

November 25, 2024

The Ellettsville, Indiana, Town Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, November 25, 2024 at the Ellettsville Town Hall Meeting Room located at 1150 West Guy McCown Drive. Scott Oldham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. John Samples gave a word of prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Kevin Patton.

Roll Call: Members present were Scott Oldham – President, Dan Swafford – Vice President, William Ellis, Pamela Samples and Trevor Sager. Michael Farmer, Town Manager, Noelle Conyer, Clerk Treasurer and Darla Brown, Town Attorney, were also present.

Supervisors participating: Kevin Patton, Zachary Michael, Kip Headdy, Denise Line and Jeff Farmer.

Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll

Scott Oldham entertained a motion to pay Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll. Dan Swafford so moved. Pamela Samples seconded. All in favor, motion carries.

Resolutions

Resolution 37-2024 Additional Appropriation for ARPA Fund

Noelle Conyer, Clerk Treasurer, explained funds from POs would be appropriated to use them before the year's end. Mike Farmer, Town Manager said funds from a tree mitigation and storm water project would be reallocated for the ARPA Fund to use them by the end of the year. The tree project would still take place in 2025. Noelle Conyer, Clerk Treasurer, stated \$12,369.48 is the amount of funding they must use. Trevor Sager made a motion to approve Resolution 27-2024 Additional Appropriation for ARPA Fund. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; Trevor Sager – yes. Motion carries.

Resolution 38-2024 Transfer of Funds

Noelle Conyer, Clerk Treasurer, explained the need to transfer \$10,600 from the Clerk Treasure’s part-time line and move it to the miscellaneous professional's line. This line includes IT and the Town Manager salary. William Ellis asked for clarification whether this would be additional funding. Noelle Conyer confirmed it was not a request for additional funding, but a transfer of funds from a line where they have excess funding. William Ellis made a motion to approve Resolution 38-2024 Transfer of Funds. Trevor Sager seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; Trevor Sager – yes. Motion carries.

Ordinance on First Reading

Ordinance 2024-30 to Amend Section 33.21 of the Town Code to Add the Director of Public Works to the List of Town Officials to be Covered by a Position Schedule Bond

Darla Brown, Town Attorney, explained the Council passed an ordinance in February of this year to allow the Clerk Treasurer to be covered by a crime insurance policy, and for various deputies and the town manager to be covered by the position schedule bond. This ordinance would amend the town code to cover the Director of Public Works under a position schedule bond in the amount of \$5,000. Dan Swafford asked if this had been in effect previous years, and how much the town spends in this area. Darla Brown stated she could not recall. Noelle Conyer stated it costs \$145 for the covered employees. Trevor Sager made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-30 to Amend Section 33.21 of the Town Code to Add the Director of Public Works to the List of Town Officials to be Covered by a Position Schedule Bond. Motion denied due to first reading.

Ordinance 2024-31 An Ordinance Regarding the Bond to be Posted by Ellettsville Redevelopment Commission Members

Darla Brown, Town Attorney, stated the ordinance clarifies the RDC is to post a blanket bond of \$15,000 rather than \$15,000 each. Dan Swafford asked where the funds are coming from. Noelle Conyer stated there has been no definitive decision from the Council, but the intent will be to fund from LIT Economic development.

Ordinance on Second Reading

Ordinance 2024-26 to amend Ord 2001-25 receipt and claims policy clarification

Noelle Conyer explained this ordinance would allow an affidavit to be submitted should a receipt be lost. She clarified this is intended for simple expenses, such as a gas receipt. Dan Swafford made a motion to carry Ordinance 2024-26 to amend Ord 2001-25 receipt and claims policy clarification. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; Trevor Sager – yes. Motion carries.

Ordinance 2024-29 Zoning Map Amendment from Commercial 2 to Commercial 1 for 7633 W. State Road 46

Denise Line explained the address was zoned Commercial 3, but that no longer exists. This ordinance would allow the address to operate more closely to it had under Commercial 3. Dan Swafford made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-29 Zoning Map Amendment from Commercial 2 to Commercial 1 for 7633 W. State Road 46. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; Trevor Sager – yes. Motion carries.

