



Town Council Meeting Minutes
April 24th, 2024

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Larry & Alice Randolph, Dean Smith, Dana Rutter, Avery Ferguson, Matt King, Vernon Miller, Haley Hurst, Patty Meyers, Rita Van Voorst, Jake Oberlin, Addison Miller, Jim Winkler, Traci Oeasch, Jeff Lewis, Maggie & Jerry Mask.

Dean Smith made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 10, 2024. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved.

Water: Avery presented a quote from Utility Supply Company. The quote is for a pallet of meters, total cost is \$37,440. We have a decent number of old meters in our resident's homes. When I have time, I'd like to start changing out these old meters and install new ones. Matt said, he and Austin would gladly assist Avery with this project. With the old meters, we're actually losing revenue. The new ones will read more accurate and help grow our revenue. Avery mentioned, most of these meters are on back order. For instance, Ben put in an order for two meters back in April of 2023, and I just got them not long ago. So, it'll take a while to get all of these meters, and they may come in different shipments. Dean asked MacKenzie if we have money for this purchase. MacKenzie said yes, ARPA can cover this. Dean made a motion to approve the expense. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to buy a pallet of meters.

Avery explained to the council that it would like to purchase a new tool box and tools. Avery said, the ones that were left to him are not in great condition. Avery said it's in between 700-1,000 for a decent tool box. Larry asked where Avery is looking for the tools. Avery responded, Harbor Freight. MacKenzie was asked if there was money to support this expense? MacKenzie asked Avery if he would use these for both water and wastewater? He said yeah. MacKenzie said yes, we'd just split it 50/50. The council gave Avery an approved expense to purchase tools and a tool box for \$2500. Dana seconded the motion, upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to purchase tools and a tool box.

Wastewater: Avery said everything has been running pretty well. There's a quote to get some plumbing work taken care of. It's not a simple fix, some of the copper pipes are corroded and it causing leaks. The quote is for 950.00 from Schmucker Plumbing. Dean approved the plumbing quote. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved.

Community Development: MacKenzie mentioned she will start compiling newsletter information and try to have it submitted to Terry from Mapleleaf Printing Friday.

MacKenzie presented the Letter of Interest for the Stellar Pathway Grant application. MacKenzie asked the council to sign the letter so we can apply for the submission. She reminded them, this is going to be a process. All council members signed the Letter of Interest and so did MacKenzie.

Dana asked MacKenzie about the large trash day. MacKenzie said she reached out to Eric to have him confirm whether the items in the green box would be accepted. There was some confusion because there was pricing written by the items. MacKenzie said she'd reach out to Eric again and let everyone know.

Maintenance: Matt started by asking how much money do we have to redo South Jackson Street near the Lumber Yard entry/exit? He also asked for information on Rail Road/Cook Street. MacKenzie said, Matt I'm glad you brought that up. I forgot to mention I spoke with Rick from Triad. Since the paperwork wasn't completed in a timely manner, Triad said they would resubmit the grant for us free of charge for the next call in July. Can these roads wait until then? Matt said, no. He and Austin have patched the area so many times and since a lot of these roads are utilized by large/heavy trucks, he doesn't think we can wait any longer. Matt said he would get quotes from Niblock and Pulver. From there, we'll wait to see these quotes and what the Town can afford for the repairs.

Matt said he is still waiting back on a reply from INDOT about the permit access drive on SR 13.

Marshal: Robert said Ray isn't here, he's at training. Robert began mentioning we've tagged a lot of vehicles. A total of 17. Most of them have complied. Robert downloaded Indiana Code for tagged vehicles and allowed anyone to take a copy that wanted one.

We have an ordinance for junk/trash on the property and will be enforcing that.

We also have a noise ordinance and will enforce this one as well.

There's an ordinance for weeds and tall grass, this is another one that will be enforced.

Robert wanted to mention a revisit on establishing a chicken ordinance, if it's something that town resident's truly want. Robert said, we are aware of about 5 residents that currently have chickens. Robert believes, depending on how all or a majority of the resident's feel, we can construct a firm ordinance and establish rules and regulations for chickens. Dean said we are

more than open minded to revisiting this subject. Dana suggested it would be a great idea to go out within our own wards and find out what people want. All council members agreed this would be a good idea. Let's have a public hearing discussion about chickens and get some feedback. It was decided May 8th will be a public hearing about this.

A question was brought up about the side by sides and ATV's driving on public roadways. MacKenzie said she talked with Ray, he is fine with the County Ordinance and will comply with what they have. Therefore, we do not need to establish our own ordinance Ray told MacKenzie.

Park: Vernon said weeds and grass are all growing like crazy.

Vernon said I am going to need more limestone for the walking path. I am thinking I'll need another two loads. Vernon already asked MacKenzie if there was money there to do this. MacKenzie gave Vernon the okay. Vernon said, since it'll be \$600, I wanted to get approval from you guys first. Dean made a motion to approve the expense. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved.

The trees are in and hopefully we can plant them tomorrow. Vernon said he called 811 and they will not service us since it's on our own property. So, we have to do this ourselves with a metal detector and what not. Matt said he could try to help or call a private company to do this for us. Matt said he would contact one of the places tomorrow to inquire more.

Vernon said the health department is coming out for an inspection tomorrow.

Vernon is asking for a couple of loads of dirt/soil. He said the company that supplied us with this last year never billed us. So, he said he would add that to our current billing. Vernon said again I've already asked MacKenzie and she said that is fine. The council was okay with this expense as well and all approved it. We don't know the exact dollar amount, but they were fine with it.

