

TOWN OF ADVANCE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: TOWN HALL

July 11, 2022

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](mailto: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, Jim Caldwell, Amanda Lyles and Dale Thompson

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Others in attendance: Keith Cromwell, Jeff Hopper, Gary Ladd, Allen Jones, Boone County REMC, Bob Hill, JR Shelton, and David Gregory.

**President Fry called to order the Council Meeting at 19:00 p.m.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Rules of Order**

**Allen Jones, VP of Engineering, Boone County REMC**

Mr. Jones spoke regarding REMC running fiber lines through town to connect their electric service systems and locate a hotspot in town.

Councilwoman Lyles questioned what internet would cost residents. Mr. Jones advised they were not in the internet business and lines were for communications of substations. The WIFI hotspots were a service in lieu of town allowing lines to run through. Mr. Jones explained burying fiber lines was a less expensive way for REMC to connect than pole attachments.

Councilman Caldwell questioned why run lines through Advance? The last time lines were run there were issues with lines getting hit and the town losing money because of this. Mr. Jones stated that if good locates were done, that the likelihood would be reduced but cannot rule out no issues happening.

Councilman Thompson questioned the hotspot? Mr. Jones stated it was a typical AP.

CT Johnson stated her understanding the lines would be run on Wall Street and South Street. Mr. Jones confirmed that.

Mr. Hopper expressed concern that some lines are unknown. Mr. Jones stated if there were large concerns, lines could be run around town. Discussion ensued.

Councilwoman Lyles questioned if lines were run, would it help the internet? Councilman Thompson stated the town would benefit from the hotspot.

Discussion ensued regarding having the foundation of the fiber lines in town for another company to connect to fiber lines, such as ilines for a reasonable rate.

Councilman Caldwell requested plans for lines, and Mr. Jones stated whatever documentation the town needed, REMC would provide.

President Fry questioned when an answer from the town would need to be made. Mr. Jones stated an answer would be needed within the week.

Councilman Thompson stated that if errors occurred during project, he was confident REMC would fix it and make it right. Discussions ensued.

Pole attachments were discussed. Mr. Jones stated attachments were not an option for REMC unless they attached to their own poles.

Mr. Thompson questioned who paid for the line locates and CT Johnson stated the town paid for them. CT Johnson stated her only concern was the new road work done, being damaged. Councilman Thompson stated they wouldn't. Multiple conversations ensued simultaneously.

President Fry and Councilwoman Lyles stated they needed more information. Councilwoman Lyles stated she wanted to have internet provided. Councilman Thompson explained that REMC was laying a foundation for another provider to attach to and not providing internet to the town. Discussions ensued.

CT Johnson questioned if the READI grant would have funds for the town for improved broadband. Discussions ensued.

Councilwoman Lyles questioned if REMC would provide better internet, Councilman Caldwell stated that the foundation would be laid for another company to attach to the lines.

Councilman Thompson made a motion for REMC to bring fiber through town. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

#### **Ladd Engineering Report – Mr. Ladd opened BID for CCMG Project**

Mr. Ladd opened the only BID received for the CCMG Project from DC Construction out of Noblesville, IN. with a total BID of \$205,558.00 and estimated cost was \$131,170.00. Alternate

BIDS was \$7.35 single thickness on sidewalks per square foot, due to the double thickness discovered last year on the sidewalks which increased costs.

To add a sidewalk where a resident has shrubs currently would be \$6.85/sq foot for a total of \$1,452.20.

Mr. Ladd stated that the double thickness quotes was \$17.80/sq foot for a total of \$94,340.00.

Councilman Caldwell stated the single thickness cost is \$165,000.00.

CT Johnson questioned what the time frame was for the project. Mr. Ladd stated the contract must be submitted by August 19, 2022. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Ladd stated it could be rebid.

Councilman Caldwell stated it should be ok. CT Johnson was concerned about additional change orders.

CT Johnson stated that a fall project would not be able to be done due to no MVH funds available. CT questioned what the INDOT grant amount was and Mr. Ladd advised, \$98,377.50. The Town's portion was \$32,719.50 for a total of \$131,170.00. CT stated worst case scenario would be the town owing an extra \$65,000.00.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to accept the BID of \$205,558.00. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilwoman Lyles stated she was just trying to learn how everything works.

CT Johnson advised that MVH would be completed drained with the cost of this project, and Funds need to be built up in cash reserves.

Mr. Ladd stated another option would be to apply for the next round and bump up the estimate. CT stated that we may not get the CCMG if reapplied.