Old Business

Interlocal Agreement for Animal Control 2025

Noelle Conyer, Clerk Treasurer explained should the council approve, this MOU would be with the City of Bloomington and Monroe County. Dan Swafford asked about pricing. Noelle Conyer stated the cost per animal had risen, but the towns cost had lowered from previous years due to the number of animals. Cost for 2025 will be \$23158.38 council also asked if the budget for 2025 reflected an increase, and the Clerk Treasurer stated that there had been a 5% increase added to the approved 2025 budget. William Ellis made a motion to approve Interlocal Agreement for Animal Control 2025. Trevor Sager seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; Trevor Sager – yes. Motion carries.

New Business

Request from Chandler Funeral Home for Holiday Market

Ron Wayt from Chandler Funeral home spoke to the council and is asking for a request for road closing of Vine Street for a Holiday Market. Town Council member Trevor Sager asked if public safety has been notified. President Scott Oldham wanted to clarify of the process and wants to have the Fire Chief, Police Chief or Town Manager to approve especially for project that may be time sensitive. Holiday Market was approved to close Vine Street on December 7, 2024.

Creating a new Parks/DPW Position

Mike Farmer, Town Manager, explained that with the new trails and the soon to be opened Heritage Center at Stewart Park we will need a full-time person to maintain and service those area. He said the funding would come from a part-time line in the parks and the Temporary Full-time line, this position will not be seasonal. The job will be posted internally to fill the position and asks the council to create this position. Town Council asked if the Town has a Parks part-time position currently and Mike Farmer, Town Manager, along with Kip Headdy DPW Director explained the part-time Parks Director will still be employed and will continue to run events like the Ellettsville 5K and sports events. Town Council member Pamela Samples expressed concern about not being able to hire a full-time position when we need to hire public safety workers. Mike Farmer, Town Manager explained that the Town did not have enough in the budget with current standards and the funds were included in the budget, so no additional funds are needed. There was conversation about next year trying to add more public safety officers, retention has been the goal for the previous years for costs as it can be more costly too with a lot of turnovers. Growth for the town with the development of the Redevelopment Commission will provide funds in the future to assist with the hiring of public safety. Trevor Sager made a motion to approve creating a new Parks/DPW position Scott Oldham seconded. Roll call vote: Scott Oldham – yes; Dan Swafford – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples – yes; Trevor Sager – yes. Motion carries.

Privilege of the Floor- President Scott Oldham stated there are none in person or on online.

Supervisors Comments

Mike Farmer, Town Manager, requests that the Town Hall be closed for the holidays certain days. Council clarified that Town Manager can grant the departments time off and the Town Hall can be closed to the public. The December meeting on the 23rd will be held since there will be a quorum. Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Jeff Farmer, gave an update on Wessler Engineering contract about the updates to the Sewer plant. There was discussion on flow meters and the updates will help increase the overall process for billing efficiency. ~~Wessler Engineering report will be sent to the Council members.~~

Kevin Patton, asked council to use the fire station training room for the Monroe County Human Association to provide low cost spay and neuter program for the community. The council agreed that it was a good use for the training room and approved.

Kip Headdy, gave an update on the streets resurfacing from the CCG grant, and we are getting ready for the 2025 grant. Leaf pick- up will pick up after the holiday.

Noelle Conyer, gave update on the Sewer bond and the closing date is on December 11, 2024

Darla Brown, updated about the RDC appointment and the non-voting member be replaced with Larry Demoss and formally appoint Larry DeMoss, since the previously appointed member Dana Kerr informally resigned. President Scott Oldham asked for a vo

Council Comments:

Pamela Samples asked about new projects in town since constituents are asking about them on social media. Town Manager Mike Farmer explained that the Town does not have any contract or property transfer for the project Council member Samples asked about.

William Ellis, clarified some rumors about projects in town, reminded the council and residents that to not let misinformation hurt the town. Discussion about sever farms between council members, William told residents about other projects. Reassured that the Planning Department and the town council will make good choices for the growth of the town.

Dan Swafford wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Scott Oldham, reminded everyone that the council has not seen a proposal for a vote from the project in question and the council should be remiss to consider a case before it has been presented to the council. The council should use discretion and not discuss or pass judgement before a presentation has been made to the council.

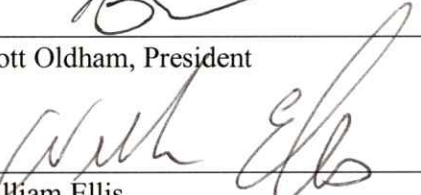
Adjournment

Scott Oldham, President adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.



Scott Oldham, President

Dan Swafford, Vice President




William Ellis

Pamela Samples



Trevor Sager



Attest: Noelle M. Conyer Clerk Treasurer