

Town of Millersburg

Meeting Minutes

July 13th, 2022

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Millersburg was called to order at 5:00pm on July 13th, 2022 at the Town Hall by Jim Winkler.

Present

Jim Winkler, Dean Smith, MacKenzie Taylor, Ben Eldridge, Ray Rodriguez, Matt King and Haley Hurst.

Approval of Minutes

Jim Winkler made a motion to approve the minutes for Wednesday, June 22nd, 2022. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon voice vote was approved unanimously.

Water: Matt told Ben the addition to the water plant looks amazing. Ben said, thanks and tomorrow they will be adding heat.

Dean asked Ben if there's an issue with the generator not working or something. Tina told Dean about it the other day. Ben said no, why? Someone asked if we lost power at the sewer plant? Ben replied nope the generator was running like it should be.

Wastewater: Jim said, I'm curious and I can ask Matt too. How big is our brush pile? Matt said it really needs to be burned again but we need it to be perfect so we don't catch any grass on fire.

Community Development: Ben informed the Council about an INDOT grant that has 5 billion over 5 years for trails and bike paths. The one thing a lot of people want here in Town is a walking path or trail along 137. A lot of people enjoy walking alongside the railroad but it's a little risky. A lot of vehicles don't follow the speed limit and there's blind spots when the sun is setting. There will be a meeting with other Cities and Towns in Elkhart County on July 28th. We'd like to figure out how to connect with Bristol and Middlebury, apply for a grant together and start working on a path that can connect us to one another. The key is to work with other Town's and Cities to get the most grant money awarded. Chris Harrison from Common Wealth Engineering will be going with me to this meeting. Hopefully, after that we can start planning together and submit our application on September 25th. It is an 80/20 match. Hopefully, this grant will make us

become a bigger player in the playing field. At the first meeting with the different Cities and Town's in Elkhart County Wakarusa and Millersburg were left out. We have the smallest budgets in Elkhart County and aren't able to do what these other larger Cities and Town's do.

If we get this grant, it'll be a good planning project to work on during the winter and then in spring make it an action plan.

Maintenance Director: Jim and Matt talked about the fuel situation. C&P Oil is charging the Town 6.05 a gallon to pull of their pumps. Reminder, this contains no ethanol. Matt said he can buy gas for 4.69 a gallon at Marathon. Ben said, this is the reason I have been using the credit card to get gas in Goshen. Goshen City negotiates through Country Mart, its pros and cons. You can lock in a certain price for 2022 but if gas prices drop or heighten then you're stuck with the price that was negotiated. Matt mentioned he is fine with looking elsewhere for fuel and not using C&P Oil. Matt did request to have a diesel fuel tank on site so they can fill up their mowers and leaf vac. The leaf vac will go through about 20 gallons a day when its out running for the season. Matt offered to call Co-op and Country Mart to try and set something up with them and see what sort of municipality deal they could give the Town. Jim asked about the money we spend on fuel. The Town does budget a lot of money, so far, we're pretty spot on with what they spend for being in the 7th month. There are about 60% funds left for MVH and 55% left in General.

Matt said he has plugged the tires on the lawn mower for the park three times. He said, this seems to be happening after Forest River has an event in the park. These seem to be roof staples, the large U-shaped ones. Matt suggested rigging up a magnet holder behind the mower to try and pick-up left-over metals/objects. This would be a good idea to prevent someone from accidentally stepping on one.

Matt said, they've been working on the chipper. Matt thinks they need to do something different because hauling limbs taking a lot of time in their work day. Matt said, limb piles are getting out of control. We normally have one guy picking up little piles or one in the tractor while one is in the dump truck. Jim acknowledged it's been a different year with changes that have been made. Matt mentioned, it'd be nice to have a piece of ground somewhere and a chopper. Matt is still recovering from knee surgery and feels like they are behind because they are a person down. Jim asked Matt how old the chipper is? Matt said, we got it in 1998. Ben said, the Town received a grant for it from IDEM. Moving back to the limb subject. Jim said, we should not be taking anything larger than 6-inch diameter. Matt said, even 4-inch is a struggle. It wares on the knives. Jim asked Matt if he would be okay with 3- inch diameter? Jim asked Dean his thoughts. Dean said, in his

opinion it should be 3-inch diameter. It was asked if we need to put together an ordinance? The answer was yes.

Jim asked about bids for the CCMG. MacKenzie read the text from Rick Pharris stating they will get bids out in August.

The tractor should be coming here in February or March and we plan on paying for that all up front. Dean asked, can you keep the old one running until then? Matt said, he's been having work on it.

Jim asked Matt about the entrance to the park. It was stated that the maintenance department can more than likely move the rock from one spot to the next. Jim said the rocks are located on Town property. Can it be moved over about 3 feet? The answer was, yes. Jim said, I didn't get a chance to look at Joe's property. I see buggies go around it.

Matt informed the police that he ordered more golf cart crossing signs because people are driving on SR 13 and shouldn't be. Ray says, anytime Robert and I see someone out there we inform them that they are only to cross at the designated crossing areas.

Police: Ray asked, do we want to think about getting a Town card for Robert to put gas charges? Ray told the Council he normally gets gas in Goshen but Robert is still pulling off of the pump. Jim said, let's wait until we make a definite change. Dean said, well, depending on what way we go. If it's going to be 2-3 months out, he needs one. MacKenzie offered to let Robert use her Town credit card for gas purchases. Council said that would be fine for Robert to have MacKenzie's card until the gas situation is figured out.

Haley asked about the speed sign. Does it record the average? Do we currently have a record on it? Ray, said the new one will record this one does not.

Ray asked permission to look into getting a new hand held. The ones they have right now are fixed into the cars. We can ask the "sign guy" when we meet with them. Apparently, we can trade in the old ones for newer ones. The one we have is about 30 years old and doesn't seem to work half of the time.

Jim has had some neighbors complain about barking dogs. Jim said, he will start sending them Ray's way.

People are also complaining about the house on the corner of Washington and SR 13. The home has been up for a sheriff sale about 3 times. Nobody wants to pay what that house is actually worth because it's been trashed by multiple families living in the home.

It was acknowledged that Joni Miller's yard is looking a lot better.

Park: JFL is having a great turn out for flag football. They had to add another field. Ben met with Nipsco and they will be running electric out there.

Clerk: MacKenzie presented Council with May bank rec.

New Business: The Council meeting for July 27th has been cancelled due to the Elkhart County 4-H Fair week. Next meeting will be August 10th, 2022.

Old Business:

Adjournment

Jim Winkler made a motion to pay bills. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon a voice vote was approved unanimously. Jim Winkler made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon voice vote was approved unanimously. The next general meeting will be at 5:00pm on July 13, 2022

X

Jim Winkler
Council President

X

Mackenzie Taylor
Clerk Treasurer