

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Town Council Meeting
February 17, 2014

The regular meeting of the Russiaville Town Council was called to order by President Jeff Lipinski at 7:00 p.m. on February 17. Vice President Don Parvin, Council Members Cindy Aeschliman and Rob Hewitt were also present. Greg Landrum was attending to his ill mother. The weather was the determining factor in Corbin King's absence. The minutes of the previous meeting were presented and approved.

Mike Kanable was present for the Plan Commission and reported no new business. Kent Milburn reported no business for the Zoning Appeals Board.

Josh Welch was present for the Park & Tree Board. When you eat at Chiles this Thursday all day you have an opportunity of have 10% of the cost of your meal donated to Russiaville's Parks. The Grant Agreement paperwork has been completed and returned. An application for funding to complete the landscaping of the center circle is being made through the Howard County Community Foundation. Josh asked the Council to consider an updated sign ordinance which would, among other things, help control the length of time the yellow signs can be out for advertising for business or personal use. Jeff stated that Kokomo has just passed a very stringent ordinance controlling signage and, although we do not want to be that strict, we may be able to use it for some general guidance. Mike Kanable and Corbin King will be asked to look into this situation. It was also stated that the Park & Tree Board has requested the Council to dissolve the Community Center Committee. Attorney Corbin King will be contacted about the necessary steps involved to dissolve this committee. The Park & Tree Board is looking at planting trees in conjunction with Earth Day or Arbor Day. Everything depends on the weather. Most of the trees will be planted at the Community Center and the Historical Society building. The plan is to apply for more grants that are available annually.

Craig Thompson presented the Streets, Water and Wastewater Department Reports. He reported that the furnace at the Community Center was not installed to specifications, which is the reason it has not operated properly. The specs called for 18 inch ducts and 14 inch ducts were installed. The duct work can be changed or additional return air ducts can be added. The least expensive repair is the additional air return which will cost over \$4,000. On motion made by Don Parvin and seconded by Rob Hewitt the Council approved the repairs to the air return on the community center. Quality Repair will be doing the work. Corbin King will be contacted concerning legal action. Craig Thompson informed the Council that he is giving two week's notice. He will be working for The Town of Rossville. Craig was congratulated on his new position but it was also noted that he would be missed and the job he has done for the Town is greatly appreciated. Craig stated he would be willing to stay on a temporary basis to sign the water reports. Jeff asked Matt if he would be willing to do testing at both plants. It was noted that the two wastewater facilities require a lot of work but Matt stated he would do what he could. The Fourth Street lift station is down. Replacement of the box will cost between \$1,500 and \$3,000. On motion made by Rob Hewitt and seconded by Cindy Aeschliman the Council voted to have Huston Electric replace the box. It was also noted that about \$2,700 was left from the project after reimbursing the Town for Millennium Environmental Services. Don Parvin noted something needed to be done immediately financially with the Wastewater Facility. He asked for recommendations. The Council agreed that a rate increase will be addressed. Jeff Lipinski was pleased with the potential for grant funding to connect the New London facility to Russiaville. The system at New London may need replaced in five or ten years and this would be a good fix for that problem.

Roger Waddell presented the Marshal's Report. He reported that Larry Smith has retired as EMA Director and Janice Hart is the new Director. He also noted that his position on that Board is up for reappointment.

The updated appraisals for the Russiaville Water Utility and property were presented for approval on motion made by Rob Hewitt and seconded by Don Parvin. The motion carried.

The Council discussed investing the monies received from the Estate of Gene and Wilma Parks. Some of the local investment agencies will be contacted to aid in that decision.

The Council will address the necessary 2014 budget cuts.

March 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. is the date for a public hearing on the potential sale of the water utility. This will take place here at the Town Hall before the Regular Council Meeting

Joe Scott was present to discuss connecting his farm with Russiaville's water and wastewater. The fees and method of those taps were discussed. The Clerk will check the ordinances to verify the cost. The Scott's are in the process of selling their property and the shallow well currently on the property could be an issue with potential financing. Matt Armstrong will get with Joe Scott concerning the best location for the taps. It will also be necessary to determine the depth of the sewer line. Craig stated the cost of the connection could be close to \$2,000.

Don Parvin would like the Council to meet to discuss some of the details of the Water Utility sale.

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

Jeff Lipinski, President

Linda Downey, Clk.Treas.