

MINUTES-REGULAR
TOWN COUCIL MEETING

February 12, 2025

PUBLIC PRESENT: Katie Papano, Keith Wittman, Tim Bolin, Victor Schutzius

COUNCIL PRESENT: Caron Crossley, Adam Hoffman, Brandon Kleeman

ABSENT: Bret Kleeman

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M.

APPROVE AND SIGN: Agenda, Minutes, Financials

MOTION: Adam to accept

SECONDED: Brandon

MOTION carried: Yes

Amendment to Refuse Ordinance. It was voted on in November 2024 to increase the amount from \$8 to \$10. The ordinance had not been sent to attorney to be drawn up until January. Signing today.

Jason Linne, Fire Chief is absent. No report or updates.

John Young – Received quotes from Tell City on Tie Line. It is going to be updated. And wanted to let you all know about Electricom working on the neutral throughout town. IMPA came in and did a survey. There's going to be 9 poles that need replaced. Some aren't tall enough and some are too old and worn. When it comes to replacing pole, it is going to cost more than \$500 for a pole. Rather than call each time they determine a pole needs replaced, I would like to ask for a temporary increase on expenditure for these poles.

Caron- I would like to propose that we would give John up to 10 poles so he does not have to call us each time.

Brandon- I think that is fine.

Adam- I agree.

Caron- Tell City Electric Department gave us a copy of their rates for mutual aid. I would like a motion to adopt the same rates.

MOTION: Adam to accept

SECONDED: Brandon

MOTION carried: Yes

Devin – Got several new quotes for roof for water salesman. Chase Reid for \$5,500. RC Roofing for \$5,900. J&J Contracting \$7,500.

Discussion ensued.

RC Roofing is only one that included gutters on quote.

Devin- I did get a quote for rebuilding the sewer pump for behind the cemetery. It was \$4,932.00 to rebuild or you can get a new one for \$11,200. I don't think there is anything wrong with the pump. I think it is just the motor needs rebuilt.

Discussion ensued.

Council agreed to have motor rebuilt for a back up.

Devin- I did reach out to Leary Construction to see when they will be doing our water tower inspection. They said they don't have their schedule made for 2025 yet. It would probably March or April.

Mike – No report for streets.

Caron – Sign in sheet. Katie Papano for the Lincoln Ferry project.

Katie Papano gave presentation. Projected for 2028 to the 200 year anniversary of Lincoln's trip from Rockport to New Orleans.

Keith Wittman – I had a water leak. I have 800 feet of water line going from your meter to my house. There was a spot in the middle of the field where the snow was melted. I had the water shut off for 5 days. Dug up around there and found the leak. A few days later I got a call that you thought I had a water leak. There was another leak. I just don't think a person should have to pay 2 years worth of water bills in a month for a water leak they've been trying to fix. It would be nice if there was some kind of equipment to help detect when there is a water leak. A \$2,100 water bill is a little steep for a month. I would think that the town would be a little more concerned with water loss.

Victor – The other day the Fire Department had a run up Troy Ridge. The intersections are blocked. Is there anything the State can do or a sign they can put up to remind people not to block the highway?

John- I can call someone at the State tomorrow and ask them about it.

Caron- I want to talk about getting an additional utility clerk for the office. We need reliable help and additional help. The current clerk has talked about not having time to get all her work done and Saffron is struggling to get all the clerk duties done before being able to help with utility clerk duties.

Saffron- I was informed when I started that I would be able to do clerk-treasurer duties part time and utility clerk duties part time. That is not the case. The clerk treasurer position is full time. The utility clerk position needs a full time and a part time. This is also needed in order to comply with internal controls. This has been a reoccurring issue over multiple audits. The Town was cited for lack of internal controls in the most recent audit and several of the instances were repeat from the audit prior to that. I am asking for additional help. I do not think we need another full time. I think a part time. This being a utility position the funds wouldn't be paid out of the town budget.

Adam- What are you thinking hours wise?

