

TOWN OF ADVANCE

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: TOWN HALL

September 9, 2024

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 (arrive to the meeting late), and David Lumpkin

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Others in attendance: Deputy Shaun Hitch, Keith Cromwell, JR Shelton, Marshal Thomas, Scott Roby, Kyle Schnoor, Doug Meissel, Tina Henderson with Mendenhall and Asso., Linda Randle, Gerald Randle, Kerri Cole, and OCRA Representative, Sarah Froderman

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Rules of Order**

**Tina Henderson, Grant Administrator with Mendenhall and Associates:**

Ms. Henderson advised the project budget was \$1.3 Million, and she just found out that OCRA was increasing the grant amount from \$700,000.00 to \$750,000.00 and there is still a local match needed of \$554,000.00. P. Caldwell stated there were issues with finding where the match would come from.

Round 2 is close to closing and it would be better to shoot for round 1 of 2025. The income survey is good for 4 years.

P. Caldwell stated there was a meeting with IEDC and Jamestown had gone to the County Council, and they said no as well.

The town has reached out to Representative Thompson to discuss growth on the western part of the county and grant administrator stated the town would be growth application request. Discussion ensued.

The Bond Bank was discussed as a consideration as well as a rate consultations.

P. Caldwell discussed building a community building and Ms. Henderson advised only one OCRA application could be in at one time and there is a timing issue. P. Caldwell stated the fire department had land, and the land could be donated to the town and clarification was the Town would own the Community Building.

Discussion of available OCRA Funds was discussed: \$750,000.00 for the Sewer Plant, and \$550,000.00 for a Community Building. CT advised the Town was on an Early Warning Ban for Sewer. Ms. Henderson advised there is a planning grant available for \$50,000.00, with a 10% match but they are very competitive.

In-Kind fundraising can also be done. Ms. Henderson had a contact for community fundraising. Discussion of the funding and building timeline for grants. CT advised Mr. Ladd had submitted a PER to SRF and was not sure where the Town fell on the project priority list.

CT questioned the amount of time we had to wait before reapplying for another sewer grant. Sarah Froderman, OCRA Liaison, advised it was five years, or lose 50 points on a grant application. CT advised that there were a lot of points to lose. Discussion ensued. Ms. Henderson stated if there is a wait time on the sewer, then the community building could possibly move forward and that OCRA grants are focused on residential impact.

There are six federal steps in the process and the Town needs to decide which way the town would like to move.

Donating land as in-kind was discussed, and in-kind hours toward project. Ms. Henderson stated she needed to review the actual in-kind dollar match. If the town wanted to move forward with a community building, the town would need to bring on an architect and what the budget would be, a schematic design. She did not bring the planning route for the project due to the timeline of the project. Ms. Henderson reiterated the Bond Bank might be a good source to look into as they have expanded what they will fund, and bond terms go out 25 years.

Buy America, Build America could raise costs, was stated by Ms. Froderman.

President Caldwell opened the public hearing for the 2025 Budget.

CT Johnson presented budget to the Council. There were no objections or concerns presented.

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to close the public hearing. Councilman Lumpkin seconded. All in favor, motion carried. President Caldwell opened the Council Meeting.**

**Engineering Report - P. Caldwell read agreements:**

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve Ladd consulting proposal for AMP work and submission to LTAP by December 1, 2024 for \$800.00. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

P. Caldwell asked CT if General Funds could be used for Sewer Infrastructure. CT advised she asked Attorney Noonig, who referred her to SBOA. She is awaiting a response.

Projects left over from the WWTP upgrade were presented by P. Caldwell from Mr. Ladd to the Council. Discussions ensued. CT recommended having the remainder of the ARPA to build fencing around the lift stations.

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve Ladd Engineering Consulting Proposal to obtain quotes for fencing at Lift Station using ARPA Funds for \$1000.00. Councilman Lumpkin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

CT advised a contract must be secured by the end of the year for the ARPA Funds; otherwise, the town will lose those funds.

P. Caldwell presented Rolling Dough Pizza Bid utilizing READi Funds.

**Councilman Lumpkin made a motion to approve Cunningham Construction Group Bid of \$25,000.00 using READi Funds. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Councilman Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from August 12, 2024. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve claims for September 9, 2024 in the amount of \$150,185.22. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

**The council signed off on reconciliation for August 2024.**

**Clerk-Treasurer – Shari Johnson:**

Fund and appropriation reports were presented. No comments made.

**Councilman Lumpkin made a motion to approve CT adjustments for the month of August 2024, in the amount of \$352.69. Councilman Thompson seconded. President Caldwell abstained from approving the fire department adjustment; motion carried.**

No TRECS Update to present.

CT advised she would be on vacation September 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>.

CT presented the installation of park equipment estimate for \$11,800.00 and for the Council to consider gifting the Park's 501C3 that amount.

**Councilman Lumpkin made a motion approving the Town to gift the 501C3, Friends of Advance Park, \$11,800.00 to be paid from the General Fund. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

P. Caldwell stated the installation cost did not cover mulch, rocks etc. and advised the park could go to Menards to see if they might donate these materials.

CT advised she would need to do an additional appropriation for the \$11,800.00.

