

Minutes of the Morgantown Town Council Meeting Held July 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Penny Anderson at 6:00 p.m.

Council Member, Courtney Allen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were; Council President, Penny Anderson and Council Members; Walter Abbott, Courtney Allen, Terry Poindexter and Vern Snyder.

Also present and reporting on behalf of the Town; Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, Town Attorney, Lee Robbins, Utility Clerk, Becky Rose and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh.

Public Comments

Resident, John Gatton asked a question about interviewing an applicant at the last Executive Session that had not completed an application. Council President, Penny Anderson explained the Council had not interviewed applicants yet for the open position. John Gatton thanked the Council for getting his street patched. John Gatton asked the Council how often the Water and Waste Water samples are taken to the labs. John asked about Jesse using the Town Truck to work at Brooklyn and also taking Brooklyn's waste water samples when Jesse takes Morgantown's. John believes Jesse Jones has a lot to prove. John said there are people who work for Miller Pipeline that had applied. President, Penny Anderson explained the Town had advertised on the Website and were accepting applications until Friday, There was continued discussion.

Tony Albertson asked for relief of a sewer bill at 240 Steven Court. His renter never paid his bills and because of the Covid in 2020 Mr. Albertson could not remove him from the property. A lien was about to be placed for \$760.06. Mr. Albertson felt he was at a disadvantage because of the moratorium on evictions. Lee Robbins asked who should assume the risk when a renter does not pay the utility bill but 2020 was a difficult year due to Covid. Council member, Vern Snyder made a motion to forgive the waste water debt of \$760.06 on the property at 220 Steven Court and not to file a lien on the property. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion and the motion was put to a vote and the motion carried.

Glen Brown at 3606 S Morgantown Road asked the Council to repair a three quarters water line coming to his property. Mr. Brown has only 22 pound of pressure from his line. He stated the line breaks and they do the repair but the line needs replaced. Council Member, Vern Snyder

asked Glen Brown to give the Town a little more time because he had just heard of this issue today. The DPW has known about this problem and have done nothing to correct the problem. The line comes across the field so the Council will have to study the situation. Mr. Brown also stated people are running 60 and 70 miles per hour down the road by his house.

Randy Hodges and Dustin Jasper spoke about the alley behind their houses Lee Robbins explained what the Town plat showed is the North South section was designated as Ash Street and it runs the whole distance. The part that turns East and West is part of lot #4 and that was never a platted ally or road. The Town does not have any interest in that part at all. The Town has never maintained the area. The area North and South were never maintained by the Town either. Some of the neighbors thinks it is an open alley way and are complaining if vehicles are parked in this area. The area runs behind houses. The Town cannot say one of the homeowners can use the platted area but other homeowners cannot. It is a strip of ground that belongs to the Town but is not an alley but possible a utility easement. There was a lengthy discussion about the North South section. The Marshal receives 5 and 6 calls a week from different neighbors complaining. The Marshal said it would help him a lot if the situation was not so gray but black and white. Lee said the Town owns the property and no one should be parking on the platted area or blocking it. Mr. Hodges wanted to know if the Town was going to maintain the area. Right now there are ruts in his yard because of neighbor going through his yard to avoid the ruts in the alley way. It was decided to get pricing for gravel to maintain the area and a decision will be made at the next Council meeting.

Traffic Signs

Town Marshal Ryan Swank reported every sign in Town is wrong. He has talked with an Engineer from Purdue who works for Traffic Safety and she is willing to help. INDOT through the Federal Government offers a Grant which is 90% reimbursable for Traffic Signs. Council Member, Vern Snyder said Jesse had told him that DPW had reflective stickers. Ryan said the problem with that is the signs are not the correct size and height.

Plan Commission

Council President, Penny Anderson appointed two new members to the Plan Commission to replace vacancies. Council Member, Terry Poindexter will replace Greg Randolph and Employee Jeff Conners will replace Jeff Downey.

Financial Report

Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh presented the Minutes of the meetings held June 14 and June 27 for approval. Vern Snyder made the motion to approve seconded by Penny Anderson. The motion was put to a vote and the motion carried.

Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh presented the July 12, 2021 Claims Docket in the amount of \$291,527.22. Included on the Docket was Tri-County Tree Service for \$3,200.00 and Bowyer Construction for \$23,900.00. The Council asked that those two Claims not be paid at this time. Concerning the Bowyer invoice Ryan Swank explained the grade of the parking lot at the Park is not right and there is a large pool of water at the edge of the road. The two trees have not been cut down at the Park or on Mulberry Street by Tri-County tree service. There was discussion about taking down the building at the Park and removing a concert pad. The Council does not know what the DPW told Bowyer Construction about the drainage of the parking lot. Council President, Penny Anderson signed the contract for the work so the Council may have to pay the invoice as is. A Special meeting will be held next week so the invoices will be presented at that meeting after the Council receives more information from Jack Bowyer. A comment from the public was made about the DPW employees not doing their job and why the person was still employed. Lee Robbins explained the Town is working to fix the personnel problems and this has to be done in a way as to not put the Town in a worse position that what it needs to be as personnel decisions get made. Sometimes personnel problems need to be done more privately. Status of changes and new hires will be made public. Lee asked the public to please be patience and trust the Council understands the concerns. Courtney Allen made a motion to approve the Claims minus the \$23,900.00 and \$3,200.00. Walter Abbott seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The Clerk Treasurer asked the Council if everyone had reviewed the Financial Reports and signed the acknowledgement. All members have signed the acknowledgement sheet that they reviewed the Bank Statements.

Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh presented Pay Application #2 for \$276,581.43 from Lykins for work completed. Curry reviews the Pay Applications to made sure the work has been completed. Vern Snyder made a motion to approve payment of Pay Application #2 to Lykins for \$276,581.43. Penny Anderson seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Three invoices were presented for approval; Sub Surface for \$600.00, Tim Guyer for the Building Inspector for \$225.00 and mowing for \$50.00 to Wyatt Rose. The total of the 3 checks is \$875.00. Walter Abbott made a motion to approve payment of the 3 invoices totaling \$875.00. Vern Snyder seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The June 2021 Payroll Register was presented to the Council for approval and a motion was made to approve the June payroll by Courtney Allen. This was seconded by Vern Snyder and the motion carried.

The Clerk reported to the Council that the June 2021 property tax settlement was received by the Town and the deposit was \$152,792.94.

The Clerk reported the application for the Covid Relief money was completed and submitted to the Indiana Finance Authority. The total amount the Town will receive is \$222,169.18 and the first installment will be received this summer and the second half in 2022. Lee Robbins explained the Town must have a Plan in place before any of the funds can be spent.

An invoice from ITI for \$355.00 which handles the Drug Testing for the Town was submitted for approval. Terry Poindexter made a motion to pay the invoice and Vern Snyder seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Clerk Treasurer is preparing the 2022 Budget and asked the Council if they were working towards the same projects as last year; the Park, Town Hall and improving the Main Street.

Each Council member received in their packet the current Fund Report Appropriation Report and Revenue Report.

Colonel Vawter Day

Courtney Allen made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to Colonel Vawter Day and Penny Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried. The donation is to come from the line item "Promotion of the Town".

Adjustments

Vern Snyder made a motion to approve a water adjustment request from Bob Arnold for \$99.66 who had a broken service line. This was seconded by Walter Abbott and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Terry Poindexter to write off the Tony Albertson bill for \$760.06 that was discussed earlier in the meeting. Vern Snyder seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Police Report

Town Marshal, Ryan Swank wanted to make sure he understood the decision on the alley that was discussed earlier in the meeting. The Council is going to make the ally better than it is and there will be no parking in the alley.

Ryan asked the Town Marshal to prepare an Ordinance for large trucks

Ryan said that there is no procedure on Ordinance violations and how someone pays or what the fee schedule is. Lee Robbins explained when a ticket is written it should come with instructions that the payment is to be made within 10 days to the Clerk Treasurers office and if the ticket is not paid then the ticket is referred for formal enforcement through the court.

Vern Snyder made a motion to sponsor Julie Blakey. This was seconded by Terry Poindexter and the motion carried.

Ryan Swank presented three items from Stalker Radar he would like to purchase. The Council asked where the money would come from to pay for this. The Clerk Treasurer indicated the money could come from two different Funds, CCI and Public Safety. The total for the 3 devices is \$9,055.00. Vern Snyder made a motion to purchase the 3 items from Stalker Radar for \$9,055.00. Terry Poindexter seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Ryan explained Officer Bise has stepped up and is helping out with enforcing the Ordinances.

Attorney Lee Robbins

Attorney, Lee Robbins presented the minutes of the special meeting which was after the Executive Session on, June 29. Vern Snyder made a motion to adopt the minutes of the June 29, 2021 special meeting. Penny Anderson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Vern Snyder made a motion to approve the Memorandum of the June 29, 2021 Executive Session. Walter Abbott seconded the motion and the motion carried.

John Gatton asked about the building on Main Street that has the plywood in front. Tim Guyer the Town's Unsafe Building Inspector will be asked to inspect the building.

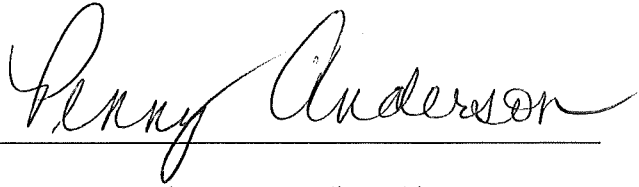
An Executive Session followed by a special meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, July 20 at 5:30 p.m.

Main Street

Melanie Dallas drew sketches of the improvements to Main Street. The Clerk Treasurer spoke to the Regional Manager of Big Red Liquors and explained the Town is interested in purchasing a 20' x 20' diagonal space in the corner of their parking lot to put a green space.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned by the President.

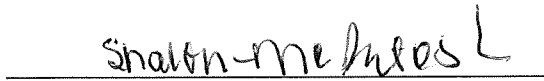
MEETING MINTUES OF JULY 12, 2021, APPROVED AUGUST 9, 2021



Penny Anderson

Penny Anderson, Council President

Attest:



Sharon McIntosh

Sharon McIntosh, Clerk Treasurer