

TOWN OF ADVANCE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: ADVANCE TOWN HALL

August 12, 2019

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

Council Members: Matt Johnson, Melody Fry, Dale Thompson, and Jim Caldwell

Clerk Treasurer – Shari Johnson

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Attendees: Council Members: Melody Fry, Dale Thompson and Jim Caldwell

Marshal: Brad Thomas

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Others in attendance: Dan Bewley, Jeff Hopper, Nancy Hopper, Joe Watts, Lisa Henry, JR Shelton, Jennifer Magee, Michelle Harsin, Lisa Bowen, Matt Bowen, Steve Brock and Keith Cromwell

Councilwoman Fry called to order the Council Meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Rules of Order

Steve Brock with Therber, Brock and Associates, Town WWTP Advisor/CPA

Mr. Brock addressed the Council regarding the SRF (State Revolving Fund) and how the SRF, lists projects on a Project Priority List (PPL) and where the Town ranks on this list determining how much money the Town would receive. This is done in July. SRF awarded the Town of Advance a grant in the amount of \$675,000 based on the information the Town submitted to the SRF. The loan would need to be closed by December 16, 2019. The town ranked 22 out of 36 projects on the PPL. SRF ran out of loan money by the time they got to the Town's project for the traditional 2% interest loan; therefore, SRF is opening a pool program for everyone they didn't have revenue for and anticipating this rate would be 3% estimated by Mr. Brock but the rate could come in lower and the loan would need to be closed in October and not November. Town engineer, Gary Ladd, stated this would not be feasible.

Mr. Brock approached SRF and they are granting special consideration to the Town to participate in the pool program but not close until January. To do this, two things must happen. 1) They must be told in August the Town wants to be in the pool program because they need to size the pool to either include or not to include the Town. 2) A commitment letter must be signed that the money will be borrowed in January, because they will be borrowing the funds in October.

The only downside is if the town does not borrow the funds in January, they won't close a loan with the town in the future which is the only downside. The amount that would need to be loaned is \$109,000, if assuming the Town received the \$700,000 OCRA grant and the grant from SRF.

What happens if the Town does not get the OCRA grant and the Town needs to resubmit in November and awards in January? SRF will allow the closing to be in February. If the OCRA grant is not received in November, the Town may look at borrowing more funds. That will be addressed when the time comes.

Construction BIDS would be done in October. Mr. Brock would need to do due diligence to raise the rates and charges to show the SRF that enough revenue is being collected to cover on-going maintenance: repair and replacement, debt services, and new debt service on new debt with a 1.25 debt service coverage ratio and that the Town is collecting more so that the Town would not be just cash in and cash out.

Mr. Brock's recommendation was to advise that the Town of Advance wants to be in the October pool program. Councilman Caldwell questioned if the engineering came in higher or BIDS are higher and what would happen to the grant? Mr. Brock advised that more money would need to be borrowed. If BIDS come in low, the Town would only borrow the money needed and if higher, the SRF would work with the Town.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion for Mr. Brock to move forward with the commitment letter to the SRF, Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

CT Johnson questioned the rate study and items that would need to be included.

Councilman Caldwell stated the rates would be going up and there wasn't much choice because of IDEM citations.

CT Johnson questioned if the Water Ordinance would be reviewed at the same time as the WW Ordinance. Mr. Brock advised that would be a good idea.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Brock advised that attorney fees and engineering fees can be reimbursed in the cost of the loan, and only non-construction costs can be included.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the July 8, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

The Information Meeting Minutes were not completed and would be presented at the September Meeting.

Police – Marshal Thomas:

Kids are back in school and Shalom House gave lunches to kids each week. Love INC. is supporting this, and Old Union is having a hog roast Saturday and proceeds will go to Love INC.

WAM is back in session.

Mr. Henry Maye, reserve officer, completed field training and can work independently.

Safety Day went well, and with heat had a lower attendance.

The Tahoe is ready to be decaled. Officer Golladay is working on programming the lap top.

Bob Cole, retired chief in Attica, approached Marshal Thomas about being a part-time deputy.

M. Thomas wants to save money (cash reserve) to purchase a new police car in the future.

In July, there were 18 runs. Discussion of runs ensued. A gun was stolen in town in August, and there is some new drug activity in town which M. Thomas thinks there is a correlation.

Code enforcement regarding weeds, M. Thomas stated that Deputy Clerk had already addressed the issue and he would follow up with Deputy Kellogg if he didn't see any improvement.

Clerk-Treasurer – Shari Johnson:

CT Johnson advised Marshal Thomas that she needed Deputy Stumm's last day, a forwarding address for his W-2 and his Air-Card discontinued or transferred to the new deputy.

No comments were presented on Fund or appropriation reports. CT Johnson explained that the Water Tower Bond payment came out and the repairs to the water tower and repairs for the water tower leak attributed to the fund dipping down into a further negative.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the CT adjustments for -600.08. Councilman Caldwell abstained due to the AVFD adjustment. Councilwoman Fry seconded. Motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve for the CT to move money from appropriation 201001400 to 201001360.

Internal Controls are in progress and additional controls have been written.

The OCRA Grant will be determined on August 15th.

