

**MINUTES - REGULAR**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**July 12, 2023**

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Adam and Kathy Hoffman, Jane and Dan Hayden, Bill Cotton.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Roger Fella, Tina Gerlach, Bret Kleeman.

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Danny VanConey, Brandon Kleeman (both available via phone )

**Town of Troy Attorney:** Chris Goffinet present

**APPROVE and SIGN: Consent Agenda which includes: Minutes, Agenda, Financial Report:**

**MOTION:** Bret Kleeman

**SECONDED:** Tina Gerlach

**MOTION CARRIED: ayes 3 nays 0**

**5. TVFD FIRE DEPARTMENT :** Pudder Linne -

**6. UTILITIES: Pudder Linne -**

**ELECTRIC-** none

**WATER –**

- Due to changes in the ISO regulations for Fire Hydrants, we are upgrading and painting the Fire Hydrants according to new codes for color. Public fire hydrants (0-500 gallon per minute) will be painted Yellow and Private Fire Hydrants will be painted red. I have purchased equipment calibrate the Hydrant myself so we do not need an outside source to certify.
- Main valve failure in Industrial Park has been repaired.
- The SCADA system for treatment plant was compromised(hacked) but we have it back online again.
- The INDOT project in Spencer County near Lincoln Ferry Park that they were wanting us to clear cut to the riverfront has been settled and the state agreed not to charge us for this project. ATT, PSC, OVG all sent letters which helped get this settled.
- We are looking at the contract proposal for An Island -IT services for the mapping of the or town and updating our website. This is a new requirement for the Lead and Copper IDEM rule that we continue to work on. We are also looking at using An Island for our IT daily services and eliminate our current AIM services. Linda Crawford stated we can use An Island now for short term projects but we have a contract with them for projects until November 2023. An Island set up our cemetery mapping for us. Linda Crawford stated the

annual fee of \$6000.00 will include the cemetery \$1200.00 fee we currently pay. We need a motion to use them for daily IT support as needed and start the mapping project.

**MOTION:** Bret Kleeman

**SECONDED:** Tina Gerlach

**MOTION CARRIED:** ayes 3 nays 0

- Community Crossing Streets Grant will be submitted this week. We met with Randy Cole and got the technical issues resolved with our property lines on Market Street near Christ of Ohio. This will allow us to pave Market Street starting at Spring Street. We also will pave Walnut Street from Spring Street to meet Tell City paving up Troy Ridge Road.
- Ellen Davis a resident at the Lincoln Hills apartments on Washington Street has requested a handicap sign for her parking. We explained to her this handicap sign would be open to anyone with a handicap plate/tag. Jeff Everly added that this sign will force current parking spots to move forward and take additional spaces for other residences. We need an ordinance to cover Handicap signs.

**ZONING-** none

#### **7. STREETS- JEFF EVERLY –**

- We continue to keep up with mowing our 16 areas here in town?
- The trash truck is a blessing – it is keeping us from throwing all the bags of trash above our heads each week.
- Do we have copies of ordinance for the past? Do we have a fee for installing the handicap? Chris Goffinet said if we do not have an ordinance, we can see how many we have and make a blanket ordinance to cover. Linda Crawford said she would call Lincoln Hills and see who is responsible for paying for the sign in their apartments area ? Pudder and Jeff will provide the list of Handicap signs in the Town of Troy for Chris to include in ordinance.
- Roger Fella asked why the sidewalk has not been replaced in front of the Chris Crossley residence on corner of Hwy 545 and Walnut Street? Linda Crawford stated they agreed to replace it but was going to wait for the Hwy 545 overlay project to begin so they would know how to match up the sidewalk with the handicap sidewalk ramps? The Hwy 545 project has been postponed so the Crossley's will need help from INDOT to look at the sidewalk match up. Linda Crawford stated she would get the phone number of INDOT/Emily Sprinkle to them so they can get started on the sidewalk.

