

Due to COVID 19, The Ellettsville, Indiana, Town Council met for a virtual meeting on Monday, September 14, 2020 by Zoom. Dan Swafford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mike Cornman led the Pledge of Allegiance followed with a prayer by Jimmie Durnil.

Roll Call: Members present were Dan Swafford, President, Scott Oldham, Vice President; William Ellis, Pamela Samples. Trevor Sager was absent. Sandra Hash, Clerk-Treasurer; Darla Brown, Town Attorney, Michael Farmer, Town Manager were also present.

Supervisors present: Mike Cornman, Jimmie Durnil, Kevin Tolloty, Danny Stalcup.

Approval of Minutes

Dan Swafford entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on August 24, 2020. Scott Oldham made a motion. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Dan Swafford – yes; Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples - yes. Motion carried.

Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll

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

Ordinances on First Reading

Ordinance 2020-24 Pre-Adoption of the 2021 Budget

Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained this is the pre-adoption public hearing for any questions or comments from the public regarding the 2021 Budget. There has been one change since the last meeting. The Parks Board Budget has been decreased by \$2,000.00. She explained that the request was for \$10,00.00 in the improvements line and there was not enough tax rate and cash to support it. It was reduced to \$8,000.00. Jimmie Durnil, Parks Board President stated he would love to have the extra funds to purchase new lights for the trail, but he will work with Sandra Hash on whether they can still do that. William Ellis inquired what was the difference in the adopted budget and the adopted tax levy. Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained there are miscellaneous revenues that support the other expenses of the budget so the tax levy is the property tax amount that the Town will receive to pay for the budget. There is a lot of miscellaneous revenues, it is not all property tax. William Ellis just wanted to clear any question if the public or council saw the differences, they would understand that the adopted tax levy is strictly from property taxes and we have other revenues coming in. Dan Swafford asked about the request of more money for the Planning Commission. Sandra Hash explained she was able to increase the pay for the Plan Commission members to \$50.00 per meeting along with the Board of Zoning Appeals members. Russell Ryle from the public questioned how comfortable the Town is with the spending level, moving forward, with the proposed budget given the current situation to government finances. Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained it is hard to predict the future but, the State gives her several guidelines for revenues and along with the tax rate, that is what she bases the budget on. Over the last decade the Town has built the operating balance substantially. The Public Safety Local Income Tax reduced expenses in the General Fund which helped build the operating balance. She is comfortable with what the state has predicted for 2021 revenues making her feel comfortable with this budget. She further explained they will still maintain just under a million-dollar operating balance after meeting all expenses for the next 18 months. That flexibility in the budget allows for coverage if needed in the years to come.

Flood Report

Michael Farmer, Town Manager reported that he passed along a check to Darla Brown's Office, Town Attorney for the purchase of 104 W. Vine Street. She will be working with the courts to obtain possession of that property. It will be settled soon, and the Town will own the property at 104 W. Vine and adjacent property at 105 E. Vine. Both properties are integral for the flood remediation plan as proposed by Christopher Burke & Associates Engineering. Michael Farmer has spoken with G.L. Chandler who owns property to the east and he is willing to open his property up for remediation. There is also a property east of G.L. Chandler's that belongs to the Village Inn that could also be used for shelving that will

double the size for remediation if they can obtain it. If the Town is going to do flood remediation, they will need to proceed with a flood plan that would include drawings and specifications. They have a proposal from Christopher Burke and is asking everyone to consider moving forward with remediation. The cost is approximately \$56,000.00 for just the proposal from Christopher Burke and the cost could go up if they are going to need to purchase any extra property. Michael Farmer requested everyone take this into consideration to be voted on in the near future.

