

December 4, 2020 Minutes

Zoom meeting was brought to order at 7PM by Mayor Dan Wright.

Present: Mayor Dan Wright, Council John Post, Shelly Davers and Danny Stark, Attorney Brad Kage, Clerk M. Jean Rocky, and Fire Chief Eric Kirkham.

First order is the minutes from last month, Shelly wanted to table them and made motion to table them until next month so she can look over them, Danny Stark gave this motion a second with all in favor.

Mayor Wright asked for public comments, there were none.

Brad has the lease for The Soccer Club in order and ready for signatures. Dan will pick them up and have them at the FBPH office for their signatures and then return them to Brad. Brad will process them and get copies to the clerk treasurer.

Dan asked Jean to mail the checks and she will do this in the morning.

Council:

Danny Stark has a bill for the annual termite spraying at the Vernon Gym from Vaught's. The bill is for \$1100.00. Danny will get the bill to Jean tomorrow. He knows this cannot come out of the gym due to low funds. Jean asked where to take funds from. Shelly offered balances in accounts. Dan recommended not to take from the Gym fund and look at other balances. Discussion with the council deciding to take the money out of the General, CCI or the Cedit. John **made this into a motion to take from the General Fund with a second by Shelly.**

The old basketball goals are stored in the old kitchen at the gym. Dan Wright suggested talking to the Basketball Hall of Fame since they are the original goals. Danny has had several people ask about them. Dan Wright will check around a little more before we decide. Dan advised that they hold historic value. Danny advised one is cracked. Danny also has someone that would like to buy one, but they are not in the way in the kitchen. Brad mentioned the basketball Hall of Fame might want them. Dan will stop by and ask them and also the Knightstown School.

Shelly asked about the storage building and about possibly putting in a rest room in there. Is there water/sewer to the building? John said he thought there was a boy's bathroom on the corner by the church and the girls was on the other side at one time. Shelly thinks we should have water/sewer made available for a restroom in this space, but John wanted to table it until we talk to Wayne a little more and make sure he knows the hook up is available. John thinks water is run already. Ron stated there is a meter pit with two valves, but he has not turned them on to confirm where they lead. Dan thinks there is capability to add restrooms. **Shelly made a motion and John gave it a second to have the water and sewer made available to the Soccer club at our expense. All in favor.**

Shelly states she dropped the ball on getting the Gym policy written and out to everybody. She will work on this. This will have rental guidelines. She also stated that quick books isn't communicating well with German American bank. She did get the General fund to balance this afternoon. Shelly asked

about salary ordinance items. Shelly noted that Jean's salary was outlined but didn't add up for accounts the money comes from. Jean commented \$550 out of water and \$550 out of sewer and it is a given that the balance comes from the General Fund. Jean will break down where each comes from. Shelly commented that the Town already pays Ron for the Certified Water operator and doesn't understand why Dan brought up in the November meeting.

Discussion on how we pay Ron, he receives \$450.00 for certified water operator, \$400 from water for meter reader and maintenance, mowing and maintenance from MVH \$400 winter months and \$600.00 summer. Dan thinks we need to look over last year salary ordinance and pay Ron one check with a description and take from the General and reimbursed back in to from other funds. Decision to vote on this in January. Shelly asked about \$200 for mowing in the summer. Jean noted he won't be mowing the Gym (field), but there is enough that he is doing already. Dan wants to make the position the Works Manager and discussed where to take funds from and make the job clear. Shelly asked Ron to note hours for doing items so that the funds can be moved from each account. Jean asked if the Town gave him a new title and Dan says he calls him the Town Works Manager. Dan states they can waive a second reading in January with a unanimous vote. Jean will prepare with Ron's last to have ready. John asked how much Ron is paid. Jean advised he gets \$1,250 plus \$200 to mow in the Summer. Shelly corrected this to \$1,050 plus \$200 to mow in the Summer. No one can recall what are the mowing months so Jean just asks when Ron mows and pays him. Dan would like to revisit this since Ron is a Certified Water Operator. Jean notes he is paid \$1,250 now. Ron was asked to get a paycheck to confirm how much he is paid. Shelly walked through Council where the money comes from. John also walked through where the money comes from. John asked how much Ron's paycheck is written for. Ron is looking for a check, but Shelly looked up in Quickbooks. November was for \$500 and \$800 (maint). The \$800 was before \$600, but Jean is catching up an earlier mess up. Ron is always at \$400 base plus \$650. Shelly wants to know where the \$500 comes from. John asked if the salary ordinance can be passed and amended later. Brad confirmed yes and Dan agrees. Dan wants timing determined if separating summer and winter. John prefers one salary regardless of month. Ron advised he can pull a report from PubWorks that gives hours by job. Ron will email it to the Council.

