

**REGULAR MEETING
MAY 10TH, 2023 5:00 P.M.
KENTLAND TOWN HALL**

Attending: Debby Shufflebarger, President, Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman, Council Member, Rebecca Goddard, Attorney and Judy King, Clerk/Treasurer

The meeting opened by saying the Pledge of Allegiance

A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to approve the April 12th, 2023 minutes.

A motion was made by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve the April 26th, 2023 minutes.

A motion was made by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve the claims.

A motion was made by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve the financial statement.

BULDING COMMISSIONER

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

4 Permits Issued for a total of \$2,300.00

Matt presented the contract for Brightspeed.

Matt had a discussion with the Marathon Gas Station and has not seen any progress on the cleanup. He will be getting with Becky to send out a letter to get their attention.

Matt received a contract from Brightspeed for installation of fiber that was signed and approved by Debby Shufflebarger and Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman.

Matt received an email from Verizon inquiring about permits needed for work in the area. The town has nothing in place at this time for charging for said permits. Judy will notify Verizon that they will not be charged for permitting fees.

TOWN MANAGER

Ricky Hughes reported on the following:

Closing date of August 6th, 2023 was approved for the swimming pool.

Emma Krug will be managing the pool this year. Ricky, received 16 applications for life guards, 7 applications for concession workers and 3 applications for assistant manager. Chemicals were ordered and received.

Ricky and the staff had a zoom meeting with IDEM in regards to the Lead Service Line Inventory.

Lights have been repaired at the Community Center.

Concrete parking lot for the Southside Park is completed.

Town & Country should be in town for paving streets between June 1st and June 30th.

Ricky asked if the hours could be changed for Himself and the staff for summer. They would like to work 6:00 to 2:30 Monday – Friday from May through October. Trash pickup would continue to start at 7:00 a.m. A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to approve the summer hours.

Bill Bevin's spoke with Ricky and inquired about more lighting at the Depot and a possibility of a ramp to enter the building.

Town Wide Cleanup appears to be successful. All three dumpsters were full.

Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman brought up the dirt at Batton Park. No dirt will be leaving until the project has started. The project may need more of the dirt.

Debby Shufflebarger asked Ricky if he would touch base with Matt Whitaker to see if the storm projects have been scheduled for repairs on 1st and U.S. 24 and the Third Street Parking Lot.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Jamie Wirtz reported on the following:

99 Calls in which 35 of the calls were taken by Newton County Sheriff's Department. Jamie has been enforcing ordinance violators'.

Jamie has gotten with Becky Goddard to send letters to home owners for violations.

The Golf Cart Ordinance will be incorporating UTV's into it.

FIRE CHIEF

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

6 Fire Calls

1 Business Meeting

1 Training Meeting

24 Medical Calls

Matt sat down with Jim Schoen from Hoosier Associates and added and removed items from the inventory.

The Fire Department is working on their 1st Pancake Breakfast

New tanker is still not complete.

A tanker chassis will be taken to Village Motors to start modifications and then returned to be painted.

A repeater is going to be needed and Matt will get a cost for that. The pagers are not working properly as of now since the Communication Center was moved from Kentland to Morocco. Calls are being missed and the County will not be helping out with this anytime soon.

AVIATION

Jim Butler reported on the following:

Skirting work is being repaired at the airport

Bids for the West Ramp Project and Helipad Project will be coming in soon.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mike Davis reported on the following:

Schedule for the photo shoots will be June 6th, June 23rd and July 12th.

A huge thank you to Chandlor, Ricky, Rick and David for the concrete parking lot at the Southside Park.

The Christmas Committee met with Jim and Julie Butler at the airport.

Mike has been in contact with Tom Pipes in regards to the New Pavilion and its location at Batton Park.

Autumn Trace is receiving a lot of inquiries to sign up for the living space. They will be holding another information meeting soon.

ATTORNEY

Rebecca Goddard reported on the following:

Becky and the Board received an email from AT&T along with a contract and some repairs that they are asking about. It is beyond their scope of knowledge, so Becky will be reaching out to Whitaker Engineering to see if they would look it over before anyone signs.

CLERK

Judy King reported on the following:

Judy submitted a "Revised Holiday Schedule for 2023".

OLD BUSINESS

The Amended Grass Ordinance #9307 was presented for signatures. A motion was made by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve the ordinance.

Ricky Hughes has asked for an additional position and Judy King came up with figures on what an additional position would cost the town. With wages, insurance and retirement it would be a cost of \$59,500.00 for one year. Judy also responded with paying them from water and sewage for the first year since no money has been budgeted in the street department for an additional position. Debby's concern is that right now we have spent more from water and sewage than what has been brought in. The water rates have not been increased since 2011 and the last sewage rate increase was in 2021 but should have taken effect in 2018. Debby suggested the possibility that the town could hire a part time sanitation driver and put Sam on streets for the 40 hours a week that is needed. The board would like to table this discussion until a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Mayhew asked if they could plant a tree at Cast Park in memory of his mother. Debby Shufflebarger and Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman are fine with that. Mark also asked about painting lines on the tennis courts for a pickle ball court. Two pickle ball courts would be able to fit within the space. The Board was okay with him taking this on also.

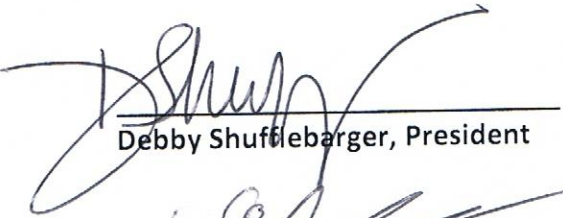
A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held at the Kentland Depot for the New Nutrition Site on Tuesday May 16th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Judy will reach out to Vast and all others for the notice.


Mike and Terry Brown were present. On June 11th, 2022 they had water coming up the drain floor in their garage. It ruined drywall in their kitchen and bath area of the garage. They had Butch Wang a plumber come to fix the repairs who then called Johnson Sewer. It appeared that the sewer line was backing up and into their garage. It was not clogged on the Brown's end but from the town. Mr. Brown would like the town to pay for the repairs. Ricky said that he turned this into our insurance company back in June of 2022 and it was denied. Debby will call on Thursday and speak to Jim Schoen about why the claim was denied and report back to the Brown's.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mara Davis inquired about all the golf carts on the walking paths. Maybe a bigger sign can be put up stating "No Motorized Vehicles". They just put the signs up last year and a suggestion was made that maybe Jamie should start fining the offenders. Jamie suggested that maybe somehow it needs to be worked into the ordinance

Being no further business, a motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman, to adjourn the meeting.


Debby Shufflebarger, President


Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman, Member


David Michael Rowe, Member

Attest:


Judy M. King, Clerk/Treasurer