

TOWN OF ADVANCE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: ADVANCE TOWN HALL

May 11, 2020

7:00 PM

112 N. Main – P. O. Box 67 Advance, IN 46102 Phone: (765) 676-6611 – Fax (765) 676-6696

Email: advanceCT@townofadvance.com

Council Members: Matt Johnson, Melody Fry, Dale Thompson, and Jim Caldwell

Clerk Treasurer – Shari Johnson

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Attendees: Council Members: President Fry, Matt Johnson, Dale Thompson and Jim Caldwell
Council Members

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Others in attendance: Amy Nooning, Town Attorney (virtually), Steve Brock, Town CPA (virtually),

President Fry called to order the Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Essential business was conducted at this meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Fry turned the meeting over to Steve Brock.

Mr. Brock advised of \$473,628 need in addition to cover the WWTP project costs, the SRF granted an additional \$425,000 in forgivable loans to the town with a reduced interest rate from 2.5% to 2.0%. The amount to loan would increase to \$157,628 and less than \$2.00 for less than 4000 gallon usage.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion for Mr. Brock to move forward with an amended rate study to cover the loan amount of \$157,628.00 for the closing with the SRF. Councilman Johnson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the scope changes on the WWTP Project. Councilman Johnson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell questioned the closing date and if it would be 30 days? CT Johnson recommended probably 30-60 days and Mr. Brock concurred. CT also questioned if Heather James, Bond Attorney, would create a new timeline and Mr. Brock concurred that as well.

CT Johnson questioned if the notice of award needed to be published and Legal Counsel advised no. Moving forward, Mr. Ladd must prepared revised plans and specifications. Once we receive notice of IDEM approval (permits) and notice of award, an agreement for Graves will be prepared. Councilman Johnson stated we'd be looking at 90-120 days.

CT questioned how long do we have with OCRA to complete the project for their timeline? Mr. Brock stated that Shannon McLeod, grant administrator would need to get approval from OCRA for the scope reduction, and then SRF would need to close and there would be time to complete the project under the OCRA timeline.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the March 9, 2020 meeting. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

There was no meeting in April 2020.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Special Meeting held on May 4, 2020. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

No departmental reports were presented at this meeting.

President Fry discussed code enforcement to handle weeds and violations.

CT advised only essential business and highlighted areas were to be covered.

Discussion of Reserves for the police department ensued.

Councilman Thompson requested that work to condemn trailers needs to move forward. Councilman Johnson stated he and President Fry drove around town and reviewed properties and the Town Marshal needed to do the same.

President Fry stated that 3 letters need to go out to Pratts, and Sonny Carter. Councilman Caldwell stated properties needed to be found on GIS. CT stated the new site is not user friendly. Legal Counsel stated that Terry Batts is good to work with. Council discussed 30 days to clean up the properties.

Discussion ensued regarding the water tower generator and damage caused by mice. CT stated that a claim needs to be filed with the insurance. Councilman Thompson stated that the wiring is covered in soy bean oil and that is why the mice are eating it.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to pay WW Williams \$3052.54 for generator repairs on Onan generator. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

CT will be working to get insurance claim filed and a coating spray.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion approve the agreement with UMAC to conduct and validate the AWWA audit for \$800.00 to complete the report and \$1500.00 to be validated every even year following 2020. Councilman Johnson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Johnson made a motion for the TC President to sign the agreement. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell stated that IMPA is lowering their invoices by 4% for April, May and June.

Councilman Caldwell discussed the AMI Meters and would cost \$46,000.00 and \$3000.00 per year for maintenance and that the new meters are more accurate and should help with line loss. In 2017 – 2019, IMPA has improved our line loss by 2.8%. The solar park is also cutting the peak demand, at \$.06. Councilman Caldwell stated the meters could be read from the office and disconnected from the office. If meters go down, the system will notify.

CT Johnson questioned if the \$46,000.00 include the software and everything for the system. Councilman Caldwell stated that IMPA purchased the software and \$3000.00 a year for town maintenance. Councilman Caldwell requested a vote for this system.

Councilman Johnson asked if there was a quote and if the \$46,000.00 covered everything, and Councilman Caldwell stated he believed so.

CT Johnson stated Legal Counsel stated an agreement would be needed before a vote could be made. Amy Nooning, Legal Counsel also stated that during the Coronavirus, to keep in mind that no one knows what happens with account balances at this time. Many may be negatively affected by the virus.

Claims:

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve/ratify the claims for April 17, 2020 in the amount of \$85,673.45 and approve the claims for May 11, 2020 in the amount of \$70588.33. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Old Business:

ITRON agreement is still pending and iCloud were tabled.

Employee Handbook recommendations - tabled

Century Link contract is tabled. The Town is awaiting reply from Century Link for Pole Attachment rates.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve Century Link's payment half of the rental fee of 4 years for back years to the town for unbilled pole rental fees and any past claims in the amount of \$928.20. Councilman Johnson and Councilman Thompson voted **yea**. President Fry voted **nay**.

The Capital Assets project is still pending.

President Fry stated she would work on drafting a letter of Code Violations to be mailed.

New Business:

President Fry read Ordinance 2020-01: An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2019-07 Fixing Salaries and Wages of Town Officials and Employees of the Town of Advance During the Year 2020.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2020-01 on its first reading. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-01. Councilman Johnson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the Return to Work Plan for the Town of Advance. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the waiving of the March and April late fees, March \$2347.76 and April \$1786.55 and late fees waived until June. Councilman Johnson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Legal Counsel advised a resolution will be done to address all events during the Coronavirus.

President Fry stated there was a dead tree that needed to be removed on Wall Street. CT Johnson questioned if Dale was still taking down trees. Councilman Caldwell stated yes.

Billing Disputes:

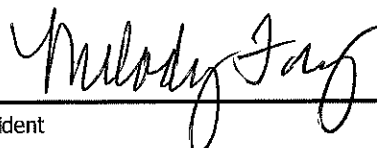
None requested.

Request to Speak:

None requested.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 20:20.

X 
Clerk Treasurer

X 
President

The next Council meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2020 at (19:00) 7:00 p.m. at the Advance Volunteer Fire Department, 106 E. Wall St., Advance, IN.