

Town of Russiaville, Indiana  
Regular Council Meeting  
Russiaville Town Hall  
February 26, 2018

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

Corbin King, Town attorney, was also present.

Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting, and gave prayer.

Minutes from last months meeting were presented and approved.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable stated that he was approached by Bob Hill, who would like to put up a fence in the alley next to his house. Bob Hill was present at the meeting. Rob Hewitt stated there was a wastewater line that ran through that alley. Rob also stated that he didn't have a problem with Mr. Hill putting the fence up in the alley as long as he understood that if there was an issue with the wastewater line and we needed to dig it up after the fence was there, the fence would have to come out to do what we needed to do. Mr. Hill said it would be fine and he understood. Mr. Hill said he has maintained the alley for the last 35 years, they would just like to include the alley within their fence. Rob Hewitt made a motion to allow Mr. Hill to put the fence up in the alley. Don Parvin said Mr. Hill must get a permit from Mike Kanable to put the fence up, and seconded the motion. The motion carried with Rob, Don, and Kyle voting for passage. Mr. Hill understood this too. Rick Homkes asked if Mr. Hill would put the fence down the middle of the alley as there is a residence on the other side of the alley. Mr. Hill said "yes" he would.

Mike Kanable stated he had no other new business for the plan commission.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No one was present to report.

Russiaville Historical Society – Kirk Smith was present and gave a short presentation of several Russiaville Icons in history. Daniel Henry Jones is buried in the Russiaville Cemetery. He captured the confederate president and may have lived where Don Parvin does now on Union Street. He has no more family left.

Kirk would like some sort of memorial for him to be placed in the Town. Don Parvin would like to take this under advisement and decide what would be appropriate. Council agreed. Jeff Lipinski asked Kirk about Hugh Strouss, and asked if he knew if Hugh's son's name was Levi Strouss. Kirk said he was not sure but he would check.

Park & Tree Board – Jill Newby was present to report. She stated they were putting together community day this year for the Western Senior class. It will be May 8<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of May 9<sup>th</sup> this year. She said that Linda Schermer from the Baptist Church offered to do the meal again to feed the seniors at the community center. Don Parvin made a motion to have the Town pay for the meat from Waddell's for the meal. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Jill said she needs jobs for seniors if we have any or know of anyone who needs something done.

Don Parvin said he looked at the park master plan and it was ok.

Don Parvin asked about the window tinting at the community center. Jill Newby said Reba Casler had talked to the company that did it and they were just waiting until the weather is warmer, it works better when windows are warm.

Don Parvin asked about the flag for the Community Center. Jeff Lipinski said he was approached about there needing to be a flag inside. We will look at getting one and a stand for it ordered.

Rick Homkes said they did get the "Feed a Bee" grant. It is for \$2500.00. This will be used for 3 way-side gardens around the recreational trail. They will have nectar plants for pollinators.

Summer Fest – No one was present to report. (Rhiannon Thompson came in later and reported she had no new business)

Streets & Wastewater – a written report was given. Craig Thompson reported that he had gotten a quote from Brock's guttering to do the eaves and downspouts on the pavilion. The quote was for \$720.00. Don Parvin made a motion to go ahead and accept the quote and get this done. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

The Christmas banners were taken down.

Don Parvin brought up the holiday schedule for the Town's holidays off. The Town workers would rather have ½ days off for Christmas Eve and New Years Eve instead of full days, but also have president's Day off. Don Parvin made a motion for the change of this on the holiday schedule. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Craig Thompson reported on the road at Third and Kinsey streets. Steve Carter has broken down the road in this area as he goes into his farm field here. Craig said this road was just paved in 2015. Crenshaw Paving is going to fix it when they come do our loads this summer. Craig said he asked Steve Carter to put gravel in this area, Steve said he thought it was the Town's responsibility. We will talk about it with our attorney and decide what to do.

Ethel Morgan was present to report on the New London grant project. Ethel gave Craig the plans and specifications that were submitted to IDEM for approval. Construction permit application copy was given to Megan. Jeff has 2 copies of an amendment request going to the SRF program that revises the PER, we increased the pipe sizes from 4" to 6". We discussed this a few months ago. As a result of this, Ethel increased the cost of the project a little over \$100,000.00. They will be doing soil bores next week along the route. Previously it was talked about to extend a gravity line north, we cannot do that because we do not have enough slope and grade to be able to do this. We are just going to put a manhole at Stucker's house on 775 West. They are looking at taking bids in May and closing the loan in July. They need to get bond paperwork done for the SRF. Steve Brock and Ethel are still working SRF to try to get this as a 100% forgivable loan. If this doesn't go through New London's rates will have to be higher to pay for this. Ethel is hoping this will be able to be forgivable. She had a copy of the amendment she will submit tomorrow.