Shelly asked about job descriptions...Dan forgot to do this he suggested we do this in January. (39:20)

John asked about the car parked at the restaurant on Pike Street, as well as the broken glass and trash and debris on the sidewalk. **John has received several complaints about the new restaurant.** Dan said he gave one of the investors in the restaurant the ok to put the car there but has already asked him to have it moved. Dan is not real happy with the cliental at this new restaurant.

Shelly and Jean will be working on the Cares Act reimbursement for the town this coming week. They are going to turn in the bills for the two laptops, one printer, software, the glass barrier in the office, cleaning supplies and masks. Shelly will work up a spread sheet. John mentioned the Fire Chief and Marshall salary for Cares Act. John asked if we can cover the \$9,600 possible reimbursement. Ron asked about money lost due to the Gym rentals (dance and Church group). Jean asked for rooms rented and a **Danny states three rooms at \$75 each and \$100 for the karate room. Danny doesn't charge for the Dance office due to no heat. Shelly asked about leases, but we only have one with the Church league. John asked for receipts, but the dance person has not paid any rent this year.** Shelly asked Danny for the last two years of rental income and she'll put into excel to show rental income. Danny will get this to Shelly. (51:07)

Dan Wright brought up the joint resolution for the Town to go with the County and City of North Vernon, concerning the COVID 19 requirements. Shelly asked why we have to go as a group together and not stand alone. Shelly asked if this is the latest executive order – not clear. The Town is getting the revised one from North Vernon's Council. Shelly doesn't believe the Town needs this with the Governor's order in place. People are going to make their own choices. Dan feels the local government should stand behind the Health Department. Discussion on this with Dan asking do we or do we not want to make a motion on signing this agreement. **John made a motion to sign this joint resolution and Danny Stark gave it a second. Motion passed with Danny Stark and John Post in favor and Shelly Davers in dissent.**

Per Dan, Ron Hendershot has received the water rate study, the council needs to look it over. \$120,000 in repairs and new meters and looking at money options. Brad advised that he needs asked to prepare a public notice concerning a public hearing for this project. we will probably go through a government program DLGF. Dan advised of another program at lower interest versus a bond. Ron looked at the old ordinance and made notes to send out to the council. **This needs to be a unanimous vote at first reading to waive a second reading.** (1:06:30)

Shelly asked how we ended up with our own water system. Dan explained that it has always been this way. Discussion only on this matter. Shelly noted that the Town pays \$45,000 for water, but it takes more than double that to maintain. She asked about having North Vernon run it. Dan advised the budget is cut by 2/3 as we use this to support the town for mowing, equipment purchases etc. Shelly mentioned that North Vernon pays less and includes trash pick-up. Dan thinks N.V. would raise rates higher than we have. Shelly will look further into this. Dan again asked Ron to send the ordinance out.

Eric reported the department has taken possession of the new building. The hope to have most everything moved by the end of December. He also said that some of the semi drivers in the bigger delivery trucks are concerned with some low hanging limbs by the commons. Eric asked for this to be addressed. The building is 98% complete and should be fully complete by the end of January. Then need another electrician to finish it. Dan asked if the Highway signs were put up – no. Dan will follow-up with the state for the sign.

(1:14) Britt is not here tonight, but we are having some problems with vandalism in town. Three homes on the highway were shot by a passing car with someone shooting a paint ball gun. Kolin McDonald is

stealing electricity from a street light pole on Pike Street. Ron Hendershot and Britt went up there and caught him. Mr. McDonald told Ron and Britt that his nephew did this. Ron has spoken to Marie about this. Britt told Ron they can be charged with theft. They have also stolen water. **Marie advised that there is a court order to clean up outside and wants John and the police to be present.**

Marie with the APC is trying to find someone to clean up the trash behind the building. Brad and Marie are working in a different direction concerning Mr. McDonald. **Brad believes this will be treated differently to be a little more forceful with the police.**

Shelly made the remark the building is uninhabitable but Brad said the building is sound.

John said next time we take him to court we need to address the roof.

