

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Russiaville Town Hall
April 16, 2018

Council Present – Jeff Lipinski, Don Parvin, and Rob Hewitt

Corbin King, Town attorney, was also present.

Jeff Lipinski called the meeting to order. Kent Milburn gave prayer. Every one stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from last month's meeting were presented and approved.

Plan Commission – Mike Kanable was present to report he had written 3 permits. Huston Electric for signage, a fence for Nancy Akin, and a fence for Corey Scott. Mike had nothing further to report.

Board of Zoning Appeals – No one was present to report.

Russiaville Historical Society – Jan Koloszar was present to represent the board as it is at the moment. There is some discussion among the RHS board as it is with the few members left that want to be on it, however, there has been no advance in turning over to the Town the monies at this point.

John Russell had some projects going on before the Town that he is working on. Don Parvin stated since the Town owns the building there should be nothing going on at this point. Corbin King asked if the work that Mr. Russell was doing was from before the Town “took back over” the building. Jan said “yes” it was. Corbin clarified that Mr. Russell was finishing what he started.

Rob Hewitt said he would like to have an audit of the books before the Town takes anything over with the money. Jan said, one of the men that agreed to stay on the RHS board said their bylaws say there must be board action on their part to approve the transfer of money. Don Parvin asked how many board members have agreed to stay. Jan stated there were four. There were originally 8.

The funds that are in their account are for the HVAC in the amount of \$15,000.00. The rest is just money for operating expenses.

Jeff Lipinski asked Jan if their goal was to stay a board or to dissolve the board. They are not for sure on this matter.

Don Parvin would just like to do what is right for everyone and to be able to get grants to finish the building.

Jeff asked Corbin King if we were on any time frame with needing to know if they are going to dissolve or stay going. Corbin said we need to see if we are on any deadlines or time frame with the grants that are in play now. Marsha Berry said that the grant from the Community Foundation came directly to the RHS. Marsha contacted the grant administrator to tell them she was no longer on the RHS board and that the Town would be administering the grant at this point. Don Parvin stated that the \$300,000.00 grant to do the building was through the Town in the first place. Marsha agreed, and said she was talking about the grant for \$15,000.00 that was still in their account.

Marsha Berry said right now the RHS is out of compliance with the 501C3, stating they did not have the correct number of board members, and there are several other things that were not right. This is why she wanted to disband the 501C3, and just have Russiaville Historical Society be people who are interested in RHS things to continue using the building with some sort of contract with the Town. Marsha stated that there was not a 501C3 needed to be able to get grants to finish the building.

Marsha Berry requests that her name be removed from all the RHS bank accounts, she does not want her financial liability attached to it anymore. Jan stated she need to get something to the bank in writing, she will get that done. Russiaville Town council asked Jan Koloszar to get with the RHS board to figure out what they want to do. They will give the 30-60 days to figure this out and we will go from there. Jeff Lipinski said if they are not going to stay open, Jan should not pay anything out of the account. Jan agreed with both of these things.

Park and Tree Board – Jill Newby was present and said the replacement slide for the park came in damaged and the company said they would send another one. They will let her know what to do with the old one. Jeff Lipinski said he has had several good comments, people like what has been done with the park.

Jill Newby also said she had been in contact with Kaleb Hollingsworth, and he has graciously agreed to donate the mulch to be spread in the park for community day on May 8th.

Jeff Lipinski said the bids will be opened for the walking trail project on April 26th. Jeff stated that this had been a long time coming, directing toward Rick Homkes. Rick agreed saying it had been about 10 years. Rick also said there was a little bit of concern as to where the bids come in, and how much we can actually do financially. The pre-bid meeting was this week with a few corrections made.

Don Parvin said that he and Mike Kanable had dealt with the fence next to the pond in Western Heights. The homeowner's fence is into the Town's property, and is close to the pond. The homeowner has since gotten a permit to put the fence up and will move the fence to the right place.

Don Parvin said there was a ramp that was quoted at \$675.00 to be put across the mulch in the park for ADA. Don Parvin said he would like to get a quote to come off the asphalt and into the park. He will get a quote for comparison and bring it back next month.

Don stated the flag pole and microphones and sound system are being worked on for the community center. Don is also working on the window tint and the carpeting for the sound deadening at the community center.

Jill Newby added that she would like to get together sometime next week to go over some of the community day project for May 8th. Council agreed.

Summer Fest – No one was present to report.

Streets and Wastewater – A written report was given. Mike Collins was present to report that they had gotten a new beam for the swing set in Brady Park, the other one broke. Mike Collins also stated that he had passed his class I wastewater test.

