



May 22, 2024 Town Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Larry Randolph, Dean Smith, Jim Winkler, Avery Ferguson, Matt King, Vernon Miller, Robert Roa, Jon Schlarb, Rita Voorst, Jeff Hile, Georgia Boyan, Patty Myers, Kyler Herr, Sonia Ritter, Alexis Ritter, Sheila Rutter, Haley Hurst, Amanda Garmen, Josh Bowens, and Hollie Bortz.

Dean made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 8, 2024. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to adopt the May 8, 2024 meeting minutes.

Water: Everything is good, Avery said. Got with the printer company about the lead line survey. I'll be sending out flyers to the homeowners. Then, individual residents can check and see what they have and get them to self-report their findings.

The annual inspection was today for the wells.

Avery is getting the iron filtration checked on Wednesday or Thursday next week.

Wastewater: Everything is running smoothly. The annual flow meter check was done earlier this week. I had to order more gas. There was a minor setback. The shipment that came in was not correct. I should have the corrected order sometime next week.

Maintenance: Matt said we are doing well and mowing like crazy due to all of the rain. Matt and Austin have been helping Vernon at the park with the launch pads for disk golf. All are in except for three of them.

Matt said he's waiting on a quote for South Jackson Street and the corner of Cook and Railroad. I have one quote and it was astronomical. Larry told Matt to put some stone in there. Matt said we do all of the time. It's the haulers and trucks that aren't supposed to be on that roadway. When they make the turn, they splash everything out of there. Larry asked, how about the one that's outside of the post office? It's deep, Larry added. Can you do a black top on it? Matt said, no because it's nothing but dirt. They only put 1 and a ½ inch of asphalt in there and it's not enough. Dean told Matt he had received nice feedback from the bank about the holes that were filled in that area.

Matt said he called for locates for Mike Kimberlin and Brian Yoder. We cannot excavate over there by Mike's. We will have to hand dig it and put a sign over there because gas lines run through there. Matt said they'll do it whenever they get a chance. Dean asked if they have a tube for it? Matt replied, no.

Matt said the speed bumps are useless. People slam on their brakes to go over them and end up speeding off after they go over the bump. Matt said, if you guys agree that we really need them I would like to put it in on the south of Blessing Street. Matt mentioned every time we put in a speed bump, it destroys the road. Then creates a crack in the road foundation. Larry said, that's the ideal spot to put it. Jim asked for clarification on the speed bump. Matt said on the water plant side south of Blessing Street. So, it's not right at the park and can detour around it if we need to. MacKenzie asked Matt if he has an extra speed bump in the department? Matt said yes. Matt asked the council; do you want us to put down the speed bump? Larry and Dean both said yes. MacKenzie also let the council know the cameras are up and running in the park. There's 15 or 16 of them, Ray has them placed in great spots, and they capture a good quality picture. So, we can always refer back to those when we need to.

Marshal: Robert said Jay or Chad from Bontrager Security will be back to install the camera system on Robert's computer and Vernon's. Robert told the council Ray is working on adding more cameras in the Millersburg area as well.

Larry mentioned the pot hole at the post office. Something needs to be done because everything keeps flipping into Jerry's yard. Dean said he would go and take a look at it.

Park: Vernon said so far so good on everything. MacKenzie gave me an updated park schedule and it looks like we're booked out every weekend through September. We have three or four baseball/softball teams that are consistently using the fields every week.

Clerk Treasurer: April bank reconciliation is done and complete. Suzy Bass has looked over and approved this as well. All of the council members signed off on the docket.

MacKenzie said she received the parcel ID and description from Harley Bontrager about acquiring the two acres of land. She hasn't heard anything back from them. MacKenzie will reach out to them again tomorrow and check on the status.

Lastly, the CCMG is officially closed with INDOT as of May 20th. We can resubmit for the July call.

Old Business: Dean said let's talk chickens. Dean asked who all is here for chickens? Mainly everyone in the audience raised their hand. Dean went on to say we have discussed pros and cons and are amazed by the support to have chickens. Dean said, it's time we bring it up for a vote. Since Dana is not here, it'll be Larry and myself taking the vote, MacKenzie would be the tie-breaker vote. Dean made a motion to allow chickens within town limits. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to have chickens within the town limits. Jim asked the council for a specific number of chickens. Both Larry and Dean responded saying five chickens were allowed and absolutely no roosters. Dean said next meeting we will have an ordinance established and will adopt it immediately. The ordinance will outline regulations for compliance. Larry added the chickens need to be cooped and may not run at large. Chickens cannot be at a duplex home unless there is written consent from the neighbor. We do want residents to register their chickens with us, so we can maintain a record of who all has them. Yearly registration will be permitted. Cannot be within 50 feet of another neighbors dwelling. Jeff Hile said I just have a question... Why did you decide upon 5 chickens? I'm just curious. Dean said we saw an ordinance that only allowed 4 and then another one that allowed 6 so we just met in the middle with 5. This is the starting point. We will try with five for a year and then revisit next year. If everyone is cooperating and following the ordinance/guidelines we can revisit the idea of maybe allowing more. Amanda asked, can the chickens roam in my yard if I'm outside supervising? Larry said yes, as long as they are supervised. The town is not liable for any chicken accidents or if a chicken gets taken, hit, or killed. The homeowner is solely responsible for these. Sheila Rutter asked, have you ever tried catching chickens? They're fast! Haley asked and at first reinstated, I am asking for my neighbor. Can we have mini goats? Larry and Dean both said no, absolutely not.

Larry informed everyone if a complaint is received about the chickens, either a council member, an officer, or both will come out and inspect the chickens/chicken coop area. We will give you heads up and not show up unannounced. This is only if we receive a complaint about this.

Dean said, I can't wait to see someone walking a chicken on a leash. Amanda said that'll probably be me and everyone laughed.

Dean asked if anyone had anything else. There was no response.

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

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




