

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 6:00 P.M**  
**KENTLAND TOWN HALL**

**Attending: David Michael Rowe, President, Debby Shufflebarger and James Sammons, Council Members, Patrick Ryan and Becky Goddard, Attorneys and Judy King, Clerk/Treasurer**

**The meeting opened by saying the Pledge of Allegiance**

**A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by James Sammons to elect Mike Rowe for president of the board.**

**A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to appoint Mike Rowe to the Newton County Economic Development Board.**

**A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to appoint Debby Shufflebarger to the Northwest Solid Waste Board.**

**Bob Peters from Colonial Life brought information on his company and what they could offer for the town employees. Extra medical costs and life insurance.**

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER**

**Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:**

**3 permits for a total of \$500.00 for the month**

**PARK BOARD**

**No one was present**

**TOWN MANAGER**

**TJ Firkins reported on the following:**

The walk bridge has been fixed by Infinity Grain from damage due to the flood.

F&K have completed the dredging south of town.

Inspection from IDEM was done and two repairs need to be fixed.

Will be starting interviews for the trash position.

Trying to schedule testing at Ivy Tech for Chris Latta and himself.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE

Julian Elson reported on the following:

96 calls

Training is finished up

Looked into pricing for fencing on the remote gate. Steve's Overhead door was \$5,049.00.

#### FIRE CHIEF

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

7 Fire calls

29 Medical calls

1 Training

For the 2020 year they had 301 events that they participated in

#### AVIATION

They may have found a caretaker for the Airport. Chuck would work with them for the entire year to transition them into the spot. They have not approached the individual at this time but wanted the Town Boards approval to go ahead with an interview. The Town Board was okay with this idea.

7300 gallons of fuel sold in 2020 compared to 7800 gallons of fuel in 2019

#### ATTORNEY

Pat Ryan reported on the following:

Pat brought Becky Goddard and would like her to start attending the board meetings to free him up with other items. Pat will still be the attorney for

the Town, but he needs to focus on the Redevelopment Commission and the projects on their agenda.

#### CLERK

Judy King reported on the following:

Judy presented an Amended Salary Ordinance #2021-01-13-02 for approval. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve Amended Salary Ordinance #2021-01-13-02.

#### PRIVELEDGE OF THE FLOOR

Mike Davis would like the Town of transfer the park ground over to the Redevelopment Commission so they could get moving on the project. Pat Ryan said a resolution would need to be adopted under code 36-1-11-8 and he would get that started. In the meantime a motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by James Sammons to transfer the park property to the Redevelopment Commission.

Cecil Whitaker, from Whitaker Engineering, was present to let the board know that he would like to start Phase II of the ditch repairs. This will identify the problems and channel the debris. He suggested that the Town Board contact the County Surveyor and Drainage Board to set up meetings to discuss this. This needs to be started now and not to wait. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to start Phase II.

#### OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by James Sammons to approve the End of Year minutes from December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by James Sammons to approve the claims.

A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve the financial statement.

#### NEW BUSINESS

An ordinance to increase the monthly cost for trash pickup was presented. The cost will increase from \$6.50 per month to \$9.50 per month over the next 3 years. Each year will increase by \$1.00 per year. So 2021 will increase to \$7.50 per month starting on the February 2021 bills. In 2022 it will increase to \$8.50 and in 2023 it will increase to \$9.50. A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by James Sammons to approve Ordinance #2021-01-12 for an increase to residents on trash costs.

An ordinance was presented to increase sewage costs. In 2016 a rate study had been done and increases on the sewage were implemented in 2016 and 2017. The third year increase was not done in 2018. The board approved the increase for the third and final year, effective on the February 2021 bills that will come out in March 2021. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve the final year of increase on Ordinance #2016-08-09.

Being no further business, upon motion by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by James Sammons, meeting was adjourned.

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David Michael Rowe, President

Debby Shufflebarger, Member

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James Sammons, Member  
Treasurer

Attest:

Judy M. King, Clerk/

