

**REGULAR MEETING
JULY 12TH, 2023 5:00 P.M.
KENTLAND TOWN HALL**

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

The meeting opened by saying the Pledge of Allegiance

Bids were opened for a shed at Batton Park that was advertised for sale. Tony Voglund put a bid in for \$20.00 and Christy Durham put a bid in for \$378.00. Debby asked Tony if he would like to put a bid in higher than the \$378.00 and Tony told her no. A motion was made by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman and seconded by Mike Rowe to accept the bid from Christy Durham. Judy will get with her on payment and arrangements to move it.

A motion was made by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve the minutes from June 14th, 2023.

A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to approve the minutes from June 28th 2023.

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

A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve the financials.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

12 Permits issued for the month totaling \$1,260.00.

2 Footing inspections

Inspection was made on Autumn Trace today. They are moving right along with the project.

FIRE CHIEF

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

4 Fire calls

1 Business meeting

2 PR Events

16 Medical calls

Alexxys Standish was crowned IVFA Miss Flame for 2023.

Fire Department provided medical coverage for the concert at the Fair on July 8th, 2023.

TOWN MANAGER

Ricky Hughes reported on the following:

Tennis Courts are almost finished.

Ricky thinks he has found someone that can come and look at the sign at the Community Center, but they charge \$135.00 per hour. The Board asked that he move forward with the company since the sign is not working.

Will start working in the ditch tomorrow for removal of trees. He has 3 individuals that have committed to help.

Still working to remove concrete pad at empty lot next to Kentland Automotive.

Community Crossing Grant needs to be done by the end of July. Town match right now will be \$55,000.00. If you only want to spend \$50,000.00 for Town match, than something needs to be taken off the list. The cost that Ricky received from Ken Smith is:

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|--|-------------|
| 4 th Street Widening | \$13,000.00 |
| Iroquois from 2 nd to 4 th | \$22,500.00 |
| Capitol from Ade to 6 th | \$ 6,000.00 |
| North 3 rd from Holley to Maple | \$ 7,500.00 |
| Carroll from 1 st to Dead End | \$ 6,000.00 |

The Board will remove Carroll from 1st to Dead End, off of the paving list for this time.

Debby has received several concerns that in the 100 block of Third Street people cannot see the lines on the road. Debby asked Ricky to look into the re-striping of the road.

Emily Gustin from Vast gave an update.

June and July newsletters have been posted.

June's photo shoot had over 4,000 photos.

Launching two new campaigns – Historical and Community Fund

CHIEF OF POLICE

Jamie Wirtz reported on the following:

197 Calls

101 of those calls KPD took care of

Dog issue on Graham Street has been resolved.

August 15th the new body cams should arrive

Jamie received 3 quotes for front brake and rotors.

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| CR Repair | \$ 502.89 |
| Alsop | \$1,373.73 |
| Alsop | \$1,664.42 |

Jamie will be checking with Alsop's to make sure they didn't quote the front and back also.

DeVault's has ordered a new bumper and will install when it arrives.

Jamie spoke with a company about repairs to a guard rail at the ditch and they will be getting him a quote.

Jamie spoke with Newton County Highway about signage on our bridges. They will be looking into that on weights and get them posted.

Jamie will get with Attorney Goddard for ordinance violations at the Red Roof Inn. Many repairs need to be done and they will not return his phone calls.

Jamie is working on an ordinance for a stop sign at 4th and Allen.

AVIATION

Jim Butler reported on the following:

Grant for Phase 4 at the airport has been approved and it will cost the Town a little over \$60,000.00 for matching funds. Jim spoke with Tim Meyer – Newton County Economic Development to see if the remaining funding that was awarded to the Airport could be used for that. Tim will check and let Jim know.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mike Davis reported on the following:

Mara Davis will be paying for pudding cups for the fencing design.

Mara Davis also paid for trees and plants for the Southside Park.

Mike, Chandlor, Casey Ward and Mara Davis will meet tomorrow to discuss colors for the pavilion.

Brianne Hooker reached out to Mike in regards to surveys for the needs for a Wellness Center and Child Care in Kentland.

ATTORNEY

Becky Goddard reported on the following:

Becky asked if everything was good with NETCO (phone) and moving forward. Judy said that she had spoken with Kyle Mark this past week in regards to the new phone service and he thought everything was good. Judy has still not heard anything back from them on when the new service will be provided.

Becky brought the contract and addendum for the pool repairs to the meeting and Debby Shufflebarger signed them and Becky will get it sent off. This was approved at an earlier meeting on April 12th, 2023 contingent on approval from our attorney.

Becky will be checking with Whitaker Engineering in regards to repairs that are needed to the concrete at the water tower.

Debby inquired where we stand with the lease for ATT. Becky said that she had sent it on to Whitaker's for their input on the design.

Debby also inquired about the property on Owen Street that we advertised and did not receive any bids on. The Board would like to drop the cost of starting bid to \$4,500.00 and see if we can't get bids on it. Becky is looking into that.

CLERK

Judy King reported on the following:

Judy gave the Board a shut off list and asked that they look it over and if anyone had questions to get with her.

PARK BOARD

Casey Ward reported on the following:

They had their first meeting and they are looking into several events for the Town.

Casey also was told that she could possibly receive funding from Newton County Park Board and Newton County Economic Development.

Casey is also looking into some possible matching grants for the parks.

OLD BUSINESS

Planning Commission had a vacancy from Jim Sammons stepping down. Debby approached Rodney Dyer and he has agreed to sit on that board as a democrat.

BZA still has a vacancy and it is not filled at this time.

Debby and several others had a phone meeting with Baker Tilly, Commonwealth Engineers, and K-IRPC in regards to moving forward with the water project. The Town of Kentland needs to let SRF know by August 1, 2023 if we would like to move forward with the project. If moving forward, a design needs to be prepared and bids will have to be received by April 1, 2024. But with all of this being said, no one can tell The Town of Kentland how much grant funding the town will receive before a decision can be made. Commonwealth Engineers gave a ballpark figure on the design alone at \$500,000.00. The Board will table this for discussion at the July 26th, 2023 Ordinance Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Laviathan Partners who own the property at 802 East Dunaway are interested in donating the property to the town. Debby would like to be able to see the environmental report before a decision is made and also this would be a big cost to the town for cleanup.

Mike Rowe wanted to let everyone know that the Copy Cyclist will be arriving at 7:45 A.M. on July 17th this year.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Alan Washburn was present to update on his situation with the property located at 3758 West and 1500 South. A water leak appeared and he has been diligently trying to get this fixed for over a year. Alan had someone from United Leak Detection (referred by the town) supposedly find the leak, which he did not. Alan then tried for 3 months to get him back again and when he finally showed back up, still did not find the leak. In the meantime, Alan has replaced all the water lines with new lines. His consumption had doubled and so that means his bills had doubled. The late fees have been taken off but no credit has been issued at this time. Alan would like to have a credit if possible. The Town would like to get another read on the property before a decision is made, but our tower reading is down and also Rick could not get a read. The Board will review when a read is provided.

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

Debby Shufflebarger, President

David Michael Rowe, Member

Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman, Member

Attest: _____
Judy M. King, Clerk/Treasurer