

TOWN OF ADVANCE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: TOWN HALL

April 10, 2023

7:00 PM

112 N. Main – P. O. Box 67 Advance, IN 46102 Phone: (765) 676-6611 – Fax (765) 676-6696

Email: [advanceCT@townofadvance.com](mailto:advanceCT@townofadvance.com)

Council Members: President Jim Caldwell, Dale Thompson, Amanda Lyles and David Lumpkin

Clerk Treasurer – Shari Johnson

Marshal: Brad Thomas

**Attendees:** Council Members: President Jim Caldwell, Amanda Lyles, Dale Thompson and David Lumpkin

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Others in attendance: Scott Roby, Doug Meissel, Deputy Shaun Hitch, Reserve Zac Perisho, Reserve John Demaree, JR Shelton, Kristen Linton, Keith Cromwell, Erin Higgins, Kyle Schnoor, JR Shelton, and Carla Kellogg.

**President Caldwell called to order the Council Meeting at 19:00.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Rules of Order**

CT advised that the cut-off time for the request to speak card would be moved up to 5 days before the Council meeting so that she and the Council could be adequately prepared for meetings.

Scott Roby and Doug Meissel were sworn in to the Town Park Board. CT Johnson advised there was paperwork that needed to be submitted to the Town Hall.

**Engineer, Gary Ladd discussed getting the second generator.**

**President Caldwell closed the Town Meeting and opened the Public Hearing.**

CT Johnson stated the public hearing was for residents to review the PER and have an opportunity for public comment.

President Caldwell advised improvement of the Town's infrastructure of our utilities and there is infiltration in the system.

Mr. Ladd questioned if there was anyone at the meeting for public comment. No one came forward. Mr. Ladd advised residents to have 5 days for comment, and the meeting minutes would be incorporated in the report to the State Revolving Loan Program. The town is seeking a forgivable loan from SRF. Mr. Ladd stated the Council, after SRF determination, would review and decide whether to move forward or not with this project. An overview of the scope of the project was presented with a project cost of \$1,250,000.00. A future population projection to be served is 660 residents. The LEAP Project may have an impact on the town with an increase in population.

No comments were presented.

**President Caldwell closed the Public Hearing and Opened the regular meeting.**

**Emergency Siren - President Caldwell presented:**

Two estimates were presented; one from Adams Electric for \$30,480.00 and RA-COMM for \$34,671.00. The existing siren had a broken neutral from a storm and parts cannot be purchased. The insurance covers \$25,000.00.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the estimate from Adams Electric for \$30,480.00. Councilman Lumpkin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2023, and Special Meeting Minutes for March 27, 2023. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**

**Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve claims for April 10, 2023, in the amount of \$105,803.04. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**

**The council signed off on reconciliation for March. Reconciliation was completed on April 3, 2023.**

**Park – President Caldwell:**

The new Park expectations were discussed. CT advised there is a grant with Boone County Solid Waste for all municipalities in Boone County of \$5000.00. She and Kristen Linton met with Jennifer Lawrence to discuss grant.

**UMAC – Clerk-Treasurer Johnson presented report:**

CT advised that Mr. Elless had Alliance of Indiana out checking for leaks. Alliance will come back out and reinvestigate once they have proper equipment.

Manholes have been inspected and checking lid alignment. A report will be presented of findings once transferred from field reports. The UV system is up and running. Plant is running

at capacity. The water tower inspection is coming soon. A kickoff meeting with 120Water on lead and copper reporting will need to happen soon.

**Hopper Excavating – CT Johnson read report:**

Work completed in March was locates, water leak checked, work orders sewer issues and septic pumping.

Upcoming: Patching pot holes, cap off septic, park dumpster emptied, pick up sticks.

CT advised that picking up sticks would be done by volunteers.

Mr. Cromwell stated there is an issue of people running over a water meter on Wall Street. It was requested M. Thomas address this issue.

CT stated she had invoices from 2022 that were received 7 months late, and she wanted a determination from the Council what a cut off date for receiving invoices to be paid. Discussion ensued. Mr. Hopper advised that Hopper Excavating would adhere to a 60 day billing turnaround.

CT also advised that a work order date and email received date can be 60 days later.

**IMPA – CT Johnson read report:**

In March there were 4 service requests, no poles were replaced, and there were no outages.

**IMPA Commissioner's President Caldwell:**

President Caldwell advised the grant report will be tabled. There will be an increase in the Tracking Factor and rates from IMPA beginning in July. Discussion and decisions on Coal Fire Plants is ongoing.

**Fire – Keith Cromwell read report:**

For the month of March, the fire department had 3 EMS, 6 Fire, 2 MVAs, and 9 False Alarms.

**Police – Marshall Thomas:**

There were 24 runs in March. Discussion of runs ensued, sex offender, domestic, welfare checks, assist fire department, dog nuisance, and a suspicious person.

