

Town of Millersburg
201 W Washington St.
Millersburg, IN 46543

“August 10th, 2022 Meeting Minutes”

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Millersburg was called to order at 5:00pm on August 10th, 2022 at the Town Hall by Jim Winkler.

Present

Jim Winkler, Dean Smith, MacKenzie Taylor, Ben Eldridge, Matt King, Ray Rodriguez, Jessica Frye, Haley Hurst, Rick Pharis (left at 5:17) and Chris Godluski.

Approval of Minutes

Jim Winkler previously made a motion to approve the board minutes for Wednesday July 13th, 2022. Dean Smith seconded the motion and upon voice vote the minutes were unanimously approved.

Water: September is the last month of the “summer sprinkling credit.”

Wastewater: This isn't waste water related but Haskin's was here today and they fixed the drain issue we were having outside of the Town Hall. Ben tested out the drain by opening up the fire hydrant and flooding it with water. Everything went down the new drain as planned. Ben called Rick and jokingly told him he's considering contractual labor for TRIAD and who should he send his invoice to? Rick told him; he'd pay it out of his own pocket. Then, Ben said he felt bad.

Matt asked Ben if it was okay for him to trim up the mulberries that are growing against the fence? Ben said, not at all have at it. I've had three bouts of poison ivy this summer.

Community Development: Enhancing Millersburg will work on maintaining the downtown area. Their larger focus is on business retention. Ben is pushing to get some new business owner's here in Town.

Vibrant Communities met last week at the Goshen Theatre.

We had Connect Elkhart County a couple of weeks ago which I am pretty excited about.

Ben requested to talk with the Council after the Council Meeting.

Maintenance Director: This is an updated copy of Ordinance 2022-09 the guidelines for limbs and brush. The Council took some time to read over the ordinance. Jim asked Dean and Matt if they were okay with what was stated in the Ordinance. Dean and Matt agreed with the ordinance

guidelines. Jim made a motion to waive the second reading of ordinance 2022-09, Dean seconded the motion to waive the second reading of ordinance 2022-09. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to waive the second reading. Jim made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-09, Dean seconded the motion. Upon voice vote Ordinance 2022-09 was unanimously approved.

Matt said, he has been in talks with a local farmer to help him get the overpass cleaned up. Previously, Matt said he used a brush killer but it didn't necessarily do anything. He plans on looking for a better chemical. Matt said the gentleman is a member of the Lion's Club and was okay with donating his time, material, and equipment to help get it cleaned up. Matt was also going to reach out to Kirby about chemicals to treat the overgrowth on the overpass.

Matt mentioned they have had to plug tires more than ever this year. The factories seem to be leaving screws/nails on the road (probably by accident) but they are not cleaning up.

Matt said they have some hot patching to do, now that the weather has cooled off. The street sweeper will be coming in on the Wednesday and Thursday before Farmer's Day. They will clean Washington Street along with the overpass.

Ben asked if we ever reached out to "Friends of the Park" about coming to a council meeting? MacKenzie responded, no she dropped the ball on that one. Ben said, he's talked with a couple of people that are in charge of concession stands and the ball tournament. These people are being told by friends of the park (Floyd Abney) to pay them rent for using the Town's facilities. Ben reassured them, absolutely not, do not pay unless it's a donation that you are wanting to give friends of the park. They are not able to charge rent for the Town's property. Especially, since the Town does not charge friends of the park to use Cook Station Park, our Steet Department, our Police Officer's, and our utilities. It's unacceptable.

Police: Ray said, the speed monitor will take 45 days to have it built.

Jim asked Jessica about the letter that was sent to Joni Miller, when was it sent? Jessica looked through her phone and determined the fifteen (15) days is up. Jim told Jessica to send the resident's a citation. They have not cleaned up their weeds, trash, junked vehicles, 18-25 tires and a tailer. Jessica said, the next step is to fine the homeowner and they have seventy-two (72) hours to clean up the mess. If they do not, then the Town will. Jim said, in his own back yard there was a piece of 4x4 steel fence from the neighbors. There was also a bag from the lawn mower that was in his back yard. Jim took the items and put them back in Joni Miller's yard.

Ray said Robert is getting with the humane shelter to go to the neighbors of the Town Hall's home about the 5-6 dogs they keep in a small contained area.