Ethel said the base bid will be a directional drill, and the alternate bid will be for an open cut. Right now, bid prices are coming in high. Hopefully by May they will be down some.

Jeff asked about getting clarification about drilling under the road. Ethel said they did, and once they exhaust all other options they could drill under the road.

Don Parvin said the paving grant should be done in April or May and we can get the money to get the roads done. All paperwork is finished.

Don Parvin also thanked Davidson's for putting together the CPR class and allowing us to be a part of this. This class is every 2 years for recertification.

Don Parvin would like to meet with Megan and Jeff about the budget. Rob, Don, Craig and Dave need to meet to talk about the road grant for 2019. Randy, Dave, and Don need to meet to talk about parking ordinance. The sidewalk at the police station will be started when the weather breaks. Don is still waiting on the bid for the interurban station for the ADA compliant sidewalk/ramp.

Marshal's Dept. – Written report was given. Randy Vannatter said there was an addition to the report for the board members, so that they could see the 69 calls he made during the previous month. This way they know where and how much he was doing. Rob Hewitt asked how many working days Randy had for these 69 calls. Randy said about 16, he did not have actual he did not have that in front of him.

Randy Vannatter said when Carl Swan was on Logansport he was a K-9 handler. Logansport let him keep this dog and Randy would like to bring his dog on our police force, and have 2 dogs. Rob Hewitt asked how old the dog was, Randy stated he was 5. Carl said he would continue to pay for the dog's food. The only thing the Town would have to pay for is the liability insurance. It is about \$130.00 per year. They know where they can get a cage pretty cheap. The dog came from Denver, he was \$13,000.00. His name is Niko, and he is just narcotics and tracking dog. He is not a bite dog. Don Parvin made a motion to allow Niko to be on our police force with the appropriate monies to be spent. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Rob Hewitt asked if the new Durango was up and ready. Randy stated that it is, and they are using it now.

They are still working on training Jeff Davidson. Carl has been working very hard on getting him trained. They are hoping to have him ready to go by the first part of April. Then they can get Niko working.

Randy also said we should buy or lease Niko from Carl for \$1.00, and then Carl would be able to buy him back for \$1.00 when he or Niko retires. Rob Hewitt made a motion to lease Niko for \$1.00, and Carl can have him back when one of

them retires. Kyle Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Rob, Kyle, and Don voting for passage.

Treasurer's Report – written reports were given. Megan Reel stated that she had written all the checks to the people that she could find for the water meter deposits. The rest of the money (\$735.00) was transferred in to the water utility operating fund. This is what the SBOA instructed her to do. Eventually the water fund can be gotten rid of and transferred into the general fund.

Megan Reel also stated that she had been getting audited for the last few weeks. One of the things that she got in trouble for was the fact that some council members had received monies from their yearly salaries in advance. They will only be able to get money up to the point that they have worked.

Corbin King reported that he was working on paperwork for Jeff Davidson to do tax abatement. Jeff Lipinski interjected that he had been approached by Steve Jones on doing a tax abatement too. Jeff Lipinski also said since we just spent a lot of money on the TIF District in Mr. Jones' area this would be up to the board. It is a lengthy process, but Corbin will get the application and there will need to be a resolution and redevelopment area. There will need to be a public hearing. This will be the same thing for Mr. Jones.

Corbin King also had a letter to Steve Jones for the signage that he wants to put up at his new Tri-County Travel Trailers location. The signage was grandfathered in to his original permit and he will need no other permit for this. He must still follow the rules of where to put the sign according to set backs and height requirements.

Corbin King also said Rob Hewitt had talked to the people that Steve Jones needed to have the easements for. Corbin has a call in to the surveyor to get the proper legal descriptions for these properties. Corbin thanked Rob for getting this done.

Corbin King said he would get with bond council for Ethel Morgan for New London project.

TIF – Meeting was held on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Rick Homkes reported that they had done all the necessary paperwork to set up the TIF District, including boundaries. Jeff Lipinski said that Howard County Commissioner, Paul Wyman came to the meeting and asked questions, Randy McCracken from Western School Corp., and Honey Creek Twp. Trustee also called Jeff to ask some questions and be involved.