New Business: Rita started by saying, I think you all know why I'm here. She said on Lincoln Street, which is where my home is located, there is an empty lot across from me on the east side. There is always a lot of children that play within that area and the traffic is getting really bad that way with vehicles constantly speeding. Rita said, I just don't want to see anyone get hit. Dean asked, is there a particular time when the traffic picks up? Rita said it starts about 4am and then it's heavy in the afternoon too because of the RV factory. Matt said, I see it all of the time too. Rita said, there's a little less than a month of school left, then these kids will be out and about everywhere. Robert said we have the speed monitor there right now and Larry has asked me to go sit on that road and I have. I think it may be a good thing to consider adding a

stop sign. Making it a 4 way stop there to help slow down or break up traffic. Robert said, I'm just trying to explore some different options. Larry asked Rita, do you have a picture of that car? Send it to Robert. Robert said he would monitor that area more when he's on duty. Dean said go ahead and write some tickets. Rita asked, you give them a ticket for being 10mph over the speed limit, right? But if they're only 3 or 5 over, can you give them a warning?

Dean said, note to all town employees I need to meet with you all after the meeting is adjourned.

Patty Myers said I have a neighbor on the corner who has no respect for her neighbors or the town. There are always large items or trash on her sidewalk and it's an eye sore. Larry asked, did anyone get ahold of Larry Yoder? Matt said he tried contacting his son but he wouldn't pick up his phone. Larry is apparently still in Florida. Dana said this topic has come up before and we were trying to contact the landlord about this issue, he told Patty. Larry Randolph said he would call Larry Yoder himself. Large trash pick-up day is June 15th, so trash shouldn't be sitting out yet.

Pastor Jeff and Traci are here on behalf of Sonshine daycare. Jeff introduced himself and Traci (the director). Jeff said, I want to share a little bit about the ministry. Sonshine has been intact for 34 years. Currently they serve 20 families and only have 4 employees. Traci has been the director for a year and a half. Sonshine takes children from the age of 2-12. It's Christian Ministry and teaches Christian values providing a safe place. There is learning time for the children and instructors to provide basic education to them and Bible teachings. So, back in the day, Sonshine was funded by 4 or 5 churches. Currently, it does not operate this way and hasn't for a while. Right now, Zion and Rockrun are the involved churches. Per their budget, Traci has been able to fundraise \$30,000 for Sonshine. Just to give you some insight when a town has a daycare in it, this substantially benefits the area for the community, parents, and workers. It's actually a large investment to have. Nation wide studies state for every 1.00 investment the return is 6.00. Jeff said and here's the good news, I've been here for 6 years now and so many good things have happened in Millersburg. I want to help ensure there is a place in the community that is available to create an opportunity. I think you probably know; we were able to have the roof redone and we are working on redeveloping the restrooms. A number of generous gifts came from people in the community. Why I'm here is to say, we need some help. I got involved because I don't want to see the daycare disappear. We don't have the funding like we once did. We want to meet the needs of the ministry, children, and workers. We want to pay a fair wage to the employees. The daycare is open from 4:30am-4:30pm, that's 12 hours, and that's crazy, with only 4 employees. Good things are happening at the ministry and a lot of improvements have been made. If there's any way, we'd just appreciate some help. Dean asked MacKenzie if there's anything we can do for them. MacKenzie I'm not certain, let me reach out

to the attorney and see if we're allowed to make a donation. MacKenzie told Traci and Jeff, she would let them know as soon as she gets a confirmed answer for them. Dana asked Jeff if Sonshine was a non for profit? Jeff replied yes. Dana said ok. Jeff also mentioned, Sonshine is not registered by the State, which is a good thing because it gives us more freedom in relation to what we can teach the children. Also, everyone we hire we run a background check on then and we have firm rules established.

Larry asked Haley Hurst about the sink hole. Haley said, it's been about a year and I haven't heard anything more from it. Let me text Colton and ask. Haley got a response from Colton saying the sink hole is still there.

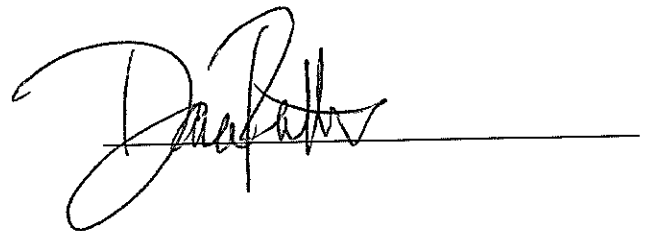

Larry said, there's a drain by Mike Kimberlin, can we open that up so water can run? Larry said, the last big rain we had water was so deep in that ditch. Matt said, I hope that culvert isn't plugged too. Larry said there's major water and flooding in that area. Matt said we can take a look at it.

Jeff mentioned, just to let you know as well we are having another fundraiser at Sonshine. We will be selling pulled pork/hot dogs and also if you have any items to donate to Sonshine please bring them down.

Old Business: Larry said RDC will pay \$50,000 for the land purchase and the Town will pick up the other \$20,000 (This is something that still needs to be voted on by all town council members). Waiting on the state to verify. Matt said he will try again tomorrow. Dean said we will table this for next time.

Dean made a motion to pay bills. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to pay bills.

Dean made a motion to adjourn. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to adjourn.



Attest: 