Councilwoman Fry read the synopsis to Ordinance 2019-02 Councilman Thompson made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2019-02 on its first reading. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-02. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve Ladd Engineering Invoice of \$8470.00 and Attorney Nooning invoice of \$2525.00 for work towards the WWTP. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the contract for Amy Nooning, town attorney, for 2020 with an increase of the retainer to \$10,000 from \$7500.00 in 2019. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the Town of Advance ADA Transition Plan. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

CT Johnson presented the copy of proposed copier lease and Councilman Thompson questioned if repairs are included and CT advised yes. In addition, C. Thompson explained the fax board feature.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve Cardinal Copier 5 year/60 month lease for \$81.00 a month with a Fax Board for \$7.80 a month plus copy fees. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

CT Johnson mailed out surveys for residents to offer to help other town residents on clean up and residents to sign up if they need help/assistance.

Requests for updating unpaid renter utility bills were discussed. CT Johnson advised there is still a lot of grey area regarding the bill. Councilman Thompson questioned about raising the renter deposits and CT Johnson stated she thought that there was a cap on what deposits could be assessed. Discussion ensued.

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to move all credits on utility accounts back into prospective utilities. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

IMPA/ISC – Councilwoman Fry read report:

In the month of July there were three service requests which was tree trimming and upgrade of service was completed. No poles were replaced in July and one was marked to replace in August. The system inventory was completed and recommended fees were sent to town and Century Link which is still pending.

UMAC – Councilwoman Fry read the report:

The insulation was installed on the water tower. For the month of July, 1,225,000 gallons of water were used, 714,695 were billed, leaving a difference of 510,305 for a loss of 41%. This loss was attributed to the leak at the water tower which is now fixed. Water samples will be taken. Alarms need to be purchased to update and be 4G. Councilman Caldwell advised to table the purchase of alarms to see if they can be included in part of the WWTP Grant.

Hopper – President Johnson read the report:

In the month of July line locates were done. Weed spraying, mowing, shut-offs and pumping of resident septic systems were done.

Upcoming work:

Claim with Calumet with flooding at the Town Hall is still pending.

IMPA Commissioners Report – Jim Caldwell:

Councilman Caldwell went to New York with IMPA in hopes of improving their rating from A+ to AA. IMPA sold solar park and will have it returned back/sold back in 6 years. Tax relief will be issued. More solar parks are hoped to be installed by 2025. 100 Mega Watts of solar would need 600 acres. IMPA is working towards diverse and efficient power sources and are a solid company. The company is looking for innovative ways to lower customer costs. Micronet systems are being considered and looking for beta test system. This system will take solar power and put power into batteries. Discussion ensued.

Councilman Thompson made a motion for Advance to be a beta test town. Councilwoman Fry seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Park – Dan Bewley:

Mr. Bewley advised cameras were installed August 1, 2019, and there are donut marks in the parking lot. The Rules sign is completed and will be installed. The oval dirt track is ½ way installed. The other two tracks need to be installed.

The Eagle Scout projects are still moving forward.

Spraying at Park has been done. Mr. Bewley asked if CT had ordered basketball chains and CT advised not yet.

A Grant with the Solid Waste of Boone County is being pursued.

Mr. Bewley advised the Park had been turned in for selling concessions and the concession stand had not even been opened yet.

Trunk-or-Treat at the Park will be discussed at the August meeting.

A storage shed was being considered to be built.

Mr. Bewley mentioned a gator to be purchased. CT Johnson elaborated that if a gator was purchased, the police department would benefit with Code Enforcement, and the Deputy could use when doing meter reads. The park could use for clean up in the park.

Fire – Keith Cromwell:

For the month of July 2019 the Fire Department had 15 EMS runs, 3 MVAs, 1 Fire Alarm, 1 Hazmat and 3 fires. The tanker report was attached showing training gallons used.

Claims:

Councilman Caldwell made a motion to approve the claims for August 12, 2019 claims in the amount of \$150,589.35. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Old Business:

ITRON agreement is still pending and ICloud were tabled.

Employee Handbook recommendations were tabled.

Century Link contract is on hold.

CT Johnson advised that the agreement with T.M. Wells came in at \$6000.00 and not the original quote of \$8,500.00 due to the recent inventory IMPA provided for the Electric Utility. The additional \$1,200.00 per year update was not approved. Councilwoman Fry approved to CT to sign.

New Business:

There was no new business presented.

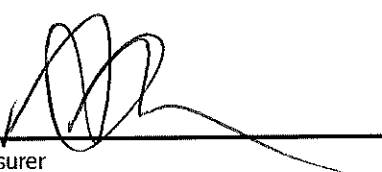
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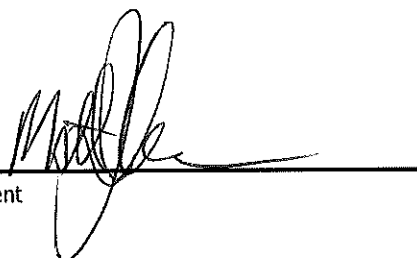
No disputes were presented.

Request to Speak:

No requests to speak were presented.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Caldwell seconded. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 19:59.

X 
Clerk Treasurer

X 
President

The next Council meeting is scheduled for September, 2019 (**Budget Hearing**) at (19:00) 7:00 p.m. at the Advance Volunteer Fire Department, 106 E. Wall St., Advance, IN.