Phone contract – Jeff Lipinski and Megan Reel decided to go with Comcast for the new phone contract. This will save us about \$600.00 a month, to NOT renew with AT&T. Megan stated Comcast would be here on February 27<sup>th</sup> to install.

Dave Kieser – The zoning fees that were previously passed will need to be advertised. Megan Reel will get that to the newspaper in the morning for advertisement. Dave said the Storm water preliminary engineering report is about 90% done. They are going through the environmental on that. Dave also said they are going through design on the community park and trail project. They will be meeting with the park board in the next few weeks to go through the actual layout and design. They also need to go through the easement with Corbin King for the baseball and softball fields.

Sidewalk and lighting project - Rural Business Development Grant program, we have to apply between March 1st and April 30<sup>th</sup>. The match for this is 80/20. Interurban depot ADA ramp project, Dave and Don have been in contact with Jr. O'Neal. Jr. will be getting a bid for this to Don in the next few days.

Dave Kieser said that he got quotes for sound deadening at the Community Center. Carpeting would be between \$7,000.00 - \$9,000.00. He also got a quote for sound deadening panels, this would be \$4,000.00 - \$5,000.00. Council will take this under advisement.

Dave Kieser will work on demo plan for the garage at 345 E. College Street. It is caving in and it needs to come down.

Ordinance 2018-01 establishing an advisory park and tree board. Don Parvin made a motion to pass this on the second reading. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Ordinance 2018-02 for the planting and maintenance of trees. There are a few corrections that will be made. Don Parvin made a motion to pass this on the second

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

Chicken ordinance – tabled

Plaque – Linda Downey was asked who's name she would like to have on the Outstanding Community Service Award for 2017. She stated that she would like to have Roger Waddell on this plaque. Don Parvin made a motion for Roger Waddell to be recognized and his name put on the plaque for this. Kyle Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Kyle, and Rob voting for passage.

Megan Reel interjected that she had given Kyle Parvin her bank reconciliation for the month of January to look at and sign off on that the balances match what I have in the fund program. This is something that SBOA while they are here auditing said needed to be done. This will be given each month with the docket and claims for the council to look at.

215 E. Seward St. – Chris Coopriider and Heather Pickens were present to ask permission to be able to put horses on this property. The ordinance says you have to have 5 acres to be able to have any livestock animals now. This property is 4.67 acres. They want to purchase the property at 215 E. Seward St. contingent on the idea that the council will change the ordinance and allow them to have horses within the 4.67 acres. They do have a purchase offer in on the house, so are on a bit of a time crunch. After some discussion, Dave Kieser and Corbin King will work on this and have an answer to them by the next council meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

EMA Agreement – Don Parvin made a motion to accept the agreement for 2018. Rob Hewitt seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Abe Rayl was present to report for the Lions Club. He reported on all of the things that the Lions Club does for the community. They are trying to be a little more visible within the community. April 14<sup>th</sup> is their fish fry this year. March 19<sup>th</sup> is a public meeting at the Lions Club, the Russiaville Historical Museum will be speaking. They are looking to welcome women into the Lions Club. Jeff suggested they put up a booth at Summer Fest to get info out about the Lions Club. They would like to

put a sign up on 26. Jeff and Don said we can try to help with this. This would have to do with the state.

Rick Homkes has an issue with people going through the alley by his house and cutting the corner into his yard. He wanted to know if he could put a big rock there. Council said it is not a good idea to put a rock there. Don Parvin asked Craig Thompson if he could help with putting some stone there and try to solve the problem. They will work together to make it better.

March 7, 2018 at 6:30 pm there is a Church and Community meeting at the Community Center for the community. The people and the businesses in the community will join together to discuss the needs in Russiaville.

April 4, 2018 at 6:30 pm there will be another meeting called Helping the Addicted at the community center. There will be speakers at both of these meetings.

Ordinance 2018-03 for unregistered and unlicensed motor vehicles. Don Parvin made a motion to accept this ordinance on the first reading. Rob seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Ordinance 2018-04 for flood hazard areas. Don Parvin made a motion to accept this ordinance on the first reading. Rob seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Rob, and Kyle voting for passage.

Emergency Storm Tree removal – Don Parvin and Mark Rice are working on this and he will get is together for the next meeting.

Don Parvin asked why the Fire Department contract hadn't been signed and presented by RVFD. Megan Reel stated that she had contacted Landen Bartley about this, and he said he would get it taken care of. However, we still don't have it completed by the Russiaville Fire Department. This contract should have been signed in December of 2017 for the 2018 contract.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, the 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