Saffron- 8 hour days, 3 days a week maybe. At first I thought I just needed to get used to the job. The farther along I get tasks just keep getting added and the farther behind I get. I didn't realize how much wasn't getting done prior to taking the position.

Brandon – Let's call a meeting next week for employees. And we'll get you some help.

Caron- I'm good with that.

Adam-I am too.

Caron- Blight Update. I sent 3 letters. First one was about an apartment. I sent one to the landlord and to the tenant. Second one was to Dollar General to get their fence fixed. That is the third one I've sent. I have contacted our attorney and he said he could send a letter as well.

Caron- Zoning Board Term dates. We need to set those. When we came on last year we had no idea we had to vote on those.

Saffron- There ended up being a citizen request for a zoning meeting. So we had to contact the board members. There are 3 elected officials or employees and there are 4 citizens. We had to figure out who was still an elected official and which citizens still lived in town as well as the term dates. The citizen positions have to be of equal political parties. Caron consulted with our town attorney about it. Chris said as long as you reset it and state it in a meeting it is fine. So we currently have:

Adam is on the zoning board and his term lasts as long as he is an elected official.

I am one of the other elected officials.

The third was Jane but since she has resigned we need to fill that position. It needs to be a council member or a town employee.

As far as citizens, Citizen One is Mike Johnson. He is a republican and his term is January 2022 to December 2025. That is a position appointed by the council president for 4 years.

Citizen Three Alex Drischel. He is a democrat. His term is January 2024 to December 2027.

Citizen Four is Victor Schutzius. He is a democrat. His term is January 2023 to December 2026.

So we still have a Citizen position to fill that is appointed by the council president. It needs to be a republican. Their term would be January 2025 to December of 2028.

The elected official or town employee would be chosen by the Town Council.

Caron- Our next thing is the PCDC board member. The board member is separate from the delegate. Jane held both of those positions. The board member can be anybody. It can be a board member, a citizen, an employee.

Saffron- The PCDC by-laws say the delegate votes on who the board member will be. They do not have to be the same person. Currently Caron is our delegate. The Town of Troy has a spot open on the PCDC board. Our council needs to select someone. It can be whoever the town wants to represent Troy on the PCDC board.

Brandon- Who wants to do it?

Caron- Bret said 'not me' in his text.

Saffron- Also when they have their board meetings it is the second Tuesday from 11 am to 1 pm in February, May, August, and November.

Caron – I don't care to do it.

Brandon – It's yours.

Adam- It's yours.

Caron – Next thing, our utility employees at board meeting. It is nice to have them here but I don't know that it is necessary to pay all 3 of them to be at each meeting.

Brandon – I don't think they all need to be here. They can delegate or take turns.

John – I talked to Caron and Saffron about this. If there is something major going on around town I am probably going to catch you and let you know about it.

Caron – I plan on sending an email out the week before the meeting to see if they have anything to add to the agenda. Then they will know if they need to be here to explain anything to the board. Otherwise they don't all need to be here.

John – Are you wanting at least one employee to be here?

Brandon – Yeah probably.

Caron – At least one.

Adam – You guys can figure it out amongst you. Split it up or whatever.

Caron – Everyone has a copy. I received an email from Tim Bowles. He is interested in our marshal position. Currently we do not have a marshal. There hasn't been any discussion if we are going to have one or not.

Brandon- Let's put that on for the meeting next week too.

Caron – ok

Caron- Another thing I need to bring up. Our Dollar store, I personally have been trying to see what it would take for our Dollar store to become a Dollar General Market. Where they would see produce and meat. I think it would be great for our area. I spoke with the Manager who spoke with her boss. He said we should start a petition and so I told her I was going to do it as citizen and not a board member. She said I would get further if the board decided we would really like to have a Dollar General Market. We would be more likely to get it. Typically mayors request it.

Caron- We tabled it last month. Devin was wanting to go to the Alliance Water Conference in French Lick. Everyone got a copy of the agenda.

