

Town Council Meeting Minutes  
July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Austin Turner, Jim Winkler, Jessica Frye, Robert Roa, Matt King, Avery Ferguson, Haley Hurst, Steve Ecker, Moe Yoder, Larry Randolph, Rick Pharis, and Crystal Welsch.

Jim Winkler called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Jim made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Austin seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**New Business:** Crystal started by saying she is with Abonmarch Consulting. Crystal and Chris Godluski met last week and went over the Millersburg Comprehensive Plan. She gushed that the comprehensive plan is very well done. What we find at Abonmarch with these comprehensive plans is it's hard to incorporate everything if you don't have enough staff or volunteers. We work with municipalities to help provide technical support and also gather committees to help implement your goals and ideas.

We put together a little survey and wanted to try this outreach to the residents to see if you'd get more of a response. Over three hundred surveys were sent out to residents and only received twenty-eight responses. The survey can be completed online or we can mail it out. This is a great way to find these goals and receive community input on what they want to see happen. Then, once we have responses we can help form these committees and get some momentum going. We notice this with a lot of municipalities. They work hard and put together this beautiful plan, then it's like how do we implement this and it ends up just sitting on the shelf.

Remember there are short-term and long-term projects. It's important to celebrate every win. Crystal said, overall, I wanted to come here and introduce myself and explain the difference services and assistance we offer. I do think there are some real grant opportunities out there for you guys. Also, make a tally sheet, tell people about what you have done and what you are implementing. Sometimes, people don't realize the progress, especially when it's been drawn out.

MacKenzie told the council, she was really excited about this again when Crystal and Chris presented this survey to her. MacKenzie stated she really wants help and community involvement in moving forward.

**Water:** Avery started by saying he found a hydrant that can be used for the fireman's water ball challenge. Avery should be able to get a sufficient read for the water loss report.

Avery mentioned, Bontrager Security will be coming out on Monday at 8:30am to redo codes and get a quote for more camera installation.

Taco's 9 Juan Juan is wanting to use the old Legion building as their base of operation. They will be using the kitchen area and then move everything into their food truck and take it to whatever location they go to. This is a letter to the Elkhart County Health Department stating we are aware that they will be using the kitchen and their operations won't interfere with our sewer system. They are told in the letter they are not to perform any hazardous dumping that would disrupt the waste treatment plant. Dean will need to sign this document. Jessica asked Avery if they will set up their food truck in Millersburg. Avery said, he was unsure.

**Wastewater:** Avery said, everything looks pretty good. We just need to tweak a few things. There's some equipment and maintenance that needs to be done. I need some new testing equipment that would make it easier for Tina. The supplies for this around \$800.00. Austin and Jim gave Avery permission to spend \$800.00 to get whatever new equipment and testing supplies he needs.

Harley did speak with Avery about getting some scales to weigh the chlorine tanks. Avery said, he bought four-bathroom scales and it was a couple hundred dollars. Eventually, we need to get larger scales... those run about \$2,000 apiece. Another issue we have been looking at is the chlorine pump. It doesn't seem to be feeding enough. It's been discussed to install a new one. Harley said he would get a quote from Stouder and we can also look for a quote elsewhere if need be. Jim said, he would like to see the pump he is looking to put in. Jim commended Avery on doing such a good job taking over for utilities.

**Community Development:** MacKenzie showed Jim and Austin the Elkhart County Amish Country Guide. Within the guide an article was published about Millersburg. MacKenzie asked the council if the town could sign a two-year contract with the visitor's bureau to have two more articles published in the future. The price for one year (if we lock in now) is \$2,950. MacKenzie will apply for a grant and they would cover half of the cost for this publication, like they did this year. Jim asked, what did they do for us? MacKenzie said, it's a good way to get our name out there and hopefully draw people into this area. Jim and Austin approved this two-year expense for publications.

**Maintenance:** Jim asked Matt what's been going on? Matt stated they fixed a drain by the old elevator that has been collapsed for some time. Floyd is now selling that property.

It was discussed whether or not we should try again for the CCMG. Applications close the end of this month. MacKenzie assured them \$100,000.00 was safe to use out of EDIT. Wastewater Drive was discussed to put on the list but Rick confirmed it isn't on the State list to use for CCMG.

Matt stated the Street Department is looking to get rid of the uniform services. This is costing the Town about \$90.00 per week. The driver is very inconsistent with when he shows up.

**Marshal:** Robert had a quote for new tires on the Durango squad car. Jim asked Matt about the quote. Matt said he knows a guy that he should be able to get them at a lower cost. Jim and Austin said, if the other quote isn't over \$950.00 then they will approve to get it done.

Robert asked if anyone has seen or heard of any safety issues in Town, if so, please get with him.

The speed monitor has been moved.

We are all eager to see how the 4 ways stop on Elm and Jefferson works once school is in session.

Austin Turner stated the fire department will be sitting out at the park for Farmer's Day. He asked if the Town could have some reserves out there for it too. Jim asked, did Friends of the Park make this request? Moe said, Friends of the Park spoke with him in regards to this. Last year before Farmer's Day there was someone out in the park doing donuts in the lawn. Jim said, it would be nice if Friends of the Park had a representative here at the meeting to discuss this with us or personally ask our police officers. Robert said, he will be working on this.

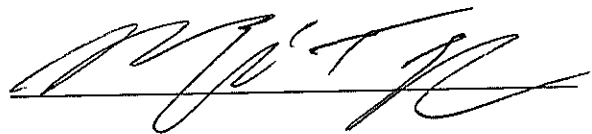
**Park:** Vernon said the health department wants there to be a three-hole sink in the concession stand. Vernon said he found one at a resale store for \$150.00, but it was too small. Vernon will continue looking for a better size.

There was a discussion about a lack of signage going into Cook Station Park. Matt said he will put signs up that the Town has.

Jim asked if there was any fencing up around the pickleball courts. Vernon said there isn't but this has been brought up before. Something to think about.

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Robert", written over a horizontal line.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jim", written over a horizontal line.

