

TOWN OF ADVANCE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: TOWN HALL

June 14, 2021

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: Melody Fry, Dale Thompson, Amanda Lyles and Jim Caldwell

Clerk Treasurer – Shari Johnson

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Attendees: Council Members: President Fry, Amanda Lyles, and Jim Caldwell

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Others in attendance: Dan Bewley, Lisa Henry, Jeff Hopper, Keith Cromwell, Linda Ranney, Joe Watts, Shaun Davis, Jon Query, Kelly Gardner (Alliance of Indiana) and Allie Terrell (ServLine)

President Fry called to order the Council Meeting at 19:07 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Rules of Order

Jon Query, HWC Engineering: Sewer Use Ordinance:

Mr. Query discussed the sewer use ordinance and that its main purpose was to let users of the town's sewer utility know the town's regulations and be compliant with both federal and state regulations. The ordinance would speak to issues such as prohibited connections; sump pump and roof run off and that the town had the authority to inspect such connections. If the utility is within 300 feet of the property, then the town would require the residence to connect to the town's sewer utility. Administrative language was also stated in the ordinance and enforcements of these such as permitting. Requirements to enforce regulations are in place and can, at any time, be modified.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-03, Sewer Use Ordinance. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Allie Terrell: Home Serve USA/ServLine:

Ms. Terrell gave a background of her company and stated her company was an infinity partner with Alliance of Indiana and is endorsed by AIM and other entities.

ServLine has several programs that are insurance for water leaks. If the town adopted this program, it would replace any other program that the town currently had in place and ServLine would handle the entire leak process saving worked hours in the utility office. The program is an opt-out program and there is no contract with the town.

Councilman Caldwell questioned if this program would also pay for the repair of the line. And Ms. Terrell stated yes, on a different portion of the program.

CT Johnson read reports of the amounts the town had written off and that the town has a duty to repay a bond and that water is a natural resource that needs to be protected.

Councilwoman Lyles questioned that it came down to the town writing off the adjustment or an increase in utility bills. Ms. Terrell stated anyone can opt out.

CT Johnson also stated that if a resident opts out of this program, then if a leak happens, the resident is responsible for the entire cost of the leak. Ms. Terrell explained that there is a disclaimer that is presented before a resident opts out of the program their future responsibilities.

Ms. Terrell explained the claims process and what would be covered.

President Fry stated the Council would need to review. Councilman Caldwell stated that the town rates are high. The Council stated a community question and answer session would help.

Kelly Gardner with Alliance of Indiana stated we had been members for many years with Alliance and many of the benefits of being a member offer.

Gary Ladd, Ladd Engineering – Update on WWTP:

Mr. Ladd had another meeting. President Fry held report until Mr. Ladd came.

Trash BIDS:

CT Johnson advised trash contract not due until the next month. The only company to reply was Smith Trash. Rays never replied, the company from Crawfordsville never replied and Garbology never replied either.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for May 10, 2021, and Special Meeting Minutes from June 7, 2021. Councilwoman Caldwell seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve claims for June 14, 2021, in the amount of \$277,114.70. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Park - Dan Bewley Presented:

Mr. Bewley stated signs were made but the cost of wood was too expensive, and the park was going to wait on cost. President Fry stated they took a fence out at her home and may have posts.

The RC races have been successful, and the next races would be the 26th and 27th of June.

Mr. Bewley asked if the town's dumpster could be used. CT stated WAM used it and if it became full, everyone would need to have their own dumpster.

Mr. Smith with Smith Trash stated a dumpster would be \$1000.00 and \$65.00 to dump it. Mr. Bewley questioned that the town got a free dumpster and why did they have to pay? CT stated a new contract was being negotiated and that would need to be discussed.

A food permit was discussed, and CT stated she MUST have an invoice to pay a bill.

Mr. Bewley wants Mr. Hopper to have mowing done a certain time and weed eating kept up on.

Mr. Bewley asked for a credit card and CT stated that was NOT her decision and that the credit card policy would have to be amended if this policy changed.

BIDS were reviewed for the parking lot paving. CT requested the park review what funds were originally projected to pay for the parking lot. Ms. Henry stated \$15,000.00 was to be from a grant (not awarded), \$15,000.00 from town, \$8500.00 from donations and \$1500.00 from the park.

Triangle Asphalt did not submit a BID, Young and Sons bid was \$91,055.00 and Baumgartner for \$53,697.00. Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the bid from Baumgartner for \$53,697.00 paving the entryway and parking lot. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Mr. Hopper questioned if the bid included striping. CT Johnson stated she would contact Baumgartner regarding striping.

Ms. Henry questioned when the paving be done, and Mr. Caldwell stated work could take 60-90 days out.

President Fry read Ordinance 2021-06: An Ordinance to Establish a Department of Parks and Recreation A Petty Cash Fund.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2021-06 on its first reading. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-06. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion regarding the petty cash ensued.