Saffron- There was a question at the January meeting about more details of when the training was. I emailed the Alliance and they sent that.

Caron- I don't believe this is something he needs to stay overnight for.

Saffron – The conference itself cost \$265.

Caron – Right but that does not include to stay overnight.

Discussion ensued.

It was decided to have Devin drive both days.

Adam – Region 15. I attended the meeting. They have a summit and asked me to invite board members to that. They do help with zoning maps and getting that up to date. How do you feel about talking to them about what it would cost to get our maps updated?

Brandon – Good. Worth a talk.

Adam – Ok. I will shoot him an email and bring that back to the next meeting.

Saffron- I sent all the employees the job description forms. They sent descriptions back to me. So if you have any input about adding to them. This is the last piece of the handbook updates. There was a resolution for everyone to sign for me to transfer funds that was supposed to be done in December but I did not realize that so I have it here.

Updates to the salary ordinance. There was a cell phone stipend Caron asked to be removed for the council president and council vice president. Since it was apart of the salary ordinance, it would need to be amended. It would have to be voted on. Also Jane had increased the council pay from one year to the next. Some members had expressed they were not comfortable with the amount of the increase. So from 2024, the president was making \$1,600 annually. All other council members were making \$1,400 annually. For 2025 salary ordinance, the president was making \$3,000 annually. The vice president was \$2,600 annually. All other council members were \$2,000 annually. The funding from the town money did not increase. The additional money was going to be allowed to come out of utility funds because we do not have a separate utility board. The SBOA did say that was an allowable expense for council pay to come out of utility money.

Adam- Can we go back to the way it was? Brandon are you ok with that?

Brandon- I'm fine with that.

Adam - Let's just keep it the way it was from last year.

Saffron – You would need a motion to amend the salary ordinance. With what you want specifically.

Brandon – Print that out for us with all the numbers. So we can sign it.

Saffron – An amendment?

Brandon – Yeah and we will do a motion on it then.

Caron – The council pay and the cell phone stipend?

Brandon – Do them separate.

Caron – Anything else Saffron?

Saffron – I have mandatory clerk training next month from the 16th through the 20th. I applied for a scholarship. They won't say who is awarded until March 5th. It is in Indianapolis. I have a brother that lives there and he is going to let me stay with him some of those nights so I won't need a hotel for overnight. I wanted to ask the council if they would cover my mileage from his house to the hotel where the conference is being held. That would be cheaper than \$200 a night for the hotel. The breakfast and lunch are still included in the conference cost.

Brandon – It's fine Saffron.

Caron – We totaled it up and it was going to be pretty cheap. Anything else?

Saffron – No

Caron – Old business. Marshal truck last month we voted to get rid of it. Since then I have had an employee ask if we can hold off on that. The truck was purchased with electric monies.

John – It is too nice of a truck for us to be getting it all muddy but after looking at the price of new trucks versus what you owe on that.

Brandon – What do we owe on that?

Saffron – About \$25,000.

John – If we kept it for the electric department I would want to spend a little bit to get some protective stuff like bed liner and seat covers.

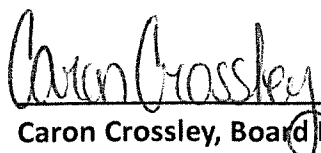
Caron – And the town car is still getting brought up. It drives pretty rough.

John – I thought about calling Ruxer Ford about it. Jason has looked at it but is waiting for a call back from Ford.

Brandon – Take it to the Ford dealership and get it diagnosed. Go from there.

Caron – No correspondence. I need a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Brandon and SECONDED by Adam to adjourn the meeting at P.M., CST. The next meeting will be MARCH 12, 2025 at 6:00 P.M., CST.



Caron Crossley, Board President



Adam Hoffman, Board Vice President

Bret Kleeman, Board Member
Brandon SR


Bret Kleeman, Board Member

_____, Board Member

ATTEST: Clerk/Treasurer