Jeff Lipinski asked Mike Collins to look at his alley and yard – there are giant holes. Mike said they would, and they would fill holes.

Rob Hewitt said for Mike Collins to find some classes to go through to be able to get his class II wastewater test. Mike agreed and said he will have his time in to be able to take the test in November.

Alley behind the Park – Don Parvin said to be in compliance we need to put in 12' humps instead of bumps, this will be an extra \$750.00. Don Parvin made a motion to allow the extra \$750.00 to put humps in the alley. Rob Hewitt seconded. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion as well, therefore the motion passed with Don, Rob, and Jeff.

Mike Collins said that when Crenshaw's are here to pave the alley they are going to do some of the big pot holes around town too. This will be better than putting cold patch in them.

Don added that the signs were to be put up as soon as the alley was paved. Mike Collins agreed and said they would get it done.

Don Parvin stated that since Mike Collins had passed his class I wastewater test, he gets a \$1,000.00 bonus. Mike said thank you.

Marshal's Department - A written report was given. Randy Vannatter was present to report that Jeff Davidson is on his own now. Randy or Carl will still be in town with him when he is working for a while.

Don Parvin said Jr. O'Neal is getting the sidewalk done at the Police Station, the weather has pushed them back a little but it should be done soon.

Don Parvin would like to personally thank Randy for being at the community center outreach program on drug addiction. Randy and Ellie (K-9) made a huge impression on the audience. Randy answered a lot of questions on what he sees on the drug issues we have.

Don Parvin asked if and what was found out about the insurance on the shooting range. Megan Reel and Rob Hewitt found out that it will be an extra \$100.00 per year to have the shooting range.

Don Parvin asked about signage at the shooting range. Randy said they are working on these signs for when the range is in use, so people will not be able to dump during this time. There will be a separate sign about yard waste.

Don Parvin said May 2, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the community center there will be a community outreach on poverty.

Don Parvin there is a 55-mph speed limit sign in our town put here by the state. Don stated brought to attention the piece that was put in the paper about our police department by a guy who had been stopped for exceeding the speed limit. Don said he is behind the police department 100% and he knows they are doing

their jobs like it is supposed to be done to slow people down going through town. Randy Vannatter stated that this particular motorist that wrote the piece in the paper had a ticket written for going 44 in a 30. Randy also stated that he was actually doing 50 in a 30, it was reduced to help with the cost of the ticket. This is all because the state changed the speed limit signs, it used to be 30mph to 40mph to a 55mph going east bound on state road 26. Now it is just 30mph to 55mph. There is nothing in any of our ordinances that allows a 55mph zone. Don feels this is a mistake.

As this was being talked about Scott Sipes (who works for INDOT) came in the door. Don Parvin asked Scott to check into the issue with the 55mph speed limit sign. The one on the west end of town on state road 26 needs addressed too. He asked Megan Reel to email him on this matter so he could get it to the proper person at INDOT to address this and hopefully get it fixed.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel gave a written report. She had nothing else to add.

Jeff Davidson – Corbin stated there may be an unknown abatement due to the way they will work the taxes. They kept the Town's money originally when the functional building got sold to Mr. Davidson, and the Town was going to pay the taxes, so Mr. Davidson wasn't going to have to pay the taxes for at least a year. He is unsure if they are going to tax Mr. Davidson or not for this year. Corbin will check this since we got the reimbursement of money. They were keeping the Town's money and giving Mr. Davidson a tax abatement, but now he has to check since they gave the money back to the Town.

Resolution 2018-04 Authorizing the RBDG Application. Don Parvin made a motion to accept resolution 2018-04. Rob Hewitt seconded. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion as well, therefore the motion passed with Don, Rob, and Jeff.

Along with this resolution, 9 business letters of support were received from local businesses and a letter of opinion from Corbin King, our attorney, to support the RBDG grant.

Dave Kieser – sent an update on all the things he is working on. Dave is still working on the garage at 345 E. College St.

NL Grant – Ethel Morgan was present to report. She brought updated plans and specs in case contractors call. The first bid advertisement is on or around April 16th, and the second one will run a week later. The pre-bid meeting at the town hall will be May 2, 2018 at 10am. They will open bids on May 17th at 4pm. A tentative bid award will be May 21st. The loan closing is tentatively scheduled for July. We will start getting bond council ordinances in June.

Ethel said that Craig Thompson had contacted her about some of the homeowners along the route to see if they could tie into the force main. They added curb stop connection to the force main to the plans. If any of the homeowners would like to tie in, it would be at the homeowners cost. It is better to do it now than later. Jeff Lipinski asked how many homes could tie in if they wanted to. Ethel said she thought about 10. She said that a couple had contacted Craig about this up to this time.

