

# TOWN OF LAFONTAINE, IN

13 W. Branson P.O. BOX 207

LAFONTAINE IN 46940

765-981-4591

## Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2023

The Town Council held its monthly meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6pm. Jay Gillespie opened the meeting and the Pledge was recited.

Attending were Lori Brane, Jay Gillespie, John Krhin, Jordan Tandy, Marti Babb, Jerry Bowman, Maxine Taylor, Ethel Eib, Alex Downard, Charles McKinley, Marlin and Janet Pattee, Allie Green, Scottie Pennington

Lori made a motion to accept the December meeting minutes. John 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 3-0 carried.

Jay was elected Board president.

Jay made a motion for Lori to continue to be the Town representative on the Library Board. John 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote carried 3-0.

Lori made a motion for Mindy Manning to continue on the Library Board. John 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote carried 3-0

John agreed to continue his representation on the Area 3 committee.

Jay was appointed to the Fire Board and Diana is Clerk of Fire Board.

Jay presented the WW Construction invoices for payment as Rob Bellucci from Commonwealth Engineers was not able to attend the meeting. Update on the wastewater project and invoices presented were for \$159,160.02. Lori made a motion for all invoices for the WW project to be paid. John 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 3-0 carried.

Allie Green presented to the board her request to open a business of small dog grooming in her home on S. Main St. Brian Campbell has requested that residents go before the Town Board and the County Zoning board would take recommendations from the town board. Allie assured the board she would not be boarding dogs and she may have 4-5 vehicles per day in and out of the business. All 3 members of the Council welcomed Allie and her new business.

Marlin Pattee asks what could be done about the "old restaurant" on the corner at 23 W. Branson. Jay stated that is up to the County and Jordan stated we need to start with Dustin sending letters and go through the

process. Jay reminded everyone it takes sometimes up to 2-3 years to get dilapidated properties town down and sometimes it involves the Health Dept.

Dustin Hurst marshal reported 2 traffic stops, 5 service calls, 2 assist other agencies, 1 background check. Training and end of year training, investigation.

Tom Simpson was not able to be present but called in and reported 10 EMS runs and 3 fire runs.

The utility report was given by Jay for Lance. Jay explained some of the issues that has gone on with the project. Delay of parts and supplies and the issue with lift stations.

Lori had been contacted by the Wabash Visitors Bureau for discussions on visitors and working with the small towns and the visitor's bureau. Lori agreed to attend any meetings held in the evenings or on days she does not have school. John volunteered to attend any meetings Lori could not.

For the month of December 56 disconnect letters and 8 disconnects for December billing with 2 residents with still disconnected.

The board approved payment to Keith Sullivan for water line repair. They also approved LaFontaine Gravel invoice for the use of a crane to work on a lift station.

A billing adjustment was presented for Parson Bulk Water as he was billed \$24.09 due to the meters being "estimated" for January billing. John made a motion to adjust. Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote carried 3-0

Jay stated Lance's insurance should be all set up. At this time there is no invoice(s) to pay with.


Jay questioned the clerk/treasurer, utilities superintendent, parttime deputy and utilities clerk being overpaid in violation of the 2022 wage ordinance. "Over drawing" of funds\* and paying APV from incorrect funds. The question was asked how to fix previous issues and how to prevent them from happening again to be presented in the February meeting. (Corrective action plan)

Jay made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 PM Lori seconded.

Diana Heath

Clerk-Treasurer

\*No Funds were overdrawn- 2 appropriations were in the negative. dkh

 John Beane ~~4/10/23~~ 4/10/23