

**REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 5:00 P.M.  
KENTLAND TOWN HALL**

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

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

**A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to approve the minutes from January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting.**

**A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to approve the minutes from January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting.**

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

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

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

**BULDING COMMISSIONER**

**Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:**

**No new permits were issued for the month.**

**Have had numerous calls on permits and setbacks and Matt is anticipating a busy spring.**

**Tom Pipes from Autumn Trace has pushed the final inspection back 2 weeks to make sure everything is up to code.**

**TOWN MANAGER**

**Ricky Hughes reported on the following:**

**Ricky is still working to get quotes for installation of water softener installed at the Community Center.**

**The concession and bathroom flooring should start on March 11<sup>th</sup>. The quote that was given was only good for 30 days, so the cost has increased by \$330.00. Total cost will be \$6,907.74 and will be paid by Jefferson Township Trustee.**

**Ricky received two quotes on a new trash truck from Best Choice:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Option: 33 yard truck with side arm load. \$384,976.84 is the cost and price for toter cans were \$59,600.00.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Option: 40 yard truck with front curotto can. \$447,197.89 is the cost and price for toter can were \$59,600.00.**

**MacAllister did the annual inspections and repairs are needed. The lift station at First and 1500 South needs a radiator replaced at \$6,755.00. Inspection at the**

Sewage Plant needs new clock heater and wiring harness at \$2,030.00. A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to approve the expenses for repairs.

Ricky has been in touch with Denny Ritchie to replace 4 steel doors at the Sewage Plant. Total cost with labor will run \$4,443.00. A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to move forward on the replacement of the doors.

Training will begin in early spring for the street sweeper.

#### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Jamie Wirtz reported on the following:

79 Calls for the month.

Railroad has cleaned up some of their debris from U.S. 41 to Second Street. They will be revamping the railroad this summer from Remington, Indiana to Effner, Illinois.

Property at 314 East Iroquois Drive is still a problem. Jamie will get with Becky Goddard about the court order that we have in place.

Jamie would like to get signage for No Semi's Allowed and placed throughout the town.

Jamie would like to get speed limit signs posted on Bailie Street.

Debby inquired if the speed limit could be changed in front of the Library or possibly a cross walk. Jamie will look into that.

Jamie would like to reactivate the Reserve Program for the Town of Kentland. He has 3 individuals picked out and this will be at no cost to the town. The reserves will receive 200 hours of training before they are out on their own.

Jamie asked if possibly \$500.00 could be set aside for housing when needed for homeless or stranded individuals. Debby told Jamie that the Township Trustee has something in place for this.

Jamie asked if the board would consider the Police Department getting a Yamaha UTV for their use. This would be at no cost to the town and we could return after a year and get another one or just give it back. Debby told Jamie she did not feel that this was a need for the department and it would cost the town with purchasing insurance and gasoline and other necessities. Debby's vote was no. Mike Rowe voted yes. Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman would like to have more information provided to him before he votes.

#### **FIRE CHIEF**

Matt Wittenborn reported on the following:

5 Fire Calls

1 Business Meeting

2 Trainings

County has purchased new pagers and they are being programmed and should be in use next week.

Old tanker is nearing completion.

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fish Fry will be held March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. at the Fire House.

## **AVIATION**

James Butler reported on the following:

Flooring repair cost will be \$4,132.50 at the airport. A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by Mike Rowe to approve the repairs.

## **PARK BOARD**

Casey Ward reported on the following:

Elections were held in January and Casey Ward will stay on as President and Kyle Robbins was appointed, secretary.

Casey would like to have Lincoln Street closed for the activities at the Park in May. The board agreed.

The Park Board is looking into activities for the summer.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Mike Davis reported on the following:

Thursday and Friday meetings will be held for the Stillar Community Development. This includes several communities to work together.

Ribbon Cutting and Donor Dedication at the park will be May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 starting at 2:00 P.M.

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 will be a Public Task Force meeting and discussion will be Child Care.

Architect is still working on the sign that is to be located on U.S. 41.

## **ATTORNEY**

Rebecca Goddard was not present

## **CLERK**

Judy King reported on the following:

Easter Egg Hunt is coming up and looking to spend \$500.00 to \$600.00 for that program. A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to approve the spending.

Mendy Williams and Bryan Havens were in attendance to ask if the Sheldon Soccer Camp could move to Kentland and use Cast Park for their activity. They have insurance and all the equipment and would need two fields. They would be selling concessions and would need electricity. A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to approve the soccer program to be held at Cost Park in June 2024.

Shawn Cain, KIRPC had a contract for Debby Shufflebarger and Judy King to sign. Gabrielle Taber, Commonwealth Engineers also gave an update on the filtration plant. It appears that they are not showing that the Town of Kentland has no easement right of ways at 901 North First Street. Permission will be needed from the board to continue looking into this matter. A motion was made by Debby Shufflebarger and seconded by Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman to continue. Contact will be made to Louis Stutesman to see if she can't find and provide that

for them. Gabrielle also inquired about fencing around the generator at the filtration plant. The board would like to have it fenced.

Ken Smith was in attendance to see if the paving bids were awarded. A motion was made by Mike Rowe and seconded by Debby Shufflebarger to award the Community Crossing Paving Grant to Central Paving at \$168,339.80 and the storm drain repair to Central Paving at \$24,329.00.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Todd Smart had reached out to Debby Shufflebarger to see if the gym could be opened at least one night a week for open gym. The board would need to have an adult at the gym to monitor the activity and at this time, they have no one.

**ADJOURN**

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

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Debby Shufflebarger, President

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David Michael Rowe, Member

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Chandlor Weiss-Brinkman, Member

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Judy M. King, Clerk/Treasurer