**8. Chris Goffinet:** Bond Ordinance is 21 pages plus exhibits so I will summarize the Bond Ordinance for Electric Utility Revenue Bonds, the Town Council needed to have first reading tonight to continue with the Project. Chris stated: we were originally looking to get financing from private bonds but our financial advisors London Witte spoke with the Indiana Bond Bank and found we could get a cheaper interest rate from Government finance. The Governmental financing is expanding their Community Funding and it is available since July 01, 2023. The Government Funding will be 3.64% for 15 years. The financial advisors found that there will

not be a need to have an additional electric rate increase for this Bond. Before you approve this Ordinance there will be a public notice to the newspaper before the final signing. This ordinance is introduction on the \$2.5 million estimated dollars for this project. Maximum interest rate is 7%. The numbers are inflated on the preliminary so that we can move forward on the bonds and not need to have additional resolutions each time the specific numbers are completed for the project. We are Bank qualified which gives the town a better interest rate. We will have two payments each year one on January 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>. The purpose of the Ordinance for Electric Bonds is to improve the Electric System such as construction and improvement to sub station, new Transformer.

Does anyone have questions about this project or ordinance? Linda Crawford asked Chris to clarify the statement about no increase needed. Chris said we will have a Phase III increase in April 2024 as originally planned by the last rate study- but no additional increases are needed – this will save the town money since we will not need to pay for a new rate study and residents will not have to pay additional rates other than what was previously approved by the last rate study. We will approve the ordinance in August meeting then Bond Bank Board will approve in their September 13, 2023 Board Meeting which gives us a tentative closing date of October 2023.

Chris stated : We will need to approve the Bond Ordinance FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY REVENUE BONDS at the August 16, 2023 meeting?

**Chris Goffinet:** We have the Finch Newton (FN) Water contract completed after several wording changes, this is a long-term agreement they will be subject to rate study increases like your current residents/customers are, Pudder feels we have the capability to provide this service to FN.

**CHRIS GOFFINET:** Does anyone have questions about the Policies and Procedure Employee Manual we gave you last month to review? This was developed by an agency that specializes in cities and towns employee handbooks. It is a document you need to read - it does not govern elected officials but employees of the town are covered in this manual. No comments from the Council.

Linda Crawford stated she has about 10 questions/changes after she read it? How do you want me to address these questions, Chris? He said send them to me and I will review and forward it to the manual writer.

If anyone has questions feel free to email me with the questions.

**Marshal-** Stephan Poehlein- we provided a summary sheet.

**CITIZENS:** No one on agenda.

**Citizens-** sign in sheet attendees

**Adam Hoffman-** What about the water runoff next to my house? Roger Fella said Pudder, Jeff and I sat near your home to witness the runoff in a downpour for about 25 minutes. We did not see

an issue? Adam Hoffman disagreed and that there is a run off issue? Jeff Everly said we could put some type of berm next to pavement would be the only fix that he is aware of? Pudder Linne said our surveillance of the rain event did not show a run off so it is not a town issue? Adam Hoffman said he could provide a video showing it is an issue.

**Cathy Hoffman – none**

**Jane Hayden –** I wanted to comment that the Fireworks were awesome.

I spoke with Linda and she said the Porta- potties will be removed Thursday from riverfront.

I would like to see a plaque on the Veteran’s Wall to Commemorate Clifford Mills ? Linda Crawford said she is working on getting something and we may have to raise funds for this plaque? Jane said she would be interested in donating for that project.

Jane asked Pudder Linne if the items near Water Plant were going to be moved after fence blew down? Pudder said they cannot take anything out to the storage area until Solar Park Project lets us know the property lines .

**Bill Cotton – None**

**COUNCIL Members:**

**Roger Fella –.** None

**Brandon Kleeman –** Absent (available via phone)

**Bret Kleeman –** Asked Pudder if all alleys in town are clear? Pudder said yes all but the one alley off Harrison Street near Walnut Street but it has been grown up for years? He said he thinks it is being used as a driveway?

If Doug is working 30 hours and you (Stephan) are working 15 hours - where is the Marshal truck was being kept? Stephan said according to contract it is kept at his house. Doug is moving closer to Tell City so he will have the truck when he moves. Stephan stated: it was discussed in a previous meeting that the Marshal Vehicle not be left at the office to avoid vandalism? Bret asked Stephan where he lived? Stephan said he prefers not to give his address in a public meeting.

Bret asked Stephan Poehlein and Doug Dunn if they had any issues with putting a tracker on the Marshal truck? Stephan said their Camera monitoring devices they wear for the Sherriff department have trackers on them. We need body cameras in Troy but we do not have any? He said he does not have an issue with tracker?