Don Parvin asked about having a public meeting when the bids are opened. Bids do not have to be opened at a town council meeting, just at a public meeting.

Then they will be taken under advisement. Council does not need to be present.

Rick Homkes asked about getting services outside of town, and then the possibility of annexation comes up for the people wanting to tie in to the wastewater system. The people would not be for annexation if they already have the wastewater service. Jeff Lipinski said he would not want to force them to tie in to the sewer, but it would be a good idea for them to do this.

Erosion control permitting was initially denied. Ethel said she resubmitted this.

Jeff Lipinski asked Ethel if she corresponded with the county on all this since they were the lead applicant on the grant. Ethel said, the county is only the lead for the OCRA grant. Russiaville is the lead on the SRF funding. The bids are coming into Russiaville, and Paul Wyman has passed it on to let Russiaville deal with the bids and paperwork.

Easements – Corbin is still working on these.

Steve Carter's field/Dwayne Carter's easement – As for Dwayne Carter, Rob said there should be paperwork in 1989 or 1990, he had gotten permission from Herman Carter to put the drying beds where they are located, as long as he was allowed to drive through our wastewater driveway when he needed to access his woods when he needed to. Corbin King said there is no easement of record on

this. Megan had some paperwork on this and Corbin said he would take it and look into it again.

As for Steve Carter they are not sure what to do with this issue. Don asked for Corbin to look into the easement on Kinsey where Steve is entering the field.

Health Insurance – Jeff Lipinski said he would look at the paperwork of the renewal.

Chicken permit application – Don Parvin made a motion to accept the chicken permit application that goes with ordinance 2018-05. Rob Hewitt seconded. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion as well, therefore the motion passed with Don, Rob, and Jeff.

Community Crossings grant – Don read the listing of the roads for potential 2019 paving list.

Aim – After some discussion about becoming a member or not of Aim, the council is not in favor of becoming a member of Aim. Don Parvin made a motion to deny this. Rob Hewitt seconded. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion as well, therefore the motion passed with Don, Rob, and Jeff.

Credit Cards – Megan Reel had paygov.us come and give her some information and show her a demo of how we can accept credit cards for payment. It will not cost us anything to do this, the customer would pay the fees if they wanted to use a credit card. Don Parvin made a motion to accept the town to be able to take credit/debit cards for payments through paygov. Rob Hewitt seconded. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion as well, therefore the motion passed with Don, Rob, and Jeff.

Bo Britton was present from the Russiaville Volunteer Fire Department to do the contract for 2018. The council and Mr. Britton discussed the amount, and when to pay. \$17,871.00 will be the total amount the Town gives the fire department in 2018. This will be in 2 installments of \$8,935.50, the first one to be paid in June 2018, and the second to be paid in December 2018. These months are different in previous years as the contract has been submitted late. Don Parvin asked Mr. Britton to try to get this done in December 2018 for the following year. Megan

Reel said she would change the contract and get it back to Mr. Britton for board signatures from the fire department, and then he could return it to her for the Town Council to sign.

Don Parvin made a motion to accept the fire department contract for a total of \$17,871.00 for the year, with the changes of the pay months to June and December 2018. Rob Hewitt seconded. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion as well, therefore the motion passed with Don, Rob, and Jeff.

Megan Reel said that last month the council voted to give Marshal Randy Vannatter a raise, we need to put in the minutes where the money was coming from to put into the Marshal's salary appropriation to make this happen. Don Parvin made a motion to transfer the money in the amount of \$2,829.80 from the part-time police appropriation to Marshal salary appropriation. Rob Hewitt seconded. Jeff Lipinski voted in favor of this motion as well, therefore the motion passed with Don, Rob, and Jeff.

Don Parvin said April 21, 2018 is the Little League opening day parade at 9 am, Tri-County Travel Trailers will have their ribbon cutting and open house starting at 9 am, and the Masonic breakfast is 7-10 am.

Don Parvin said when we met with Sate Board of Accounts they said we need to stay within our budget. We cannot just blurt out that we want to give someone a raise and expect it to happen because our budget is tight and need to stick to it. Not that a raise is not deserving but it constricts our budget. Don feels there needs to be a separate meeting among council members to talk about certain things (like raises for employees), instead of just bringing them up in an open meeting. He is just saying we need to discuss before we do. We must stay within appropriations.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, the claims were presented and approved.

Rob Hewitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Don Parvin seconded, and the meeting came to a close.

Jeff Lipinski, President

Megan Reel, Clerk Treasurer