New Business

Darla Brown, Town Attorney explained that at the June 22nd meeting of 2020 the Town Council considered a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the County regarding services provided by the county building inspector to finish out the building permits that the county had until the Town could get ensconced in it's own Building Department. She thought that the council had approved the Memorandum of Understanding and passed it along to the county for approval but was informed that it wasn't approved and only a motion for Kevin Tolloty to proceed with obtaining figures to get an independent contractor to do that work. Dave Schilling, County Attorney needs to know the Town's intent due to planning their budget. She wanted the council to be aware in case someone revived the issue. Nothing further needs done, only to inform Dave Schilling that the Town is no longer interested, and the Town's new Building inspectors will take care of everything.

Denise Line, Assistant Planner discussed that in October 2018, the Town received a grant from the Smithville Community Foundation in the amount of \$12,275.00 for a new website. The new website is now live and is progressive and focused on community, business and visitors. Each department has its own page with forms and information specific to the department. She encouraged everyone to check it out at <https://ellettsville.in.us>. Russell Ryle from the public suggested adding to the upcoming meeting page adding a link for zoom meetings and how to attend the meetings along with the agenda and packets. Sandra Hash, Clerk Treasurer explained it is a work in progress and there is a lot to still learn to manage it.

Supervisors Comments

Mike Cornman, Fire Chief discussed the promotion of Travis Abrams and Matt Siebott to Sergeant. The positions are budgeted for he is seeking approval to promote them to the rank of Sergeant. Scott Oldham made a motion to promote both Travis Abrams and Matt Siebott to the rank of Sergeant. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Dan Swafford – yes; Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – yes; Pamela Samples. Motion carried.

Michael Farmer, Town Manager explained they sent out notices last month on the 19th or 20th for shut offs. The notice stated shut offs will begin on September 17th and we are allowing a payment plan up to 12 months for balances due over \$240.00 and 6 months under \$240.00 as opposed to shut off. There are currently 257 people that have not paid or made arrangements, but he feels that is a normal amount of people for the cycle. He further stated that Richland Township Trustee and some of the local churches are working with the Town and the customers to help them.

Michael Farmer, Town Manager also discussed the beginning of a project to connect a 12" water main on Highway 46 beginning close to Red Hill Road that will be about 1500 feet to interconnect a large water main coming from the south that will supply water to KeHE and others in that area. It has been in the master plan for a decade and will be an upgrade to our water system.

Danny Stalcup, Street Commissioner explained the road work is scheduled to start Thursday with the milling of the streets to be paved. This will be paid with the Community Crossing grant the Town received. Kip Headdy added the Community Crossings grant includes the addition of a new sidewalk on Edgewood Drive. Milestone Paving started the sidewalk about a week ago and it is 80 to 90 percent complete from the Junior High to Reeves Road. Dan Swafford inquired about the caution signs they had discussed at an earlier meeting as opposed to the stop signs on Colt Drive. Danny Stalcup has not had the opportunity to check in to that yet.

Council Comments

William Ellis asked Jimmie Durnil, Police Chief about the recent theft of political signs in the Meadowlands area. Chief Durnil explained that Officer Bowlen reported it was some teenagers being teenagers and not politically motivated and they all should be replaced by that evening.

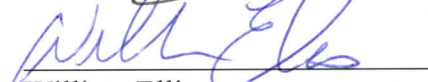
Pamela Samples asked about continuing with the Zoom meetings. Darla Brown, Town Attorney stated the governor has extended the date to October 4, 2020 for Zoom Meetings.

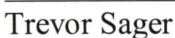
Adjournment

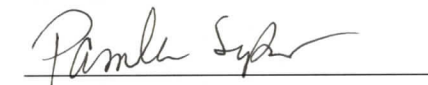
Dan Swafford entertained a motion to adjourn. Scott Oldham so moved. William Ellis seconded. Roll call vote: Dan Swafford – yes; Scott Oldham – yes; William Ellis – yes. Motion carried. Dan Swafford adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



Dan Swafford, President

Scott Oldham, Vice President

William Ellis

Trevor Sager

Pamela Samples

Sandra C. Hash, Clerk-Treasurer, IAMC, MMC