

October 12, 2021

The Ellettsville, Indiana, Town Council met for a virtual meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, by Zoom. Scott Oldham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mike Cornman led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a prayer by Jimmie Durnil.

Roll Call: Members participating were Scott Oldham, President; Pamela Samples, Vice President; William Ellis and Dan Swafford. Trevor Sager was absent. Michael Farmer, Town Manager and Darla Brown, Town Attorney; also participated.

Supervisors participating: Jimmie Durnil, Mike Cornman, Jay Humphrey

Approval of Minutes

Scott Oldham entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting September 27, 2021. Pamela Samples so moved. Scott Oldham seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – abstain; Dan Swafford – abstain; Pamela Samples – yes. Motion did not pass. William Ellis asked Darla Brown, Town Attorney if he could vote yes if he watched the last meeting on CATS TV after not being able to attend the last meeting. Darla verified by chat due to technical issues he could change his vote to yes. Motion Carried.

Accounts Payable Vouchers

Scott Oldham entertained a motion to pay Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll. William Ellis so moved. Pamela Samples seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; Pamela Samples – yes. Motion carried.

New Business

Public Right of Way Dedication – EDD of Bloomington, LLC (Seasons Drive)

Darla Brown, Town Attorney communicated by chat due to technical issues. She stated this is the second half of the dedication that was on the last agenda for the drive by the fire station. Scott Oldham further explained part of the driveway next to the fire station is being dedicated to become inventory of the Town. Mike Cornman, Fire Chief further explained that the property next to the fire station, when the road was put in, part of the road was on the fire stations property. The property still belongs to the Building Corporation under a bond issue, so they are deeding the right of way for the road from the Building Corporation from the fire station to the Town of Ellettsville. Pamela Samples made a motion to approve. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; Pamela Samples – yes. Motion carried.

Fire Department Personnel Changes

Mike Cornman, Fire Chief explained full-time firefighter Ryan Pursell has accepted a position with the Monroe Fire District and is requesting to be moved from full-time to part-time. He also is requesting to move Kyle Britton from part-time to full-time to replace Ryan Pursell. Pamela Samples made a motion to approve moving Ryan Pursell from full-time to part-time firefighter. Dan Swafford seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; Pamela Samples – yes. Motion carried. Pamela Samples made a motion to approve moving Kyle Britton from part-time to full-time firefighter. Dan Swafford seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; Pamela Samples – yes. Motion carried.

Envision Ellettsville Update

Dan Rarey reported that they recently had a workshop, and it was very well attended. He mentioned the mobile display has been moved from the Town Hall to the library in Ellettsville. The survey has received 109 responses and encouraged everyone to fill out the survey and encourage others you know to complete it. He is trying to get the school involved to have some high school kids take the survey to get their vision for Ellettsville. He explained the survey can be found on the Greater Ellettsville Area Chamber of Commerce website or you can just search for Envision Ellettsville survey, and it is located at Community Interest Survey under the Share Your Ideas tab. The next steering committee meeting will be Tuesday, October 19th at 11:00 via Zoom.

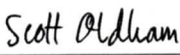
Council Comments


Dan Swafford inquired about the Council meetings being held on Zoom while other boards are being held in person at the Town Hall. **Scott Oldham** explained that each commission has the ability to set their own agenda whether they want to be in person or on Zoom. It was previously discussed by the council with the resurgence of Covid and various reasons that it was in the best interest to hold Town Council meetings by Zoom. It is something that can be revisited for future meetings. **Dan Swafford** feels it should be uniform for all boards and if there is that much concern, Town Hall should be shut down again. **William Ellis** and **Pamela Samples** are not in agreement with shutting down Town Hall. **Michael Farmer**, Town Manager is not in favor of closing Town Hall. He feels there is a lot of confusion with what you should or shouldn't do and understanding why some things are allowed and not others. He feels everyone should do their own thing and trust the people you are with; it has been working so far with a pretty good track record so keep it the way it is. **Dan Swafford** asked when the governor's mandate will expire. **Scott Oldham** explained it is the Monroe County Health Department order for the mask mandate that we are currently observing and not the Governor's. Monroe County is one of the only counties under the mandate and it will expire at the end of October and or when hospitalization rates or positivity rates fall below a certain number. **William Ellis** reminded everyone that we are a separate entity than Monroe County Health Department due to the commissioners involved in the mix and inquired if we should give them all the power or not. **William** stated he didn't think the Zoom meetings is part of the order and was done to alleviate things and is in support of in person meetings. **Scott Oldham** believes the council, commissioners and the health board are on opposite ends of the scale and staying on Zoom alleviated an issue and alleviated having anyone having to make a choice as far as businesses and civilians who wanted to attend the meetings having to make the same choice. At some point someone is going to have to determine exactly what, if any, power a municipality has as a stand-alone over a county health department. The county feels it can enforce a health ordinance and there is case law to that affect. There is also the fight concerning home rule and that is a litigation issue that does not need to be litigated during a pandemic. Everyone has their own feelings and we should just let them be as they are. **Dan Swafford** understood everyone's feelings and was just curious where they stood. **Darla Brown** stated by chat that the mandate is in effect until the end of the month so they will meet for one more meeting by Zoom and it is possible they will extend it at that time. **Scott Oldham** is in favor of Zoom meetings until all the counties have lifted their mask mandates or until the Governor says you cannot do it any longer. **Dan** just wanted to get everyone's opinion and was curious about what would happen at the end of the month. **Scott Oldham** stated we can't continue Zoom unless the Governor reauthorizes the mandate. **William Ellis** believes the Governor will extend it until we are through the pandemic. **William Ellis** mentioned the executive orders and any federal funds being released you have to be under the state of emergency and he doesn't see that ending any time in the immediate future. **Scott Oldham** stated it isn't just one executive order that gives us permission to do Zoom but this executive order gives a lot of people a lot of permissions to do things to make the state work right now.


Supervisor Comments

Adjournment

Scott Oldham entertained a motion to adjourn. **Dan Swafford** so moved. **Pamela Samples** seconded. **Scott Oldham** adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

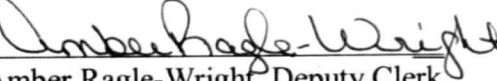
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Scott Oldham, President

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Pamela Samples, Vice President

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Dan Swafford

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William Ellis


Amber Ragle-Wright, Deputy Clerk