

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Public Hearing
Town Hall
January 25, 2021

Council Present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Myrna Claar, and Greg Landrum.

Jeff Lipinski opened the public hearing.

Ordinance 2020-06 was read. This ordinance is to amend Zoning Ordinance 2017-05 for section 5: the use district regulations for R-2 and R-3 Districts. This will change some of the setback requirements and certain things that go along with them.

Don Parvin made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-06 on the second reading. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin made a motion to suspend the rules and pass ordinance 2020-06 on the third and final reading. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-06 on the third reading. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

The public hearing was closed.

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Town Hall
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Jeff Lipinski opened the meeting.

Jeff Lipinski said prayer, mentioning Cindy Aeschliman and her family. Cindy recently passed away and was a member of the town council for 12 years, from 2006 through 2018.

Don Parvin led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Election of officers for the 2021 council – Pat Reel made a motion to have Jeff Lipinski remain as council president for 2021. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Pat Reel made a motion to have Don Parvin remain as council vice president for 2021. Greg Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Greg, and Myrna voting for passage.

Don Parvin made a motion to close the nominations, Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Dave Kieser was present to discuss the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) that is due February 28th, for the sidewalk project on South Union St. This is 85% federal with 15% matching grant. Dave would like to go for around \$97,000.00. Jeff Lipinski asked if TIF funds could be used for our match on this project. Dave said yes, he thought it could be. This will be on the west side of South Union Street. Jeff asked the distance of the sidewalk. Dave said it was 1,459 lineal feet. Myrna asked if there was extra money left in the grant where could we use it. Dave said he would come back to the council to discuss it, as long as it is in the same general area we could do more where the council sees fit.

Don Parvin made a motion to have Dave Kieser apply for the RBDG grant for the project. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Dave Kieser said the Wastewater Plant project is still in process.

Dave also said they are still waiting on funding and working with Duke Energy on the Main Street lighting project. There is a RCI program that may work for this. Dave said there are grants for the interior of the Interurban Station that are due on March 2st through Indiana Heritage (\$50K) and Indiana Landmarks(\$10K), he hopes to apply for.

Minutes from December meeting were approved.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable was present to report a shed permit for Thomas Gunning.

Mike also said Fire Pizza has been talking to him about possibly building on to the North end of the existing building.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No business to report

TIF Board – No business to report

Historical Society – Jan Koloszar was present. She said there was some money that came in for memorial for Jim Arbuckle. Jan put it in a savings account for now and maybe one day can do something nice with it. Jim was a big part of the Historical Society.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby left a report as follows:

January 2021 Park and Tree Board Report
To the Town Council

The Park and Tree Board had a virtual January meeting via Zoom.

* We are continuing to seek out ways to raise money to match a DNR grant for a shelter and playground at Community Center Park.

* We did receive touch up paint for the merry go round to use when the weather warms up. Megan has it at the Town Hall.

*The Disc Golf Course is completed and Tommy Ray said the Tribune contacted him about doing a story and took pictures of the Disc Golf Course. It should be in an upcoming Kokomo Tribune issue.

*We are continuing to work on the old merry go round project and the crane sculpture for Community Center park.

* Erica Parvin purchased a Santa Clause mailbox from Gene Park Funds to be used by the town's children at Christmas time.

*Rick Homkes compiled a list of possible Eagle Scout Projects to give to the Boy Scouts. Jill Newby suggested they be told that funding was the Scouts responsibility.

*The Town Council should have before them the 2020 Accomplishment Report and the 2021 Project Goals and Objectives of the Park and Tree Board. Please let me know if you have any questions about either of those reports.

* I would like to ask permission to apply for a Subaru Grant for the Sand Volleyball Court for Community Center Park. The grant is fully funded and no matching funds would be needed. The maximum grant allowance is \$15,000. They only want to fund projects that would be completed with this money within a year. They have approximately 300 requests per grant cycle. It would be a long shot, but it would cost us nothing to try and if successful our project would be fully funded. The grant application is due in March.

*We would like permission from the Town Council to have the Senior Class of 2021 Community Day this May. My daughter, Kendra Metcalf, and I have spoken to Mr. McCracken about it. He has given permission, but some aspects, such as lunch, would have to probably be modified. This is of course all dependent on what Covid has in store for us. We will come up with a tentative date soon.

Thank you for always being supportive of our projects.

Jill Newby

Streets and Wastewater – A written report was given. Paul Sattler was present.

Marshal's Department – Josh Fulkerson was present, and had a written report. Josh stated that when he went to get the handheld radar guns recertified, they did not pass, and therefore they do not have any to use. He has a quote for a new one from Stalker for \$1,310.50. Josh said they could get by with just one for now as they are pricey.

Don Parvin made a motion to buy a new radar gun for \$1,310.50. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Myrna, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Josh Fulkerson had a quote for a 2021 Dodge Durango. This would work the same way it did with the 2019 Dodge Charger with the payments. There would be 3 spread out over 3 years. The quote for the vehicle without the equipment is \$34,052.00. Josh is still waiting on the equipment pricing, but said Carl Swan put together a rough estimate for the equipment and thought it would be around \$12,000.00. Josh said he would outfit it just like the charger so the police fleet would be more uniform.

Greg Landrum asked why we needed a new car. Josh said the 2010 Tahoe is outdated and needs to be replaced, and the 2016 Tahoe is having a few issues but would be ok for a backup car. He wanted to bring this to the board so they had plenty of time to decide before we had to do something.