Marie has been trying to set up an inspection. **The windows need addressed per court order and the order states the APC can clean it up.**

Shelly asked about filing charges for the theft of electricity. Brad said we could file a complaint at the Sherriff office and the Sherriff sends to the prosecutor to decide on charges. With not having a defined value, Brad doesn't think it will go anywhere, but it is the Town's decision. Shelly suggested Britt file a report for the Town.

Shelly made a motion to have Britt file the complaint with the Sherriff office on this matter with a second by John. All in favor.

Concerning another matter Marie has checked out Jennifer Elfritz with Nick Templeton. Nick is the property owner who rents to her. She has had her water turned off since the summer and still lives there. **Water had been turned off and they turned it back on. Marie sent to the Health Department and reached out to Nick Templeton about a camper. (1:27)**

Dan advised that Ron provided a lengthy report.

Discussion on the Google and Microsoft 365 Family for \$99.00 a year for 6 users. Ron is leaning toward Microsoft 365. Word excel power point, one note, cloud storage with 1Gb of storage and outlook. A zoom act unlimited meetings and 100 participants unlimited recording and be able to link to our web site can be added for 149.89 a year. Total \$249.89 per year. This would allow remote work and cloud storage with links to the Town Website. This might be covered under the Cares Act.

Google was higher and is not as user friendly. Shelly does not like Google as it is not user friendly and not fully compatible with other programs. Shelly already has the software and can make everyone's email addresses.

Shelly made a motion to approve Office 365 family plan for \$99 (already purchased for Oversight/Segregation Laptop – renewable at \$99/year) and Zoom for at least one year for a total of \$249.89 with a second by John with all in favor. The Cares Act should reimburse the Zoom at least.

Ron reported on the GIS ASM and inspection module same as the county uses. This will save money down the road. He will be able to generate reports, the GIS cost would be \$3,250.00. The cost of the inspection module would be onetime \$1,000.00 with mandatory upgrade of \$200.00 per year. Shelly notes it is \$180/month to run it. (1:42) Dan notes that mapping and maintenance is required for the future. Dan believes **within three years, the lift stations will need replaced** and this component is required (asset management plan). **Ron has assurance from Pubworks that if the GIS map was agreed with negotiations with Pubworks, the Town doesn't have an added expense later.** The MVH has \$7,000 balance as of November 30th. \$6,231 remains per Ron. **Total for both \$4,250 a motion was made by John to take \$4,250 out of the MVH before the end of the year. If we get the O'mara storm sewer bill by the end of the year take out of the sewer, this was given a second by Shelly with all in favor.**

Ron will approach the county about the work by O'mara on new curb on the corner of Brown and Perry to actually get the money. The county agreed is to pay \$1,400 and the Town will pay \$1,400.00. The total bill is \$9,665 that has not been billed pending work completion plus \$1,400 for Town's half to fix it.

(2:07) Ron asked the council about the rotary cutting mower for the tractor the cost would be \$6,500.00. Ron watched at Indian Hills and thinks the powerline clearing may have damage the sewer line. There is a sewer odor. The Mayor thought we should think about it a little more.

Tarps for the gym floor were discussed. Covermaster has sent samples to Ron. Dan wants to wait for the Gym Policy to be written to see the uses for the Gym.

New doors are in at the gym. Do we want keys to be all the same? One door is keyed. Keys cannot be duplicated. Shelly would vote for 1 key for all doors and rooms have a master key for the interior rooms for the Town to have. **Dan asked Ron to get numbers for this.**

On the new awnings TAG in Seymour aluminum frame cloth \$1,785 for south door, \$1,540 for the East door, and \$1,370 for the west door with a total of \$4,695.00. JM Construction gave a quote of \$2,380.00 to install a wooden structure to look like the west door.

Dan thought we should table this until we get money coming back into the gym fund.

Cameras can be checked remotely. Cost for Comcast \$128.95, Verizon \$29.95 per month. Verizon is unlimited and no throttle down due to Government contract. Danny asked about using the Dance class internet and Dan doesn't think this is a good route due to not having control. Camera system is upgradeable to eight cameras. Floor people damaged one camera. A place would be needed to put the unit in. The number can be forwarded to another number if Ron is out of Town.

