

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

108 E Randolph ST., LaPaz, IN 46537

May 11, 2023 6:00 PM

Council Members

Roger Ecker, Pres.

Ryan Young, Vice

Cathy Welch

Council Members present: Roger Ecker, Ryan Young, Cathy Welch

Council Members absent – none

Town Clerk- Treasurer – present

Town Attorney – present

Call to order – meeting started at 6:00PM

Patrons: Jerry Auer, Bruce Gaziola, Roger Christner, Kevin Berger – Easterday Construction, Tim Abbott, Don Abbott, Justin Risnes of WKUI, Doris Barden, John Lampkins and Shannon McLeod of PPR.

Approval of Minutes: Ecker made a motion to approve the Council Minutes from April 13, 2023, as written. Young second the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Welch-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business: park update: Meeting with the North Township on May 17th to finalize the transfer of the parcels. Attorney Wagner brought to the council Resolution 07-2023 to amend the plat of the park with new updates. Ecker made the motion to pass Resolution 07-2023. Young second the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Welch-aye. Motion Carried 3-0. Once the new plat is recorded, the town will transfer the deed of property to the fire department.

Public Hearing for Park Project: Shannon McLeod stated the Public Hearing is for the grant application submission. She explained to the patrons how the grant process works. Demo work has begun on the existing ball diamonds, fencing, and dug outs. The bleachers were donated to the LaVille girls ball field. The score board was donated to a patron who is building a “field of dreams”. The playground will be a “natural playground” with some new equipment, new sidewalks, new parking, pickle ball courts. Total project cost is \$285,000.00 of which \$233,000.00 is construction and \$52,000.00 for non-construction costs. The grant is for \$200,000.00 with matching funds of \$85,000.00 coming from the Town of LaPaz for \$10,000.00 and \$75,000.00 from the County Crossroads Team. Grant submission is at the end of the month. The second Public Hearing is on Monday May 22nd. She anticipates it will take the state 4-6 weeks to review and approve. Then signing of the plan by Council President. The town will then put an ad in the paper stating the project will not affect the environment. The Troyer Group will then finalize the plans to put out for bid in August or September. She hopes construction to begin in the fall. Completion depends on the weather. Patron Doris Barden was sad all the ball diamonds were being taken out. The clerk stated the town needs to put in cameras to help detain vandalism into the final plans.

LaPaz 150 Sesquicentennial: plans confirmed so far are the pancake breakfast, free book give away, parade, dunk tank, food booths, craft vendors, a car & motorcycle show, cornhole tournament, tug of war contest and fireworks display. Ryan Young is to get Joy Johns for the event. Richie Gay will be putting in electric for the vendors. Ecker suggested a judges stand to be in front of the bank for the parade marshals to be seated. The Wild Sons are sponsoring a benefit ride on the same day taking off at noon from their club location on Michigan Street. Kathy Welch is contacting the Marshall County Historical Society. Donations for fireworks are coming in, \$1250.00 so far. The fees for rental of booth space will go towards the park.

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New Business: Yard Complaints; tall grass complaints are coming in. Listed are 323 Vandalia Street, 109 N Michigan Street, 204 South Street, 217 W Randolph Street, and 108 Wood Street. Officer Bruce Gadziola is going over the yard ordinance to update it. The new ordinance will be ready for the June meeting.

Abandon Vehicles in town: The attorney will update the ordinance on abandoned vehicles for the June meeting as well.

Yard Sales: Discussion was made regarding residents who have a continuous on-going yard sale. The attorney stated a continuous yard sale is running a business which a residence is not zoned for business purpose. It was suggested for a town wide yard sale to be done. Discussion was made regarding whether permits were needed. This item will be addressed in future meetings after some research.

MVH: Quotes for sink hole around the park manhole were taken by Roger Christner. The town received 2 quotes: from Haskins, INC. for \$1275.00 and from RTG Excavating & Trucking LLC for \$1200.00. Discussion was made on both companies and prior work and how to accept quotes versus bids. Ecker Made a motion for RTG company to do the work subject to verification on the RTG company since they had not done work for the town in the past. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Welch-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Sewer: Shut off for non-payment; The council had asked Jerry what it would cost to do a home shut off. He stated the cost would be between \$205.00 - \$250.00 for parts, 3-4 hours labor and small excavator rental \$300.00 for the day. He explained how he would do it.

Police : Semi Traffic on town streets was the concern by Officer Gaziola. A semi took down power lines on Vandalia. He was asking for the town to make an ordinance regarding semi traffic on the town's streets.

Attorney Update: RE: 101 S Michigan Street, he drove by the property again and it is still not cleaned up. He will reach out again to remind the owner that the town has the call back clause in the selling agreement. Wagner will ask to have it cleaned up before June 10, 2023, or the town will take the property back. RE: 227 S Michigan Street Wagner has the complaint ready to file in the morning.

Home Rule Ordinance: an ordinance is needed to take into donations. Discussions were made as to the language to be included. Wagner gave the council Ordinance # 2023-04 to create the funds for the fireworks, Sesquicentennial, Holiday. Ecker made a motion to pass #2023-04 on all three readings. Young second the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Welch-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Patron Comments: Kevin Easterday stated that he will be putting a natural landscape in the unimproved area of the building project. He will bring a plan for the council to approve. Tim Abbott asked about the Dave Albert annexation updates. Mr. Albert still needs to sign. Sarah Hardin was a no show for the meeting.

Financials: Ecker made a motion to approve APV's for April 14th – May 11, 2023 APV's # 4179-#4219 for the amount of \$72,210.15. Young seconded the motion. Roll Call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Welch-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

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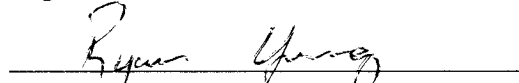
Clerk Update: Clerk asked all departments to submit their budget for their planned spending for 2024. She asked council members who wanted to sign up for the budget workshop on May 22nd that will be virtual from AIM. Ecker stated that he would sign up for the workshop. Clerk stated she is starting to get responses from the people on the TRECS list. Clerk Asked if the Council would approve the invoice from Cashen Creek for funeral flowers. Ecker made a motion to approve to pay \$62.95 to Cashen Creek. Young second the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Welch-aye, Young-aye. Motion Carried 3-0. Clerk bought invoices that she was given to reimburse from Jared McQueen for sewer tank pumping and gas line repair before the council. She questioned if the town was liable for the gas leak repair bill. Jerry Auer stated that the tank pumping was needed for him to do the repairs. Creed Septic was not available, so the homeowner called Huff Septic to do the pumping. The bill was for \$525.00 that the homeowner paid. Jerry Auer had called 811 to mark the utility lines which they did. The homeowner had a gas line to their pool that was not marked by 811. When doing the digging the pool gas line was hit. The homeowner was present at the time but did not inform Auer of the gas line placement. The homeowner had a bill from A&M for \$442.00. The council denied reimbursement for the gas line.

Adjournment: Ecker made a motion to adjourn. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Welch-aye. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM



Roger Ecker, Council President

6-7-2023
date



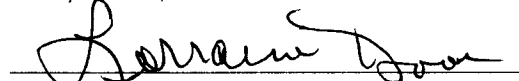
Ryan Young, Vice-President

6-8-2023
date



Cathy Welch, Council Member

6-8-2023
date



Attested: Lorraine Dove, Clerk-Treasurer

6-8-2023
date