

11-26-2024 Town Council Meeting

Renewable Energy Insurance Update Budget Management

Meeting Information

- Date & Time: 2024-11-26 06:04pm
- Location: Town Hall
- Attendees: Rene'e Collier, Marcus King, Pam Brown, Amy LaOrange, Lee Trippett, Ken Smith, Braden Evans, Kevin Ward, Jim Bolen, David Kurth, and Pam Hiner, *Linda Allen RAC*

Meeting Notes

1. Town Council Meeting Updates

- **Amendment A79 for Renewable Energy**
Brayden Evans discussed the final approval of Amendment A79, which updates zoning regulations for renewable energy in White County. The amendment includes increased setbacks from roads and municipalities, changes in zoning districts, and updated requirements for emergency response and screening. Motion to approve was made by CVP LaOrange and seconded by CM King. Motion carried by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays.
- **Town Insurance Update**
CVP LaOrange provided an update on switching the town's insurance agent to John Pramley from Epic Insurance. The switch would not affect costs and offers additional services like training and bonding. The council approved going through with the switch.
- **Water Testing Results**
TE Smith reported that recent water testing showed no detectable synthetic organic or other compounds in the town's water wells. Water supply is safe and the monitoring wells are now dug and testing is ongoing.
- 1. **Grant for Street Repairs**
The town received a grant for street repairs. A map and list of streets were provided, and the process for bidding and grant agreement submission was discussed. TE Smith will handle getting ads placed for bidding. Bidding the job requires running two separate ads for bids, with a 14-day gap, and the formal bidding process involving drawings and specifications. Central Paving, Milestone and Rieth-Riley have shown interest, with Fox Paving potentially joining.

2. Wastewater Plant Updates

TE Smith discussed updates on the wastewater plant, including plans for a concrete or aggregate berm and clarifier arm fabrication.

2. Town Administrative and Financial Matters

- **Legion Purchase Agreement**

Dan Loosbrock signed the agreement to purchase Legion, and TA Rebecca Trent is ordering title search. Closing will be scheduled once search is completed, and the Legion will return \$10,000 that the town donated to the Legion to fix the East wall of the Legion.

- **Legal Services Agreement**

TA Rebecca Trent's legal services agreement for 2025 and 2026 was discussed, with retainer fees set at \$5,000 and \$6,000 respectively. The agreement covers general consultation and attendance at board meetings. The council decided to table discussion of the contract until the December 10, 2024 meeting.

- **HostGator Issues**

The federal government requires the town to stop using HostGator due to issues and violations. Ryan Maxon IT specialist for the town is working on resolving email access problems. Transition to the Indiana Office of Technology email system is planned.

- **Claims Approval**

Claims dated 11-26-2024 totaling \$68,921.14 were reviewed and approved by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays with the motion to approve being made by CVP LaOrange and the second coming from CM King.

- **Park Pavilion Funding**

Discussion on the funding and payments for the Park Pavilion project. The total bid was \$132,950, with various funds allocated, and a shortfall covered by EDP grant money. After much discussion approval was given to issue a check to Leep Home Improvement for final payment on the project.

3. Budget management and allocation, safety concerns, and property management.

- **1782 Notice and Budget Allocation**

The 1782 notice was reviewed, and a suggestion was made to reallocate levy funds for a more balanced budget. The changes were discussed to

better align with cash flows. Approval was given to proceed with the payments, and funds were allocated accordingly.

- **Purdue University Pavement Assessment**

The 2024 pavement assessment management plan was approved by Purdue University, and a certificate was received.

- **Potential Scam Alert**

A claim form was received, possibly indicating a scam related to Visa and MasterCard transactions. It was suggested to have Rebecca review it.

- **Delinquency and Late Fees**

Discussion on late fees and delinquent accounts for utility services provided by the town, with a focus on ensuring late fees are paid and accounts are managed.

- **Electronic Marquee**

Concerns were raised about spending \$30,000 on an electronic marquee given current budget constraint. Discussion was centered on using non-budgeted funds for purchase. It was suggested to use funds for more pressing needs and have been tabled for a future meeting.

- **Security and Safety Concerns**

TM Bolen discussed incidents involving potential assaults and property disputes, with a focus on ensuring safety and proper handling of such situations.

- **Town Property and Park Management**

The Park Board brought to the attention of the council that they would like to do away with the Wessel Building, which they manage, stating that there is no real need for it. The council decided to revisit this next year.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was given by CP Brown and seconded by CVP LaOrange. Motion carried by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays. Meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.

Next Arrangements

CT Collier will send letters to switch insurance agent to John Pramley.

Proceed with bidding process for street repairs.

Continue with plans for wastewater plant improvements.

Vote on TA Rebecca A. Trent's legal services agreement at the next meeting.

Transition to state email system from HostGator.

Council Meeting Minutes for November 26, 2024

Clerk Treasurer

Paul A. Carter

Council President

Paruch S Brown

Yay or Nay Abstain

Council Vice President

Angie Ladner

Yay or Nay Abstain

Council Member

Waver Fin

Yay or Nay Abstain

Council Member

Liz Allen

Yay or Nay Abstain

Council Member

Lee Thomas

Yay or Nay Abstain

Signed this 10th day of December, 2024