Emergency phone line wireless cell phone \$39.99 per month. Shelly made a motion to install WiFi for \$29.95 at the Gym and then a phone line for \$39.99/month with a second by Danny Stark with all in favor. John asked if it was a physical phone line or cell phone. **Dan clarified there isn't a physical phone.**

A quote from Gilpin Electric for the wiring for the new basketball goals was \$400.00, from ETC for \$1,200.00, and Biehle Electric \$3,150.00, he requested one from S & G but they did not return his call. Quote is to run conduit to goal and install a key switch to operate. Damon asked how much to reinstall the manual cranks.

John made a motion to table this for a while also with a second by Danny Stark. Due to not using the gym. All voted in favor to table this.

The gutters at the gym were brought up, but the council decided to wait until the 1st of the year to discuss this issue.

The handrail down the front steps was placed on the next year list also.

Shingles have blown off of storage building. Ron will walk the roof to check. No leaks have been seen.

The sidewalk on Pike Street was brought up. Does the council want to wait until spring on this project? John asked **Ron about closing the driveway to the county parking lot, the county gave permission for this. John said we should table it. The county will pay half - \$5,400.**

(2:38) **Ron reported a mixer for the water tower would cost \$8,880.00**

installation cost

ETC \$11,027.00

Biehle Electric \$19,966.00

Gilpin Electric not returned

S & G not returned

B L Anderson a quote has been requested

Quote is to run wire from pit to mixer and also to lower the mixer into the tank. ETC lift cost is about half of their quote. Alarms were not going off when mission system was installed.

Dan said a mixer will prevent ice forming which created problem before. He also said a lot of the equipment is in better shape, but we still need to take care of it. **Clay valve can also be remotely opened.**

Ron reported we are not maintaining full capacity to keep our water quality up. North Vernon has helped with the chlorine levels.

(2:46) Concerning the house Sandy Downs purchased on the corner of Poplar and Washington, and the sewer hookup she needs for the garage to be made into an apartment for her son. If the sewer were run to Washington Street, she would have to have a lift station in her yard. Ron asked about running the line down the alley to Jackson Street and down to the lift station at the end of Jackson. John has a problem with going down the alley to Jackson. This direction may be too steep a slope running down the hill. Ron said the other way with the lift station it could be hooked to her existing sewer.

Brad said it is up to the Towns decision to grant the right of way, but John thinks it will open up a can of worms. Dan agrees with John and also it might be more cost effective to go the lift station way. A recommendation is needed from the Town not to go the alley way and to do the lift station from Washington Street. Danny Stark agreed with this. Brad said no motion was needed. **A new meter for water will need installed.**

Eric asked Dan where he can get county maps like the ones Jean has in the office. Dan said he will check and see if he can find out.

Eric also told the council about an idea the department had, they wanted to know about placing 3 stones on the corner of the new fire house 1 for the fire department 1 for the Town and 1 for the Vernon Township members. Dan liked the idea. Danny Stark asked how much is cost. Shelly asked him to bring the cost to the next meeting.

(2:59) Shelly asked about salaries, she wanted to know if we pay someone who is not present at the meeting. Just discussion only on this matter. Dan stated some places are paid per meeting attended and we've always paid based on being on the council. Damon advised it was based on attendance until the last ordinance. Jean stated she writes check each month regardless. Danny doesn't want one for the gym next month. Damon looked up the salary ordinance and noted that it was in place (for attendance) up until ordinance 117 issued in 1996. **Jean noted that she was the person that removed it. All ordinances prior to this had this same verbiage.**

(3:06) Dan asked for motion to adjourn, but it was not made as the meeting continued.

I (M. Jean Rockey) turned my zoom off at 10:10PM. The meeting was over no one had made a motion to adjourn, therefore I closed it myself.

Regarding complaints about the new restaurant/bar in town: Damon brought up 2012 Superbowl and there is no Indiana law to prevent outside alcohol carry. Brad thinks this is probably right but thinks APC might know better.

Brad brought up liter at the downtown restaurant. Ron commented car removed, but broken glass remains.

Ron asked about noise ordinance due to feeling the beat of loud music from this restaurant. Damon advised it is ordinance on the books already. John advised the county has one too. Brad noted that Phat Guys was actioned by North Vernon due to noise level. Damon advised ordinance was detriment to health and comfort with fines.

(3:13) – Motion to adjourn made by Shelly with second by John.

Meeting adjourned.


_____ Dan Wright, Mayor


_____ John Post, Council

_____ Danny Stark, Council


_____ Shelly Davers, Council

Prepared by:

_____ M. Jean Rockey. Clerk Treasurer