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from June 6, 2022. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve claims for July 11, 2021, in the amount of \$151,435.74. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**

**Council signed off on reconciliation for June.**

**Park – No report presented**

JR Shelton was present at the meeting and CT advised any vote done by the Park Board would need to be documented and passage of votes.

**UMAC – President Fry read report:**

The plant has been running well; however there have been issues with South Street lift station. The A/C unit was not working and a temporary one was put in. Graves and Mr. Ladd were aware, and the new unit would be covered under the 1 year warranty. The alarm on the lift station had to be replaced. Effluent numbers are in range.

**Hopper Excavating – President Fry read report:**

Work completed in June was line locates, disconnects, and reconnects, septic pumping, repair/replace flags, check and fix leaks, spray for weeds, jetting a line, and mowing.

Discussion ensued regarding upcoming work.

Resident requested her property line be blocked off.

CT stated that utility policies are being worked on and IMPA was going to review with her.

**IMPA – CT deleted report. Will request report be resent to present at the August meeting.**

**IMPA Commissioner’s Report – Councilman Caldwell:**

Councilman Caldwell reported warnings may be sent if the usage this summer reaches critical levels causing blackouts, (MISO), and that the town should be ok unless there are super high demands. IMPA is implementing a messaging system to notify towns of potential blackouts so the towns can be proactive with residents.

Electric costs will increase; AES up 19%, Duke up 15% and IMPA increasing by .7%.

IMPA is working to have 50% solar by the year 2030.

A cyber assessment is being done on the towns security risks and there will be a meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss policies and training.

**Fire – Keith Cromwell read report:**

For the month of June, the fire department had 4 EMS, 1 fire, 2 Cancelled, 1 MVA, and 1 Haz-Mat.

Tanker Training report was also submitted.

**Police – Marshall Brad Thomas:**

For the month of June there were 18 runs in the month of June. Many runs were related to the sale of houses to Enhance.

Discussion of cases in Town ensued.

Councilman Thompson stated cars parked by the park need to be towed and it was time for it to stop. He stated the town has been nice and tried to help and it is time something was done.

Code enforcement was addressed, and M. Thomas needed a copy of the letters sent to the residents. CT stated she would get him copies.

Councilwoman Lyles stated all code enforcement should be handled the same for everyone. Councilman Caldwell stated code is specific in the AMC and that is what is followed.

Reserve Bewley attended SRO training and stated he didn't realize how much to be an SRO entailed.

Reserve Trincado had received all his equipment and completed FTO school and now the town has two trained FTO officers. Tokens needed to sign on at the sheriff's office. It's hard for reserves to get exposure to different things.

Councilwoman Lyles main concern is protection of the schools. President Fry stated that the issue in Texas was the doors were not locked and all Western Boone schools are secured. Discussion ensued to shift in trainings responding to school events.

CT questioned with all the training attended, can the town then present classes to generate revenue? This would be in the future once a little more training happened.

**Clerk-Treasurer – Shari Johnson:**

Fund and appropriation reports were presented without comment.

CT requested a recommended a fee increase for trash pick-up. President Fry stated she would like a heavy trash day in the spring and in the fall. An increase to \$14.00 was recommended by President Fry. Councilwoman Lyles stated she did not want utility rates to go up. CT advised trash is a completely separate charge and unrelated.

CT had to transfer funds for budget (negative balances). Many appropriations for the police were transferred.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve CT adjustments for the month of July 2022, in the amount of \$-289.29. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. President Fry voted aye. Councilman Caldwell abstained from approving the fire department adjustment; motion passed.

CT advised she had an error on a customer refund and refunded the amount to be applied to the account inadvertently, sending the customer a refund for that amount. She requested the Council approve the difference in a write-off on the customer's account for the difference of the amount due and refund of -\$81.54. Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve CT error of \$-81.54. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Codification is completed and fees need to be reviewed by the Council.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the on-line costs for codification. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

CT advised Mr. Hopper she needed an updated contract for her to do budget.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the Legal Services contract for 2023 in the amount of \$16,000.00. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion of cost of living increases ensued.

Commissioners and County Council approved for the Town county ARP funds for generators in the amount of \$132,000.00.

Discussion of banners for the town ensued. Councilwoman Lyles stated she had contacted an organization, but they had restrictions on when they could be hung.

CT and Councilwoman Lyles attended an AIM roundtable, and she is looking to have the director of the Indiana Arts Commission to attend a meeting and she will be looking into applying for a grant with them.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to accept positive pay with North Salem State Bank. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**Billing Disputes:**

**Request to Speak:**

Mr. Bob Hill submitted a request to speak. He showed up at the beginning of the meeting and left during REMC's discussion.

Councilman Thompson 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 August 8, 2022 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.)