

**DARLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL & UTILITY BOARD  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 5, 2021**

**Call to Order**

Vice President Nicole Parker, opened the meeting with four (3) council members present. Mrs. Carpenter was not present. Vice President Parker was joined by Clerk Treasurer Michelle Cash, Electrical Brian Mullen and Jason Gates, Code Enforcement Officer – Mike Smith, Town Marshal Dave Long.

Vice President Parker opened the meeting with the pledge followed by Mrs. Noelle Suiter with the prayer.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Riddell made a motion to approve the July 1, 2021, regular meeting seconded by Mrs. Cohee. Motion Approved (4-0)

**Money Matters**

Motion to approve the payroll and appropriation, by Mr. Riddell, seconded by Mrs. Cohee. Motion Approved (4-0)

**New Business**

Vice President Parker asked the council to review the current ordinance regarding fireworks for the Town of Darlington. Ms. Parker ask the council to review the City of Crawfordsville's ordinance as a guideline and bring those changes to September meeting for discussion.

Clerk Cash explained and reviewed the Form 1 for the upcoming 2022 budget. Clerk Cash reminded the council that any changes to the Form 1 would need to take place at the September 2, 2021 meeting before the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the 2022 budget.

**Old Business**

A motion was made by Mr. Riddell to adopted Ordinance 2021-4 for a fee structure change in the Electrical Utility Department, seconded by Mrs. Cohee.

Festival Update – The festival was a success and the update was brief by Clerk Cash, the committee would be meeting in the next few days. This will be left on the agenda under old business.

The police car will remain under old business per Ms. Parker until more information is gathered.

Baseball/Softball – President Carpenter left an update that the girls softball coaches will be leaving the equipment at the park and the keys will be turned into the town hall. There was no update on the boy's baseball at this time. More information will come at the September meeting.

**Staff & Elected Official Report**

Attorney Report – no report

Wastewater Report – Troy and Mike McKinney reported by email there were no discharges violations for the month of July 2021.

Electric Report – Utility Linesmen Brian and Jason Gates reported on a request from a property owner to put in solar power. Mr. Mullen will be working with Attorney Ethan Meyers to iron out the details for the utility department.

MVH Report – Mr. Mullen reported that Milestone paved East and West Main Street. Mr. Mullen reported that Mr. Azar will have an updated proposal for stormwater on Main Street at the September meeting.

Darlington Police Department Report - Town Marshal Dave Long handed out August schedules, and the July activity logs were emailed. Marshal Long reported that the festival was a success and they had no issues. Marshal Long would like to start the process of getting a couple of officers hired to replace the two that left. Ms. Parker asked him to start the process of reaching out to see if anyone is interested, Marshal Long has one interested and will see if he can find another deputy. Marshal Long addressed the council on the minutes from the May, 2021 meeting and the disappointment of not being told of the email complaint received about his department being out of jurisdiction on a county call. Marshall Long said the Darlington Police Department will always respond to a call in the county when dispatched, this is policy. Marshal Long said an example was when they were first to respond to the plane crash East of town. Marshall Long doesn't understand why the complaint that President Carpenter talked about after he left the meeting was not addressed while he was present. Marshall Long went on to explain the complaint and asked that when a complaint comes in that it be addressed with that department in person. Prior policy was that the complaint tent should send something in writing or come to the council meeting to address the complaint.

Park – Mrs. Suiter announced that the council would need to look for a new park maintenance worker, she doesn't mind helping out with the shelter rentals, but she may not always be available to be there. A motion to hire Tim Shoptaw back to mow the park was made by Mrs. Cohee, seconded by Mrs. Suiter. Motion Approved (4-0) It was clarified by Mr. Mullen that Mr. Shoptaw would only be mowing for the town. Mr. Mullen made a suggestion to hire someone to clean the bathrooms at the park so they would be done for any park shelter rentals. A motion to hire Jill Mullen to clean the bathrooms was made by Mrs. Cohee, seconded by Mr. Riddell. Motion Approved (4-0) Ms. Parker asked that the structure of the park and the hiring of a person to do the work at the park remain on old business.

Code Enforcement Officers – Mr. Mike Smith reported on a couple of complaints that had been taken care of. Mr. Smith asked the council to extend the Hopper business by 30 days, as it will take that time to have the services provided, he needs to clean up the property. A motion to extend the clean up by 30 days was made by Mr. Riddell, seconded by Mrs. Suiter. Motion Approved (4-0). Mr. Smith will be re-visiting the Ashburn property about the animals on the property.

Clerk Treasurer Cash presented the billing report for the month of July 2021. Mrs. Cash asked for a motion to pass the tracking factor for October, November and December 2021. A motion to pass the tracking factor was made by Mrs. Cohee, seconded by Mrs. Suiter. Motion Approved (4-0)

Public Comment – Mrs. Sara Clapp asked Code Enforcement Officer Mike Smith if the neighbor's dog had been addressed. They will be starting the fence project within the next couple weeks. Mr. Smith will be getting back with Mrs. Clapp with an update.

Mrs. Rhoda Ames thanked the council on the dedication of the tree and plaque in honor of the many years of service Dick Ames had put in at the park. Mrs. Ames went on to tell the council that it would be very difficult to replace the park maintenance employee with someone else at

that had the experience he did and only he only made \$15,000.00, and she understands that funds are limited but the job is bigger than most think.

Council Members Report

Marilyn Cohee – DFI had a meeting on replacing the stove at the Community Center. Mike Smith will be removing the old stove. The DFI wants to check with Red Cross to make sure we are not required to have gas due to be an emergency center.

Mrs. was requesting to be paid more money for Mike Cohee for cleaning the Community Center after the festival. Ms. Parker requested that be put on old business for the next meeting.

Noelle Suiter – Nothing

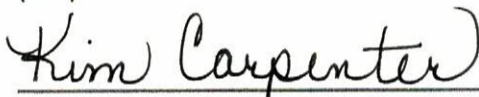
Nick Riddell – Not Present

Nicole Parker – Nothing

Kim Carpenter – Not Present

Town Board and Utility Board meeting will be on: September 2, 2021 –5:00 p.m. – Darlington Community Center. September 23, 2021 – 5:00 p.m. – adoption of the 2022 budget

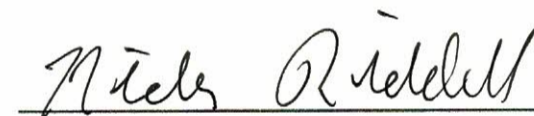
Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Parker seconded by Mrs. Suiter. Motion Approved (4-0).



Kim Carpenter, President



Nicole Parker, Vice President



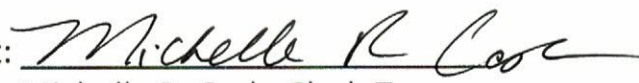
Nick Riddell, Council Member



Marilyn Cohee, Council Member



Noelle Suiter, Council Member

Attest:   
Michelle R. Cash, Clerk-Treasurer