

TOWN OF ADVANCE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: TOWN HALL

AUGUST 14, 2023

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: President Jim Caldwell, Dale Thompson, Amanda Lyles and David Lumpkin

Clerk Treasurer – Shari Johnson

Marshal: Brad Thomas

**Attendees:** Council Members: President Jim Caldwell, Amanda Lyles, David Lumpkin and Dale Thompson

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Others in attendance: Scott Roby, Deputy Shaun Hitch, Keith Cromwell, Bill Stombaugh, John Horner, Kristen Linton, JR Shelton, Jeff Hopper, Jason Hurless, Gary Schmucker, Troy Eadie, Jackie Eadie, Doug Meissel, Tammy Clanton, Curtis Clanton, Diane Whiteside, Tim Whiteside, Neil Kirby and Legal Counsel, Amy Nooning. Arrived late: Abby Messenger, Boone County Health Department.

**President Caldwell called to order the Council Meeting at 19:00.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Rules of Order**

**Engineer's Report – none presented**

Councilman Lumpkin made a motion to ratify President Caldwell signing the CCMG Commitment Match Letter of \$30,059.56. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from August 14, 2023. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve claims for August 14, 2023, in the amount of \$135,186.09. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**

**The council signed off on reconciliation for July.**

**Clerk-Treasurer – Shari Johnson:**

Fund and appropriation reports were presented. Trash is in a + cashflow of \$42.33. CT advised amendments were made from sewer to water payment for the water tower bond payment.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve CT adjustments for the month of July 2023, in the amount of -\$519.87. Councilman Thompson seconded. President Caldwell abstained from approving the fire department adjustment; motion carried.

TRECS is on hiatus until 2024 tax season. Keystone requested CT and deputy to speak at their training at the end of September.

IOT training will be on September 8<sup>th</sup>. CT presented web packages to the Council. Councilman Thompson stated the fees were too much for what services were offered. CT stated the town is currently paying \$600.00 and not getting many benefits. MFA must be in place for insurance.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the VISA finance charge of \$50.33 for payment of incorrect month. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

CT Johnson read a resident letter requesting the late fee be waived due to disability. Councilman Thompson stated he did not want this a precedent and declined the request. Marshall Thomas stated he would help handle the late fee.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve a sprinkler meter credit for Mr. Ranney to return the meter for \$80.00. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Discussion of opioid letter and town returning to county.

**Park – Scott Roby:**

BCSW donated a bench to the park.

Grants are being reviewed/pursued.

Lights were placed on the gazebo and movie nights will be held.

Work is being done for the Fall Festival and a grill was donated to the park by the fire department. The camera needs to be reconnected.

Councilwoman Lyles stated work needs to be done for the eclipse. CT advised Courtney at NSSB has information.

President Caldwell questioned Subaru grant. Discussion ensued.

**UMAC – CT Johnson presented report:**

The generator at the WWTP has had a startup. New cables are needed to hook up the portable generator at the lift station. There are different hookups between the new and old generator. Water testing was collected and completes all testing for the year. The generator at the water

plant is having issues and WW Williams said it could be fuel. A quote is needed to install a meter south of town. Water loss for the last three months; 46%, 54% and 43% losses.

Discussion ensued between Council and Jeff Hopper regarding water loss. Discussion ensued regarding fuel in generator.

**Hopper Excavating – Jeff Hopper read report:**

In July, work completed were line locates, mowing, and leak fixed.

**IMPA – President Caldwell read report:**

In July there were 4 service requests, no poles were replaced, and two outages occurred due to a transformer and the other a limb.

**IMPA Commissioner’s President Caldwell:**

President Caldwell advised he went to New York with IMPA as an Executive Board Member to assist with discussions for better bond ratings for IMPA.

IMPA’s electric rates are cheaper than Duke and AES.

In 2025 there will be an electric shortfall nationwide.

President Caldwell discussed same concerns about shutting down coal fire plants and renewable doesn’t always work as it is not always sunny and the wind doesn’t always blow.

Discussion ensued regarding solar park benefits.

**Fire – Councilman Thompson read report:**

For the month of July, the fire department had 6 EMS and 6 cancelled en route.

**Police – Deputy Hitch:**

There were 12 runs in June. Runs were discussed.

Discussion of Reserve progress ensued.

M. Thomas advised the range was being used by the police department and discussion of a public range ensued. CT advised insurance needed to be contacted to discuss costs for liability of range.

The Sheriff’s Department no longer is enforcing animal control, and this will impact our ordinance.

**Abby Messenger – Boone County Health Department:**

Ms. Messenger apologized for being late. She stated she could answer questions regarding how code enforcement works and how the process works but not about a specific property.

The Health Department gets complaints regarding residences, then they go out and inspect the property. An order is written and cites what areas are in violation of ordinances and how the property will work to clean up. If progression is made on a property more time is given to the resident to improve the property.

Tim Whiteside questioned how many dumpsters are allowed to a property? Ms. Messenger advised an application has to be submitted to the solid waste district. If infractions continue then the property would be cited and eventually taken to court, but that is the last thing the Health Department wants to do. If there is harborage for animal infestations the Health Department works towards mitigation. Meetings can be made with the BZA (APC) for enforcement as well.

Sally Caldwell questioned if enforcement was for only outside of properties or inside as well? The Health Department has to be allowed inside the property and depends on the severity of the issue.

Discussions ensued with residents and Ms. Messenger regarding procedures to present claims and what the Health Department can and cannot assist with and what residents need to do. Ms. Messenger clarified what the APC and Health Department can do.

Legal Counsel advised that there are three areas that violations can be cited; health department, APC, and local nuisance ordinances.

CT advised a resident who was told that she (CT) was not sending out letters from her office; however, how can a letter be sent if a ticket for fines and fees is not presented to her office?

Ms. Messenger advised that complaints/photos need to be submitted to her office.

Legal Counsel advised that courts need to see the town has taken steps by the town and done proper processes completed to move forward. Public meetings can be attended by residents, and concerns presented as well.

Discussion ensued.

**Old Business:**

The ilines contract has not been reviewed since 2007 and should have been reviewed every 5 years. Amendments need to be made.

New Salary Ordinance – Tabled for attorney amendments.

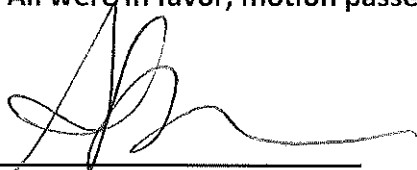
**New Business:**

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the Legal Counsel Agreement for 2024. Councilwoman Lyles made seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to move forward with resident sump pump inspections. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**Billing Disputes:**

Councilman Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 20:38.

X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk Treasurer

X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2023 (Budget Hearing), at (19:00) 7:00 p.m. at the James L. Caldwell Fire Department, 106 E. Wall St., Advance, IN.