UMAC – President Fry read report:

For May, total gallons pumped was 1,236,000 and billed consumption was 730,659 for a loss of 505,341 gallons. (tanker training accounted for part of difference). Sludge has been tested and once approved by landfill can dispose of waste. The spare pump was being installed, the Consumer Confidence Report mailed, and once the lift station is repaired, it will be running well.

Hopper Excavating – Keith Cromwell read report:

Work completed in May was line locates, disconnects, and reconnects, check for water leaks, hang flags, mowing and septic pumping.

IMPA – President Fry read report:

For May, five service requests were completed: a guide wire installed, tree inspection, coverups/not needed, replace service line and meeting. No poles were replaced and there were no outages in May.

IMPA Commissioner's Report – Councilman Caldwell:

Councilman Caldwell stated IMPA is working on containing/storing solar power. He also discussed ways IMPA is working to generate power based on cost and effectiveness.

Councilman Caldwell also discussed the progress on the AMI meter installation. Meters were switched out improperly, and the town had a lot of issues with entire installation process. Another installer was sent out but could not install all the meters because of qualifications. Now, ISC will be assisting the town to install the remainder of the meters needed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to only pay Anixter for the meters that were installed properly. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve invoice from Anixter for missing meter and backup meters for \$3420.00. All in favor, motion passed.

President Fry read Engineering Report:

Not much work had been done on plant due to waiting on parts. Work to be done at the main lift station: Pour generator pad, grade and seed disturbed areas, additional grading at WWTP, install new check valve at lift station and work on oxidation ditch. Change order #5 has been processed. The AMP is continued to be worked on.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the invoices and payment from SRF for \$3265.00 and OCRA funds released for \$7500.00 and the town to pay \$2000.00 for a total of \$12,765.00 and authorization for President Fry to sign. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Fire – Keith Cromwell read report:

For the month of May, the fire department had 10 EMS, and 3 Fire.

Police – Marshall Brad Thomas:

M. Thomas presented in May there were 14 runs which included traffic stops, dog, damaged mailboxes, telephone fraud, suspicious persons, lost persons, sex offender check in and misconduct with a minor.

Deputy Hitch is going through more training. M. Thomas brought a training manual for the Council to review. Locally the town has shut ins and they will be visited.

M. Thomas questioned if a Citizens Academy would be of interest to the town. President Fry and CT Johnson stated yes, one needs to be held and what officers can and cannot do. A small reception included was discussed. President Fry stated the Academy would be good to be held twice at different times.

In respect to Code Enforcement and weeds, M. Thomas stated he went to doors, and no one replied and that he did not want to send letters and talk to them face-to-face. M. Thomas stated he did not know when weeds get to a point when it is bad and did not feel enforceable. He mentioned ornamental grass, and Councilman Caldwell stated ornamental grass was not considered grass.

Councilman Caldwell questioned if there was an ordinance against living in an RV in town. CT stated she needed to check with the attorney.

Discussion about the mural ensued.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve TKO Graphics estimate to decal the Tahoe #32768 for \$794.09. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve a quote from Bucy Construction quote of \$10,500.00. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Clerk-Treasurer – Shari Johnson:

No concerns were presented for the fund or appropriation report.

CT Johnson stated on May 24th the Sewer Operating was in a positive balance and that amount would fluctuate until it is in a constant cash balance.

CT Johnson stated she had not heard from the Marshal to discuss budget and that his budget only has approximately \$5000.00 and any spending that he needed to do, would need to be verified with the CT to make sure appropriations had adequate funding.

Discussion on body cams ensued.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to move funds from Sewer Cash Reserve of \$28,777.00 to Sewer O&M. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve the adjustment for May in the amount of - \$185.32. President Fry seconded. Councilman Caldwell abstained for AVFD adjustment. Motion passed.

TRECS recovery has been \$5247.58 so far this year.

CT Johnson requested the Council consider what they would like to do for wage increases for 2022 so she could input numbers for the budget. Councilman Caldwell stated 2% increases. CT Johnson stated she would like to review the budget and increase the Council's wages if she can find the funds because she feels the Council is underpaid for all the work done.

CT has been in contact with Bev Matthews at IMPA for the electric rate study and documents to Mr. Ladd for the AMP. She is working on the utility policies as well.

Old Business:

New Business:

Billing Disputes:

Shaun Davis, resident, requested the Council grant him a one time a year water/sewer adjustment on their utility bill due to a water hose being left on. Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve adjustments for water \$438.78 and sewer \$197.40 for a total of \$636.18. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Request to Speak:

None presented.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 20:46.

X 
Clerk Treasurer

X 
President

The next Council meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2021 at (19:00) 7:00 p.m. at the James L. Caldwell Fire Department, 106 E. Wall St., Advance, IN. (if the county returns in an orange status, the TC Meeting will be held by Zoom and Council will meet at 112 N. Main Street).