included Bob Green, Jeff and Sharon Smith, Kent Milburn, Bob and Debbie Hill, Jr. O'Neal, Mike Huffer, Denny Stout, Marsha Berry, Rick Homkes, Rhiannon Thompson, Linda Schermer, Pat and Megan Reel.

The first order of business was a discussion concerning regulating the use of golf carts within town limits. Jeff Lipinski read the proposed ordinance. Don Parvin, who prepared the proposed ordinance, informed those present that the State allows towns to regulate the use of golf carts. One of the regulations proposed would require drivers be licensed. A gentleman whose only transportation is a cart and has a state identification card but is not licensed to drive a car asked where he would be in the equation. Jeff stated in his opinion there are always waivers and allowances that can be made. Summerfest was identified as a special exception. Pat Reel noted that we have several residents that come from Forest on golf carts and they would need to obtain stickers. The concern is that there has been an increase in the number of golf carts in town and an increase in the number of children driving them. The main intent is to do all that is possible to prevent someone from getting hurt. Lights, turn signals, inspection with stickers and insurance are some considerations. There may be different regulations for driving after sunset. Fines will probably be progressive with each violation with an established procedure for collection. Marshal Roger Waddell stated that the intent is not to enforce a fine on the residents but for safety. Bob Hill and several of those in attendance were in agreement that regulations are needed. Greg Landrum was not in favor of regulations. He would like to see parents be more responsible for the safety of their children.

The Planning Commission will meet to discuss business signage.

Roger Waddell, Zoning Appeals Board Chairman, has requested that the Council appoint Dustin Redding to the vacant position on the Board. He has talked with Dustin concerning the position and Dustin has done through research on his own and will be an excellent addition to the Board. The Council voted to approve the appointment of Dustin Redding to the Board of Zoning Appeals on motion made by Don Parvin and seconded by Greg Landrum.

Mike Kanable talked with the Council about the drive cut at Linda Crail's. He is of the opinion that the Council should talk with her. They also discussed just taking care of the cut.

Marsha Berry was present to say that the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Palm Sunday tornado was attended by over 140 people. It was a very nice event that had a wealth in information to pass on to those present.

The Interurban project is to be completed by the end of the month. There is electrical work and landscaping yet to be done and OCRA will be approached about restructuring the grant which will allow it to be closed on time. John Russell and Jr. O'Neal have inspected the building behind the interurban and are of the opinion that it is a good structure and worth salvaging. Marsha was pleased with that opinion because there is a need for the space and restrooms. Master Gardeners will put the interurban

on their June program. This will offer advertising that will be advantageous in letting folks know what is being accomplished here. There are books for sale on the destruction and rise of the community. Kirk Smith has also written a new book on the fairgrounds. Rhiannon Thompson offered the Historical Society a spot at Summerfest free of charge.

Rick Homkes who is a member of the Park/Tree Board discussed the grant available through the Community Foundation for the landscaping which is scheduled to be done May 11<sup>th</sup>. The Western High School Senior Class will be in Russiaville on May 18 with a May 19 rain date for the Fourth Annual Give Back to the Community Day. Linda Schermer said the First Baptist Church women have for the fourth year taken on the responsibility of feeding the Senior Class at the Community Center. The group that attended last month's meeting concerning the gardening and market will not be proceeding with the plans this year in Russiaville. Matt Johnson is looking into pressing seeds at the Community Center Park. There is an opportunity for more tree planting through the IDNR Grant. About \$4,000 is still to be spent. The Interurban will be one area that will benefit.

Patching has been delayed but will begin soon. The County will begin making hot patch Apr 15. Properties in Town need to be mowed for the first time by May 1 or a letter will be sent.

It was noted that Kyle Smith is doing a very good job and learning the various areas quickly. The Seniors will help again this year with street cleaning. The hot box needed new tires. The plan is to use the tires on the Chevy truck for the hot box and purchase new tires for the truck. The Council approved this plan. The playground equipment will be checked for repairs or replacement parts before the festival.

The speed limit on town streets was discussed. Bob Hill and others believe that 30 is too fast. Roger Waddell explained that to legally change a speed limit a traffic study must be done by a traffic engineer.

Roger Waddell presented the Marshal's Department Report. The Little League Parade will be May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. this year and will follow the same route as last year.

Don Parvin and Jeff Lipinski will meet tomorrow to look at street lights.

Jeff stated that the Indiana Regulatory Commission has approved the sale of the Water Utility.

((Cindy Aeschliman and Greg Landrum made a motion concerning the potential grant for the New London wastewater project. The Council approved the motion. ???))

The West Point Christian Church has asked permission to hold a prayer meeting in the Park again this year. The Council approved the request.

There is court action being taken to release the demolition order for the house on North Street.

Don Parvin has asked for the north south alley between North St and Kinsey Street to be opened. He would also like the Council to prepare a list of the top five streets top believe are most in need to resurfacing.

The Council also needs to consider a hydrant fee charge.

The ditch on Chandler Street is also being addressed. Don Parvin has talked with Davidson Excavating and Dave Ebling about the project.

Waste Management has set the dates for the major spring and fall cleanup. They are May 19 and September 22.

Verizon will continue to be our cell phone carrier with the police phones and the Utility staff will be reimbursed \$35 per month for using their private phones for business use. Arrangements for an approved method of payment will be made.

There being no further business claims were presented and approved and the meeting adjourned.

Jeff Lipinski, President

Linda Downey, Clerk Treasurer