

TOWN OF ADVANCE

SPECIAL MEETING – MINUTES

Interviewing for Open Council Seat

LOCATION: ADVANCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

August 5, 2020

6:00 PM

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

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

Clerk Treasurer – Shari Johnson

Marshall: Brad Thomas

Attendees:

Council Members: Melody Fry, President, Dale Thompson, and Jim Caldwell

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Also in attendance: Frank Forbus, Amanda Lyles, JR Shelton and Patricia Shelton

President Fry called to order the Special Meeting at 18:00.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Fry thanked everyone for their interest and caring about their community.

President Fry lead in questioning candidates. She began with Ms. Lyles and asked what she felt her strengths were. Ms. Lyles stated was a business owner in the community as a hair dresser. She has been listening to those in the community of their wants and needs. She felt she was good at being personable and felt she

was a problem solver. In addition, she felt she was a leader. She stated she was young, willing to learn and had experience.

Councilman Caldwell questioned Ms. Lyles of her accomplishments. Ms. Lyles stated she had invested money in the community and spent time here. She also stated she grew up in town and is building a life here.

President Fry questioned one thing Ms. Lyles would like to see change in town and she replied reduce speeders in town.

Councilman Caldwell questioned if anyone was familiar with the utilities and the rate increases that had recently happened. Ms. Lyles knew a little bit about the water and waste water deficits.

Discussion ensued regarding utilities and financial issues when council began and the work CT had done to rectify.

President Fry asked if Ms. Lyles was afraid of hurting friend's feelings. Ms. Lyles stated she would use discernment and logic.

President Fry questioned Mr. Shelton about issues he felt were in town. Mr. Shelton stated clean up of town, loose animals and town placing nice sidewalks. He discussed that the properties on SR 75 and how they looked better. The park entrance, he felt, needed to be cleaned up.

Councilman Caldwell discussed works being done on code enforcement.

Councilman Caldwell asked what candidates would do to improve town.

Discussion ensued with Councilman Caldwell, Mr. Shelton and Mr. Forbus about how to improve the town. Mr. Forbus discussed volunteering/WAM and Mr. Shelton discussed helping with property clean-up.

President Fry asked Mr. Forbus what he felt were strengths he had. Mr. Forbus discussed that he had a different perspective. He had been a pit boss with a casino. He felt he could be assertive and knock out decisions. He had a project management degree and if problems arose he could evaluate.

President Fry addressed with Mr. Forbus what he had as goals if appointed. Mr. Forbus stated to keep moving forward with cleaning up the town. Rental houses needed to be purchased by home owners incentivizing purchasers and sellers. He felt if houses were improved, businesses would be attracted.

Councilman Caldwell stated that code enforcement was important to town.

CT Johnson expressed obtaining grants for projects and beautification of the town was important. Her job entailed bringing the Council complaints, issues and financial updates. CT Johnson stressed the importance of meeting attendance and attending trainings and questioned if those areas would be difficult for anyone to do. No objections were made by candidates.

President Fry asked Mr. Forbus if there was a complaint in town how he would handle. Mr. Forbus stated he would look for a solution and problem solve.

CT Johnson questioned Mr. Shelton how he would get word out to community to get others involved. He advised using chatters and social media. Mr. Forbus stated getting churches involved and leading the flock to get involved. The morality of churches, he felt, would help the community as there are road blocks and red tape.

President Fry presented the same question to Ms. Lyles. Ms. Lyles expressed the youth getting involved and helping with WAM/groceries. She expressed having community events, festivals, movie projector/drive-in and getting the kids involved would be the place to start.

Discussion ensued.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

X

Clerk Treasurer

X

President