**Tina Gerlach-** Are we going to get a SHELTER HOUSE?

Linda Crawford stated we have the Shelter House as the next project? We will need to discuss what type of shelter house we want? We currently do not have a Safe Haven for our residents in event of a tornado ? we have 3 mobile home parks in our town and nowhere for anyone to go in

event of emergency? Jane Hayden asked about the church basement here in Troy? Pudder Linne stated-That agreement ended several years ago due to liability issues? Linda stated we need to get an estimated cost so we know how much we need to budget for the shelter house? Tina asked if we could get a splash pad? Pudder said neighboring towns have many maintenances mechanical issues with new splash pads? Tina asked if we have a place to put the Shelter house? Linda stated the original idea is to put it at the bottom of the park (below playground near road where Green Christmas tree used to be) area so it can be used for picnic, bands, parties , Farmer's Market?

The area across the alley from playground - next to Jean Young residence was earmarked for Basketball/Pickleball Court. We can look at the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money for shelter if we do not want to pursue a grant?

**Danny VanConey** – Absent (available via phone)

**LINDA CRAWFORD-** I am working on getting the Park Ordinance updated to include new hours, requirements for putting plaque on Veteran Wall, adding the plaques form. We are adding the plaque form to the Town of Troy website this week.

We have a meeting with Robert Norris (Department of Government Finance) DLGF Monday August 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss our budget, we currently run this town on \$132,000.00 so we asked for increase for Marshal salary to cover two marshal's and at the suggestion of working on getting houses and building cleaned up we asked for funding for "Blighted Properties" We also ask for Maintenance money for Parks. We will be introducing the first reading of the budget next month meeting.

We are running into issues with the Veteran Plaque line limit? We had a recent request that had two different branches of service and we feel the Chaplain designation is important and needs to be included? Jeff said if they want more than three lines, they should have to buy two plaques. Bret Kleeman agreed with Jeff that the board agreed to three lines in a previous meeting. Linda explained the 6 plates he does not want on the wall were approved before Jeff requested the three lines ? Bret said we should pay to have them redone?

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Chris Goffinet** said the zoning ordinance clearly states you cannot not have dumpster unless it is for construction or demolition. The situation is some are paying for permits and others are not? I reviewed several dumpster ordinances and they vary drastically. We can continue to not allow them but if you want to change the zoning ordinance I need the Council to tell me what you want? Let me know what you want to change it to?

Jeff Everly said the current zoning dumpster ordinance mimics the one Tell City has?

Adam Hoffman said the Dumpster at the Gas Station in Troy has trash laying all around it?

Roger Fella said we would Table the discussion for another meeting.

- Pudder Linne said the Troy Volunteer Fire Department received the ARPA grant for the 12 new fire equipment tanks .

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Jeff Everly asked if we have a Tobacco Free ordinance for Town vehicles? Cars? Trucks? Roger Fella asked Linda Crawford to put a copy in next pay envelopes so all employees are fully aware of “No Smoking or Smokeless Tobacco “ rules.

Jeff Everly said he is pushing to get the new shelter house going as soon as possible. He thinks we can get local help to off set the costs. Pudder said he would like to see shelter house similar to the one in Santa Claus across from St Nicks Parrish Church. Jeff Everley said he would like to see a Farmers Market , picnic and at the Shelter House. He would like to see the Farmers Market rules to be less stringent than the Tell City one? Allow specific days not regulated times?

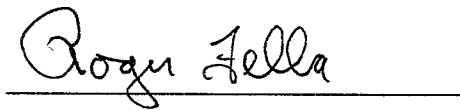
Jeff Everly said he wants a dedication date for the Veteran’s Wall? Linda said we working in conjunction with Pick Perry and others to get getting this done in November on or near Veteran’s Day. Kevin Herp will help with this.

**Any Correspondence: none**

**ADJOURMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Bret Kleeman and seconded by Tina Gerlach to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm . All in favor. Motion carried.

**Next meeting August 16, 2023 6:00pm CST**

Roger Fella, Board President



Bret Kleeman, Board Member

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Brandon Kleeman, Board Vice President



Danny VanConey, Board Member

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Tina Gerlach, Board Member



ATTEST: Linda Crawford, C/T