Jim said he talked with Jim Long about the Maple Street apartments and trash that tenants are leaving. Jim Winkler told Jim Long he's been given verbal warnings many times and there are

no more. If this happens again, Jim Long will be the one fined for his tenants not cleaning up their trash. Jim Long asked Jim Winkler if the Town employees could just go knock on the tenant's door and asked them to clean it up. Jim Winkler told Jim Long; your tenants are not our responsibility.

Clerk: MacKenzie gave Jim a letter from the Election Board about the cost to the Town for the upcoming election. The Town was informed to budget seven thousand dollars (\$7,000). Jim asked MacKenzie to call Chris Anderson and find out why this is so high and what did the Town pay for the previous election.

MacKenzie asked the Council's approval to work with Jim Higgins, a CPA for LWG. This work will be in relation to the URT. MacKenzie told the Council we have two options, we either lower customer rates (this would only be by thirty (30) or forty (40) cents. With lowering rates, we will spend just as much money on the advertisement and time for the hearings. The other option is for the Town to retain that money and use it on future improvements. The Council agreed it would be more beneficial and less money to retain the money and use it on future improvements. Jim Higgins cost to complete the URT for the Town is five hundred dollars (\$500). Jim Winkler made a motion to approve the URT with Jim Higgins, Dean Smith seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved.

MacKenzie sought out approval to re-hire Joe Wells to complete the assets for 2021-2022. Joe promised MacKenzie the cost of one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,800). This would be complete asset services and Joe Wells would be responsible for answering all questions to State Board of Accounts. This is something the Town has to have. Jim Winkler gave his approval to rehire Joe Wells for asset services, Dean Smith seconded the motion to rehire Joe Wells for asset services. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved.

New Business: Chris Godluski brought an ordinance created by Craig Buche and Jim Colbus. This came about a couple of years ago because there was a situation with Wakarusa. There was a challenge on the agreement of services so this ordinance is updated from the one we had in place previously from 1959. We thought this would be a good way to give precise outline of our services and agreements with Cities and Towns. So, all Town's have their own junk, nuisance, abandoned vehicle and tall grass. County will provide services for zoning, subdivision, unsafe and building departments. The County will charge and retain any permit fees that are completed on their end. Chris said, if we'd like we can read it over and try to get it adopted some time in September. Jim agreed that would be completely fine. We will plan on adopting it on September 14th.

Jim Winkler read aloud the letter received by resident Carl Wheeler. Carl could not be in attendance because of health issues. He wrote stating that the speed limit on Main Street is too fast. It should be lowered to 15mph at all times. Carl also asked why couldn't there be a speed bump? It was acknowledged that there are speeders on that road. The Town has a new speed

monitor ordered so maybe it'd be a good idea to have a monitor set up along that road. The Town can also enforce going the proper speed limit.

Jim asked Matt what he was thinking about C&P Oil? Jim said, gas has gone down but we're being over charged through C&P. Jim told Matt that's okay for him to continue to get diesel fuel but no more pulling off the pumps. Matt is to tell C&P oil that they are done doing business with them. Town employees are to use their Town credit cards for fuel purchases. Jim asked if he found a solution. Matt said he hasn't been able to find another solution yet. He tried contacting Co-op and Country Mart during the fair week but hasn't gotten a response. Matt said, he will reach out to them again and see what the better option would be.

Dean asked Matt if he had any plans for the alley behind the Legion? Matt said whoever is awarded this next bid for CCMG, I wanted to talk to them about doing a separate bid. Jessica asked if she could suggest an idea. Jessica explained at the Vibrant Communities Meeting held last week they talked about beautifying the alley and connecting it to the art alley and restaurants. Someone said, since the Legion is closing, they are supposed to be cleaning up the back area. Someone else said, it'd be a good idea to get in Purdue Extension for Master Gardner's and have them do something with the back alley.

Adjournment

Jim Winkler made a motion to pay bills. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon voice vote it was approved unanimously. Jim Winkler made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon voice vote it was unanimously approved. The next general meeting will be Wednesday August 24th at 5:00pm.

X

Jim Winkler
Council President

X

MacKenzie Taylor
Clerk Treasurer