Town of Russiaville, Indiana

Regular Town Council Meeting

July 20, 2015

President Jeff Lipinski opened the Regular Town Council Meeting with prayer at 6:00 p.m. on Monday July 20, 2015. Also present for the Council were Vice President Don Parvin and Robert Hewitt. Don Parvin made a motion to move the time of the meeting back to 7:00 p.m. Rob Hewitt seconded and the motion passed with Don Parvin, Rob Hewitt and Jeff Lipinski voting for passage.

Mike Kanable, Executive Secretary of the Planning Commission, was present to report that he has issued three new home construction permits to Majestic Custom Home Builders this past month. It was also noted that Section One of Honey Creek Hills Subdivision is full with thirty six homes!

Roger Waddell, reporting for Dustin Redding, Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals, stated there is not new business.

Marsha Berry arrived at the end of the meeting to report for the Historical Society. She stated that the grant process was complete and work on the inside can begin.

Josh Welch and Rick Homkes were present for the Park and Tree Board. The DNR Grant process was completed June 30 with ninety one trees planted in Russiaville! Sixty seven trees were planted on the new park grounds, twelve near the Western Heights Subdivision retention pond, five at the Russiaville’s Howard County Branch Library, three at the Historical Society Building (Interurban), three in front of the Community Center and one at the Town Hall. Josh also reported that a cigarette disposal container had been purchased. Seeding the park grounds is in the works for this fall. The walking trail around the park property is the next focus with an eventual aim of connection with the rail connection from Kokomo to Lafayette. Mr. Welch presented a plan for a part time employee that would be responsible for the scheduling and cleaning of the Community Center. The proposal would allow someone to be available to show the Center to potential renters and this would require no more than twenty hours a week. The $120 currently paid to a custodian on a monthly basis would be part of that salary. Don Parvin stated that the Community Center is not self supporting. It is a great idea he thanked the Board for all their efforts. There have been some very good things happening. It was noted that taking advantage of the social media would get the word about the availability of the Center. Jeff Lipinski stated he appreciated the work of the Park and Tree Board and the excellent work with the trees and plans for the walking path. He also stated he is not proud of the issues with the Community Center and that this Council takes full responsibility for some of the problems. However the Center is a good venue for a variety of events.

Rhiannon Thompson reported that there have been two movies in the park and eleven are scheduled. They are offering for sale pop, popcorn and candy. A tractor pull is scheduled for July 25. A food vendor will be available. The Summerfest Committee is working toward a Christmas event with more information to follow.

Craig Thompson presented the Streets, Water and Wastewater Report. There are problems with the west tank skimmer arm at the wastewater plant. Currently, both tanks are back in service. Jeff asked that the pot hole at the Post Office be filled. Craig noted that the flow at the wastewater plant is up significantly because of the eighteen inches of rain we received in June. This is due mainly to sumps and downspouts illegally connected to the sewer system. The sink hole on Union Street and North Street is worst. The drain on Kinsey Street and Union Street has been repaired but is still running slowly. The holes at Honey Creek Hills will also be filled. Craig Thompson was given approval to sell the salt box for between $400 to $600. On motion made by Don Parvin and seconded by Rob Hewitt repairs on the Kubota of $1,843 were approved.

Roger Waddell presented the Police Department’s Report. The heating and cooling system in the oldest police car is in need of about $1000 worth of repairs.

Jeff announced Indiana American Water is still waiting on the Indiana Utilities Regulatory Commission for official approval of the sale of the water. Jeff has made contact with them and legislators in an attempt to get the process moving. It has all been approved but needs the signatures of that Commission. Jeff will be leaving for vacation the end of this week and would like to see the closing completed when he returns.

Don Parvin stated that the Planning Commission needs to present their proposal for an undated sign ordinance for the Council to consider.

Don also reported that Chrystal from Duke Energy is preparing figures for additional street lights.

The Historical Society office building is in need to repairs because of water damage.

The sponsors for the Kokomo Jackrabbits Baseball Team would like to have a Russiaville Day at the ball park. The best day for scheduling that is July 31st.

The Council Members who are available will meet Monday evening to review the Utility Worker applications.

The stickers necessary to register golf carts were discussed. Rob will meet with the Police Department to figure out the specifics. Notice for registrations will be on the sign and throughout Town and a thirty day grace period will be given.

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

Jeff Lipinski, President Linda Downey, Clerk Treas.