Pat Reel said it is possible that we could use CARES Act money that was deposited into the general fund at the end of 2020. The money is not appropriated for 2021, but we can appropriate it in 2022, which is when the first payment would be due for the new vehicle. Pat also stated that since we received the money from the CARES Act grant for the reimbursement of public safety wages, this would be a good thing to spend the money on as it is for the police department. Don Parvin said it would work out well, as we would pay the final payment for the 2019 Charger in 2022, and then would have that extra money from the CARES Act to make the first payment on the 2021 Durango if we decide to do so. Josh said he would look into selling the 2010 Tahoe to cover some of the cost for the equipment for the new car.

Josh Fulkerson introduced Blake Armfield. Blake told about himself saying he is working on a law enforcement degree at Vincennes University. Blake thanked the council for this internship with Russiaville Police Department.

Carl Swan asked the council to reconsider the K-9 program. Carl had a couple of instances where a K-9 would have benefited some of the calls he had and be an asset for the town. Carl would like to look into grants for funding for a new K-9 with the council's permission. Don Parvin had some reservations about this, as under previous administration with this program, was not ran satisfactorily in the council's opinion. Pat Reel said he feels this program would not be run like the previous one. There would be some definite guidelines for the program in writing.

Myrna Claar asked Carl about Niko. Carl said that Niko has been completely retired and now enjoys hunting golf balls. Therefore, we would need to seek out a new K-9 for the program.

Pat Reel made a motion to allow Carl to look into grants for a K-9 and bring it back to the council. Greg Landrum seconded. After some further discussion and questions, Pat Reel rescinded his motion. Greg Landrum rescinded his second as well. Pat Reel suggested ironing out details first with Carl and bring it back to the council before Carl starts looking for grant money.

Jeff Lipinski was concerned about jumping in too quickly after the last dog issues the council has had to deal with.

Don Parvin would like to work out details with Corbin King, so we don't get burned again.

Treasurer's Report – A written report was given

Personnel Policy – Council will meet on February 16th at 3:30pm to discuss this.

647 E. Kinsey Dr. – Megan Reel stated that at last month's meeting, a letter was to be sent to Ricci's at 645 E. Kinsey Dr. to remove their rocks and ornaments out of the town's easement along the road. As she was looking into this, it looked like the easement was actually an egress and was not sure what to do as she didn't know if that was the same thing. Jeff Lipinski said to have Corbin look into this and have him call Jeff about it.

New London hookups – The people that were interested have not asked about it anymore. Jeff said to remove this from the agenda for now.

Ordinance 2021-01 to amend sewer rates due to scrivener's error. This was brought about and explained in the December meeting.

Pat Reel made a motion to allow Ordinance 2021-01. Myrna Claar seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Myrna, Don, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin made a motion to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2021-01 on the second and third readings. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin made a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-01 on the second and third readings. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Arbor Day Resolution # 2021-01 was presented. It will be April 30, 2021. Pat Reel made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-01 for the declaration of Arbor Day. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Greg, Don, and Myrna voting for passage.

Sean Smith, a town resident, was present and asked if the new vehicle would have a perp cage. Josh said yes it would. Mr. Smith also said he hopes that the council looks at Carl's service and thinks a K-9 would benefit the town greatly.

Don Parvin said the Park Board asked about getting a Subaru grant for the sand volleyball court at the community center. Don Parvin made a motion to allow Jill

Newby to try to get a Subaru grant for the sand volleyball court. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Greg, Pat, and Myrna voting for passage.

Don Parvin said Jill Newby asked about having senior/community day this May if Covid allowed. Don Parvin made a motion to allow senior/community day this year if Covid restrictions allowed. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Don, Pat, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin had a list he had been working on to possibly get more street lights up here in town. There are some dark areas. This would be 25 new lights and 3 new poles according to the list. The rest would be on existing poles. Council said to pursue and proceed with this. The lighting project from the 775 W. lighting we have been paying for the last 7 years will be paid off in February 2021. Pat Reel said the 3 new light poles would go one Fourth Street, at the north end of East Street (at the dead end), and Carter Street where the alley comes out.

Don Parvin asked the council about the drainage project that was discussed last year. We got a quote from Davidson Excavating, council would like a second quote on this too.

Don Parvin said he talked to Crenshaw Paving about paving the alley behind the bank and the alley between the tax office and AT&T building. Council said they would like another quote for this from Baumgartner.

Don Parvin asked about redoing the section of pavement behind the Town Hall where the recycle bins sit. The council was not in favor of doing it at this time.

Don Parvin asked about paving the alley from East Street to Union Street just north of Kinsey Dr. Myrna asked why pave the alleys. Don said there are benefits to paving the alleys. The council did not think they wanted to pave anymore alleys paved in residential areas. Jeff thinks it causes people to go faster on them. Jeff also thinks it would create more drainage issues if we pave the alleys. Pat thinks if the town workers had a land plane, they could grate the alleys. We try to keep stone in them. Greg thinks it would be a nice thing, but there are better things we could spend the money on.

Don Parvin thanked the Howard County for the donation of the drinking fountain for the park. We will get the water line run for this when it is time to put it in.

Don Parvin wants to get mulch for the Community Center Park trees, this way maybe they will not hit the trees and tree signs when they mow. It will cost about \$1,000.00. Pat Reel said if we are going to mulch, we need to stop spraying roundup around the trees too. There is a bare ring around everything. Pat Reel made a motion to get the mulch. Don Parvin seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Don, Myrna, and Greg voting for passage.

Don Parvin wants to have the bagworms in the trees at the Community Center Park sprayed. After some discussion the council decided not to spray the bagworms at this time.

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

Jeff Lipinski, President
Megan Reel, Clerk-Treasurer