

Town Council Meeting Minutes February 12, 2025

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Larry Randolph, Dean Smith, Dana Rutter, Avery Ferguson, Mike Dull, Corey Oberlin, Gale Gerber, John Veenstra, Robert Roa, Ray Rodriguez, and Vernon Miller.

Dean called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Dean made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 22, 2025 and January 24, 2025. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the meeting minutes from January 22, 2025 and January 24, 2025 were unanimously approved.

Water: Avery began by saying water is okay. The automatic switch has been fixed and we are just waiting on a bill.

The hydrants that were approved at the last meeting or two, we should have a firm date set in April to have these completed.

Avery mentioned he is still working with TeleData on the camera system out at water. MacKenzie would like to get all departments switched over to Verizon internet. Brightspeed has not been great to work with.

Avery said this falls under both water and wastewater. The 2016 truck is having some issues. Avery isn't positive if it's the transmission or if it's electrical, but he'd like to get it checked out. Dean asked if it's drivable? Avery said it's been becoming more and more frequent with the issues that keep coming up. Dean gave Avery permission to get it checked out and see what's going on.

Wastewater: Avery said, there's no big issues going on with the wastewater treatment plant besides some freezing. Avery assured the council it is nothing he cannot work through.

Avery has classes every week up until the spring conference. He has the approval letter to take the test for his wastewater utility operating license.

Avery said he got the vacuum pump. Tina has been using it and says it's working well for her.

Community Development: MacKenzie asked everyone to please have their newsletter information submitted to her by March 7 so she can get everything compiled and sent to Terry at MapleLeaf Printing.

Maintenance: Corey said he called to have the backhoe serviced because he was getting close to 400 hours. The service coordinator told Corey they won't service the backhoe until it hits 500 hours.

Kirby did the tree work. It looks much better and is safer.

Corey gave the town council his new cell number.

Dean asked Corey if he had an update on the fence? Corey said not really, he brought the gate up there and said he'd be back when it's consistently in the 30's.

Dana asked about the tire machine? Corey said, yes got out of it what you asked for.

Dean told Corey and Mike he's had several people approach him about the streets and they all comment on how well you guys are doing.

Marshal: Ray gave a copy of the Flock camera quote to the council. Ray said the installation is for \$15,000 and the cameras will be \$12,000. The \$12,000 will be the annual fee, then. Ray said he saw MacKenzie having a Zoom meeting with Verkada and asked if he could sit in on their meeting on the 25th. Ray is interested in comparing prices. Avery mentioned, Ligonier has Verkada. Larry asked, how are they? Avery said he wasn't sure, he only knows they have them.

Park: Vernon said it's the same as it has been. He's just waiting for warmer weather so he can start doing some tree cutting. Vernon said he is still hopeful for the two-acre property.

Clerk Treasurer: MacKenzie gave the council the agreement for legal services through Yoder, Ainlay, Ulmer, and Buckingham. Dean made a motion to approve the agreement for legal services through the year 2025. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote legal services with Yoder, Ainlay, Ulmer, and Buckingham were unanimously approved.

MacKenzie gave the council the Notice of Award document. The Notice of Award is for the 2024-02 CCMG, Niblock was the lowest bid at a total of \$130,340.35. The Town Cost is \$32,585.09 and the INDOT share is \$97,755.26. Dean motioned to accept the Award Notice to Niblock for the CCMG 2024-02. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the Award Notice was approved and awarded to Niblock for the CCMG 2024-02.

Old Business: Avery informed the council the Nipsco pole for Timber Valley is moving forward. Avery has marked everything out and notified the homeowners of the light pole.

Avery told the council Cutting Edge is having discussions about removing the light pole and adding lighting on their shop. Avery said every now and then he will get a locate and then they cancel. Larry mentioned if the pole is removed the speed limit sign would need to be relocated. He said he would have Corey take a look at that.

New Business: Dean announced to everyone he would like to take a moment and ask Corey if he would be interested in the Department Head position for the Maintenance Department. Dean acknowledged, you have pretty much been doing this for many months already. Corey accepted the Maintenance Department Director Head position. All council members approved Corey Oberlin to be the new Maintenance Director Department Head. Everyone congratulated Corey for the promotion.

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.

Dean Smith

Council President