Discussion regarding expedite court proceedings for 103 and 103 ½ N. Main. M. Thomas stated he wrote the first ticket 9 months ago and it has taken too long.

CT questioned follow up from the last meeting and concerns from Councilman Thompson and where clean up was on this property. M. Thomas stated he hadn't had a chance to respond and stated he had spoken to the property owner.

Code Enforcement of 407 S. Main is still ongoing. Notices of violations have been delivered and the Health Department has been there as well.

President Caldwell stated M. Thomas needed to start writing tickets for these properties so these offenses can be taken to court.

M. Thomas stated he could only handle so many code enforcement cases at one time and it didn't follow his community policing efforts and it was hard to get motivated if he had to write tickets for nine months.

President Caldwell firmly stated that he didn't care about the community policing, and what he cared about was the trashy houses and quality of life in town. M. Thomas stated he did his job and wouldn't look like a bully in the town.

CT had a suggestion for the Council and consideration of a Code Enforcement officer. P. Caldwell questioned how this would be paid for. CT stated she hadn't gotten to that point yet, and just wanted to begin discussions. M. Thomas stated that you had to be careful about code enforcement and CT stated she was aware as she had been to many classes regarding that subject.

Presentation of tasers and car computers were presented. The lease of 2 tasers is \$1800.00 per year. Taser cartridges would be \$500.00 - \$600.00 /year. In addition, there were notations of certification of an officer.

To lease 2 computers was approximately \$1400.00 over 5 years and \$2000.00 for three years. P. Caldwell requested that M. Thomas get the contracts for leases to the town attorney for review. M. Thomas said he had money for training and equipment to pay for these items. CT advised she had to look at sustainability and how this will be funded every year and not just this year.

CT stated the budget has to be reviewed every year and needs are not always in the police department. Kristen Linton questioned if grants can be obtained for this equipment? P. Caldwell advised M. Thomas to reach out to Mike Martin or Rachel Hanson.

Discussion ensued. P. Caldwell stated all costs need to be known for budget.

CT presented door hangers that the police could be utilized by the police department. No comment was presented.

**Clerk-Treasurer – Shari Johnson:**

Fund and appropriation reports were presented without comment.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve CT adjustments for the month of March 2023, in the amount of -727.33. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. President Caldwell abstained from approving the fire department adjustment; motion passed.

TRECS update; there have been issues with their system and the town is still waiting on funds.

CT summarized the Copy Fee Ordinance 2023-05; An Ordinance Establishing a Uniform Fee Schedule for Certification and Copying of Documents Pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-3-8.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2023-05 on its first reading. Councilman Lumpkin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-05. Councilman Lumpkin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Veolia – updated agreement – tabled, information just received.

Car computers – tabled.

**New Business:**

**Billing Disputes: None presented.**

**Request to Speak: Erin Higgins 209 E. Wall St.**

Ms. Higgins stated she had just moved to town and a week after moving in, the septic backed up (Friday Evening). At 5 p.m. she attempted to call Hopper and got the voicemail. So, they knew they couldn't wait, so she called another company, and they came out Saturday afternoon. Mr. Hopper had called and told her the town maintained these tanks.

CT advised she spoke with Mr. Hopper, and he left a voicemail at 8:05 a.m., and called 9:28 a.m., and left an additional message at 10:32. Finally when he called at 1:37 and finally spoke to Ms. Higgins. CT stated a welcome packet is given with all the emergency contact information and it all was explained to her when the packet was given. CT also stated that hiring someone who isn't the contractor puts a liability on the homeowner should the tank have been damaged and did they have a COI. In addition, P. Caldwell stated that the tanks have to be inspected and that wasn't done either.

Mr. Hopper said he would have to inspect the tank.

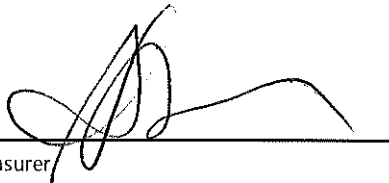
Ms. Higgins stated \$385.00 was the pumping fee, an emergency service fee \$100.00 and base service was \$285.00. P. Caldwell stated those fees were higher and CT advised a lot higher.

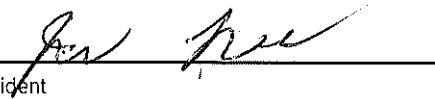
Councilman Thompson stated he would be willing to reimburse \$320.00, which is the fee Hopper charges the town.

Mr. Cromwell stated the tank was due to pump that month, and to inspect that tank would be another \$320.00. CT stated she did NOT want to eat that charge twice.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve \$320.00 after the inspection of the tank and this amount could change. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 20:02.

X   
Clerk Treasurer

X   
President

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday May 8, 2023 at (19:00) 7:00 p.m. at the James L. Caldwell Fire Department, 106 E. Wall St., Advance, IN.