

REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 10TH, 2022 5:00 P.M.
KENTLAND TOWN HALL

**Attending: Debby Shufflebarger, President, James Sammons and David Michael Rowe, Council Members, Rebecca Goddard, Attorney and Judy King, Clerk/
Treasurer**

The meeting opened by saying the Pledge of Allegiance

Opening bids for the tanker:

1 bid was received from Alexis Fire Equipment in the amount of \$357,157.00 and with options the amount will be \$361,840.00. The Kentland Jefferson Township Trustee will be putting \$350,000.00 towards a tanker for the fire department. This tanker is being built for a demo model and will have 0 miles on it. The purchase of the tanker would not take place until January of 2023. Debby asked Matt Wittenborn, Fire Chief if they could come up with the rest of the money without spending funds in his budget. Matt said with fund raisers he thought they could come up with another \$10,000.00 and using the rest of what is needed from his budget. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve the purchase of the tanker at \$361,840.00.

Mr. Dave Jordan from Jordan Manufacturing was present to ask once again for his tax abatement to be renewed. Mr. Jordan retired two years ago but his daughter is now running the company. Employees for the Kentland Plant is between 75 and 110. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve the tax abatement for Jordan Manufacturing.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

- 7 Permits issued**
- 1 Demo**
- 1 Deck**
- 3 Pools**

1 New Construction

1 Electrical

Bringing in a total of \$425.00 for the 7 permits

Matt asked if the fence ordinance had been put in place. Debby asked Matt to go over it to review and make suggestions on what needs changed or added.

Update on the Lincoln Street apartments from the fire damage:

Cleanup and restoration is going well and they will have the north 8 apartments ready to move back in to within a month. The other 8 will take longer with trusses that will need repaired.

TOWN MANAGER

Ricky Hughes reported on the following:

Ken Smith will be getting him bids for the street repaving. Judy King spoke up and said she had them and assumed Ricky received a copy also. Judy will get the bids to Ricky to review.

Whitaker Engineering is working on repairs for the pool tile for next year.

Whitaker Engineering inquired if the surveys were done and recorded for the parcels at Batton Park.

Matt Whitaker mentioned that the pavilion at Batton Park can stay with no issues of being in the way of development. Mike Davis brought up that the Task Force has had discussion in regards to removing the pavilion and starting over. The Kentland Town Council would like to table this and discuss later.

The Concession Building at Batton Park has been demolished and clean up still needs to happen.

Ricky received 3 bids for demolition at 306 East Owen Street. Yoder Drainage LLC \$13,500.00; Dirt Diggers Excavating \$14,650.00 & Rod Green Excavating \$16,500.00. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to obtain Yoder Drainage for the demolition at 306 East Owen Street. Judy called NIPSCO for gas and electric to be retired at the property and the electric will take about 4 weeks.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Julian Elson reported on the following:

161 Calls for service

Julian has been off of work for vacation and family visiting

FIRE CHIEF

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

5 Fire Calls

1 Business Meeting

1 Training Meeting

1 PR Event

15 Medical Calls

Flag pole has been installed at new fire house.

Repairs have been made to electrical and concrete that were damaged.

Matt will be meeting with Equiteam tomorrow for issues that still have not been repaired.

Debby has hired a company for the donor wall at the fire house.

Shooting for September Open House for the New Fire House.

WB Mowing should be laying and finishing up sod this week. When completed, Judy will get them paid for their work.

AVIATION

Chuck Classen reported on the following:

Fuel sales have soared for the month. 3800 gallons were sold and more fuel needed to be ordered.

Chuck announced that his official last day will be August 31st. He has a few projects that need to be finished and he is working on a manual that will take longer than the 31st, but he will be working on these projects from home. The Board thanked him for his time that he has worked at the Airport and presented him with a certificate.

Jim Butler reported on the helipad. FAA and INDOT urged them to wait after receiving bids for this. It should cost around \$150,000.00 but when bids were received they were around \$250,000.00. With costs that are unknown at this time for materials the Airport Board rejected all bids and will try to have this rebid for next year.

They will be proceed with sealing of the runway which should start in September. The Airport will be closed for about 10 days for the repairs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mike Davis reported on the following:

Task Force met on the 27th of July and discussed the Thrive Project. They still have a few interested parties for the Child Care.

Jasper/Newton Foundation is working with them on the Kentland Endowment Fund and on housing.

Southside Park should be finished up shortly.

Mike spoke with K-IRPC in regards to the Main Street Program which he feels that the Board has many projects that need to be completed before taking this on. The Board agreed and will be holding off on this.

ATTORNEY

Becky Goddard reported on the following:

The Tesky and Clark properties have been transferred over to the Town of Kentland.

Becky presented a quit claim deed for the parking lot on Third Street from the Town of Kentland to the Redevelopment Commission.

Becky received a response after sending a letter in regards to a garage at 110 East Ray Street. They will be taking the building down.

CLERK

Judy King had nothing to report

Privilege of the Floor

Old Business

Debby was contacted by the Jasper/Newton Foundation in regards to money to be sent to the Town of Kentland in the amount of \$6,248.15. Judy inquired if the funds should be put in Unrestricted until they decide what to do with it. A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to deposit funds in Unrestricted.

Debby asked if everyone has a chance to go over budgets for 2023. Julian asked if possibly a new car could be purchased for the police department in 2023. He was told if the time arises that there will be a need, Judy will ask of additional appropriations.

A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve the minutes from July 13th, 2022.

A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by James Sammons to approve the minutes from Special Meeting July 20th, 2022.

A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by James Sammons to approve the claims.

A motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve the financial statement.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Rowe said that Newton County Economic Development will be giving the Town of Kentland \$7,500.00 to use for furniture and 2 10' x 12' cabana's. Mike would like Ricky to start getting an area prepared west of the slides at pool and south of the basketball courts. This will be for private rentals during the season.

Being no further business, a motion was made by James Sammons and seconded by Mike Rowe to adjourn the meeting.

Debby Shufflebarger, President

James Sammons, Member

David Michael Rowe, Member

Attest:

Judy M. King, Clerk/Treasurer