

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MAY 13TH, 2020 6:00 P.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING

Attending: David Michael Rowe, President, Debby Shufflebarger and James Sammons, Council Members, Patrick Ryan, Town Attorney and Judy King, Clerk/Treasurer

The meeting was held as a “Go To Meeting” due to the Coronavirus Epidemic

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

Several Remodels

New Construction

Demo will be started on the Cushioning Company on Dunaway Street

Matt will reach out to the property owner of 211 East Graham Street to find out when cleanup will be started.

PARK BOARD

No one present to report

TOWN MANAGER

TJ Firkins reported on the following:

Concrete for the ADA ramps have been completed.

Paving should begin for streets around the first week in June.

Completion of Railroad signs is done.

Painting for the Railroad crossings still needs completed but will wait until paving of streets is completed.

Depot repairs is just about complete.

Diedam’s will be tuck pointing around the chimney at the Depot.

Another pump failed at the Sewage Plant and Hopkins is repairing. Need some kind of warning system on the pumps to alert everyone when failure occurs.

IDEM is requesting that we have a Validator to report water loss. On line courses are available starting in August. Someone will be taking this class.

Taking calls on rusty water so flushing will begin again.

Commonwealth inquired about the Water Study for the south side and wanted to know where do we stand?

TOWN MARSHAL

Julian Elson reported on the following:

67 Calls

Issuing Tall Grass Tickets and giving them 7 days to cut.

Recycling bins were a mess and Julian found a name and an address and contacted the individual that made the mess. The person came and cleaned up and removed all the trash.

112 West Allen and the building next to 215 West Allen have had several complaints. Julian is trying to contact the property owners for cleanup. Also trying to get in touch with 101 West Lincoln to find out what the intentions are on that property. Has been sitting for years with no improvements.

FIRE CHIEF

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

7 Fire Calls

3 Structure Fires

32 Medical

AVIATION

Chuck Classen reported on the following:

Good month in shop for repairs.

Fuel sales are steady.

The Airport will be contacting SealPro to start the black topping.

ATTORNEY

Pat Ryan reported on the following:

Pat received a signed contract on the McCormick property. Mike Rowe will need to sign and he will move forward on it.

Airport received a grant and Mike Rowe will need to sign.

Pat would like to schedule an Executive Session next week in regards to an Economic Development opportunity.

Pat will work on the lease for Newton County Community Services.

CLERK

Judy King reported on the following:

Are we going forward with opening the Depot and Community Center for rentals? The Board said as long as everyone will stay in compliance with what the Governor has requested they did not have a problem with renting the facilities.

Debby Shufflebarger asked that with the repairs and upgrades that have been done at the Depot that we put restrictions in the agreement that they sign. Also, a sign will be posted.

Judy asked if opening of the pool was going to happen this year. Mike Rowe replied not at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike is reviewing the contract for KJG Architecture and will also have Pat look it over. They have been working on the Fire House Project.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike made a motion to pay the overtime for Sam Dewing \$97.56, Chris Latta \$193.05, Rick Purdy \$354.73 and Kory Shufflebarger \$6.72 on pay period #13 and #14 during the Covid Virus. Town Clerk, Judy King, told Mike that she would not approve the overtime pay since none of the guys had worked and fulfilled their normal hours to be able to have overtime pay. Mike answered that the employees were home at the direction of the Board but still on the clock. King stated, I understand that, but explain to me how someone can work 4 hours and go home for 4 hours and still put overtime on their time card. King stated she just wasn't sure how you justify overtime when they are sitting in their homes. Pat Ryan interjected with "There is a disagreement with policy" in which the Board sets

the policy. The second part is about procedure, which is up to The Town Clerk. The Town Board decided to table the discussion until later.

A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve Amended Salary Ordinance #2020-04-08.

A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve Amended Salary Ordinance #2020-05-06.

Mike Davis informed everyone that on Wednesday night 05/20/2020 the “Happy Bus” will be moving around town between the hours of 8:00 and 10:00.

Mike also was hopeful that The Board would extend the contract for Vast Creative who will also be in Kentland on June 2nd, 2020 to take photos.

June 17th, 2020 will be a presentation at the Community Center with the Task Force between the hours of 6:00 and 7:00.

June 20th, 2020 there will be a closing of 3rd Street between 12:00 and 3:00 for a cookout.

Mike is also very involved with Community Development and finding acreage for housing and child care facilities.

Debby Shufflebarger had a letter asking that the fee for the Community Center be waived for July 25th, 2020 for Prom. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to waive the fee.

Debby also had a quote from Infinity Grain for the parking lot at 212 East Graham Street. It will be removal of concrete and curbing. The quote was for \$5,840.00 in which Debby Shufflebarger made a motion to pay and was seconded by James Sammons.

Debby also asked that Matt Wittenborn provide a written report for the Building Commissioner instead of verbal.

Per the Governor’s plan, the parks will open on May 24th, 2020.

Baseball and softball is set to resume. Practices will begin on May 24th, 2020 and games start on June 14th, 2020

Upon motion by James Sammons and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger the minutes from April 8th, 2020 were approved but not signed.

Upon motion by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe the claims were approved but not signed yet.

Upon motion by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by James Sammons the financial report was approved but not signed yet.

Debby Shufflebarger inquired when the Town Hall would be open again. Judy told Debby that they are working 8 hours a day and taking appointments but not open to the public at this time.

Being no further business, upon motion by Mike Rowe and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger, the meeting was adjourned.

David Michael Rowe, President

Debby Shufflebarger, Member

James Sammons, Member
Treasurer

Attest:

Judy M. King, Clerk/