**DARLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL & UTILITY BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**JUNE 8, 2017**

Council President Justin Sparrow opened the meeting with all council members present.

Mrs. Cohee moved to approve the May 9, 2017 meeting minutes; Mr. Hatley seconded and were passed unanimously.

Mrs. Cohee moved to approve the June 1, 2017 special meeting minutes; Mrs. Carpenter seconded and were approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cohee moved to approve the June 6, 2017 special meeting minutes; Mrs. Carpenter seconded and were approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cohee moved to approve the claim docket thru June 8, 2017; Mrs. Carpenter seconded and were approved unanimously.

Billing Clerk Lori Pearson presented the council with the billing and past due reports. The council suggested adding to the July billing messages the noise ordinance code, be mindful of your neighbors during the July 4th holiday and ask customers to call the office to update their phone numbers. Mr. Sparrow also asked to put fireworks info on the website.

Utility Superintendent Greg Gayler reported IMPA Service Corp. (ISC) has finished stringing new wire on the 300 North project. Then Mr. Gayler reported they installed 3 new poles in Smartsburg with ISC assisting. Mr. Gayler attended an IMEA conference in Bloomington. CEL&P assisted in changing an underground transformer that lightning hit at 6199 Holes Crossing. On May 26th storms came through the area which caused four of Duke Energy’s transmission poles to go down and caused a power outage for a little over 24 hours. Ms. Anderson and Mrs. Pearson were able to send automated call message to our customers letting them know approximately how long power would be out. That night there were also wires down at 3832 State Road 32 East. Mr. Gayler then reported he went to Prairie State Generation Campus and took a coal mine and generate campus tour. Then today they set a pole on School St.

Apprentice lineman Brian Mullen added to Mr. Gayler’s report that there was also an outage at 3689 East 150 North and lighting hit a pole at 5910 East 300 North.

Wastewater Operators Troy and Mike McKinney were absent, Mr. Sparrow reported on their behalf. There were no violations for the month of May. Mr. Mullen reported that the glitch in power that happened on May 4th causing a transfer switch and two drives to go out in Lift Station #1 now has some of the drive replaced and will finish up repairing it this week.

Deputy Town Marshal Kevin Crull reported there were some complaints of open burning and dogs running loose.

Clerk-Treasurer Judy Anderson presented her monthly reports including the Appropriation and Fund report. At this time Ms. Anderson presented the council with an updated animal ordinance. After the first reading Mrs. Carpenter moved to dispense with the 2nd and 3rd readings and to approve Ordinance 06-08-2017, Mrs. Cohee seconded and it was passed unanimously. At this time there was a discussion of lowering the wastewater charge for vacant houses. Mrs. Cohee made a motion have our attorney David Peebles amend the Wastewater rate ordinance to lower the monthly wastewater charge from $34.38 to $20.00 for vacant houses that have had no electricity for at least one full billing cycle and to also discard the next two rate raises at this time; Mrs. Sutherlin seconded and it was passed unanimously. At this time Ms. Anderson asked the council if there was something the town would like to provide for the Miss Darlington pageant that will be coming up on August 12, 2017. The council agreed to provide the sashes as they did last year.

At this time the council recognized Randy and Melanie Foxworthy. Mrs. Foxworthy commented that the lawn needs mowed at the vacant house at 511 W. South St.

At this time the council discussed the new Clerk Treasurer position for when Ms. Anderson retires on January 1, 2018. It was decided to hold an Executive Council meeting on June 16, 2017 at 8:00am then a Special Town Council meeting at 8:30am the same day.

At this time Mr. Sparrow reported that he spoke with Brett Cating of Beam, Longest and Neff, LLC concerning the Covered Bridge renovation. BLN will be going to the bridge next week to inspect the bridge.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Justin Sparrow, Council President Ron Hatley, Council Member

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Kimberley Carpenter, Council Member Teresa Sutherlin, Council Member

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Marilyn Cohee, Council Member

Attest:

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Judy D Anderson, Clerk-Treasurer