Mr. Roby questioned the representative about the playground equipment delivery date and had not heard back. JR Shelton advised they were told the equipment would be delivered in 6-8 weeks.

CT stated the Park purchased bags for Trick-or-Treating a few years ago, and they should have a surplus of bags to give out.

Bracket information was given to the Park Board for the military banners.

The town is participating in the Best Day in Boone and CT advised the company paired with Advance would be coming out and doing work in the park and cost of materials would be covered. CT requested the Council approve for her to purchase t-shirts for the event for those in town participated.

**Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to approve CT Johnson to purchase shirts for those participating from the town in the Best Day in Boone. Councilman Lumpkin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

CT couldn't remember if the agreement for the water loss audit was done and signed. She requested another motion be made to be safe.

**Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to ratify P. Caldwell to sign the Water Loss Audit Agreement. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

CT requested the Council to reappropriate the funds originally an additional appropriation for BOLA Wraps for the police department, to cover the cost of lights for the new police truck.

**Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to reappropriate funds originally for BOLA Wraps to cover cost of police lights and installation. Councilman Lumpkin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**

**Councilman Thomson made a motion to approve Century Fire's invoice to install police lights in the amount of \$1180.00. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

CT advised she was asked to be on the ILMCT Executive Committee.

**Park – JR Shelton/Scott Roby:**

Phase 1 & 2 has been ordered. There was an RC race over Labor Day weekend. P. Caldwell stated money, credit card, and receipts have not been turned in to the town hall.

P. Caldwell stated any complaint about the park weed eating and he advised park board to speak to Mr. Cromwell about concerns.

A drag was purchased to maintain the park trail.

The movie originally scheduled to be shown in the park in August will be held in September.

**UMAC – CT Johnson read report:**

For the month of August, both treatment plants were running well. Huston serviced generators and Water plant generator is up and running. A boil advisory for W. Wall St. due to a water main break was issued; samples came back good and advisory lifted. One quote from M.E. Simpson was received for a master meter and additional quotes are being pursued. It was requested that the drive to the sewer plant be graded, and stone added.

**Hopper Excavating – Keith Cromwell:**

Work done in August 2024, were line locates, mowing, septic pumping and repair of a water main leak. Leak was discussed.

**IMPA/ISC – CT Johnson read report:**

In August 2024 there were 11 service request(s) including discussions with Comcast, no poles were installed, and there were no emergencies reported.

Councilman Thompson questioned CT if pole attachments were being paid and she advised a bill is sent every January.

**IMPA Commissioner's President Caldwell:**

P. Caldwell advised Mr. Alvey, CEO of IMPA, projects what the power needs will be in the future and ways to procure power. A natural gas plant is being built in Anderson. Mr. Alvey reviewed a 30 year history on global warming and found there was less than a 1 degree change in all facets. Discussions ensued. The tracking factor may go down.

Discussion of a water meter being buried by a manure pile ensued. Mr. Cromwell stated when the meter was placed, the usage of land was different. Legal Counsel was requested to draft a letter to the residents stating the town needs to be able to access the meter.

### **Fire – Keith Cromwell:**

For the month of August 2024, the fire department had 9 EMS, 3 fire, and 2 cancelled en route, 2 false alarms, 3 persons in distress, 2 MVAs, and 1 power line was down. The water tanker report was submitted.

### **Police – Marshall Thomas: (no report presented – verbal):**

There were 4 runs in August. Runs were discussed.

G.E.D. update was discussed and 5 – 6 people are ready for testing. M. Thomas requested the G.E.D. students be recognized at the next Council meeting.

P. Caldwell spoke of all the programs being run in town, and our OCRA Liaison stated the town would have a good application for a Community Building. She also recommended kids from the WAM program write letters of support.

G.E.D. discussion ensued.

The truck is almost ready.

203 E. Wall: M. Thomas said was looking better.

P. Caldwell questioned Attorney Nooning about taking 407 S. Main to court. A. Nooning stated it's the Council's decision to move forward and be ready for the cost of litigation. M. Thomas stated a court order would be needed to see the back yard. Discussion ensued. Mr. Cromwell saw the condition of the back yard when pumping the septic tank. A. Nooning could be a witness for the state of the back yard, but she felt there would be a better case for cleanup of the front of the property because it is visible and different ordinances could pertain to the back of the property.

**Councilman Lumpkin made a motion to take 407 S. Main to court to clean up the property. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

103 Main Street/202 Walnut Street: the hay needs to be removed. Councilman Thompson stated he would use a forklift to move it.

301 Roark: P. Caldwell stated if property needs to have a letter sent and cars need to be removed. M. Thomas stated most vehicles are plated. CT advised that a letter had already been sent. P. Caldwell stated it is unsightly for those using the park to see. Multiple conversations commenced.

**Old Business - nothing presented.**

### **New Business:**

CT advised the WAM Lease was due to expire in December and needed to be reviewed and renewed.

**Billing Disputes:**

None presented.

**Request to Speak:**

None received.

**Councilman Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 20:53.**

X

Clerk Treasurer

X

President

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Advance Town Council meeting(s).

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2024, (Budget Adoption) at (19:00) 7:00 p.m. at the James L. Caldwell Fire Department, 106 E. Wall St., Advance, IN.