

DARLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL & UTILITY BOARD MINUTES
September 7, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

President Nicole Parker opened the meeting with 2 council members present, not present was Nick Riddell and Marilyn Cohee. Joining the council was Clerk-Treasurer Michelle Cash. Utility Linesmen Brian Mullen and Jason Gates. Attorney Tyler Nichols.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Noelle Suiter motioned to approve the August 3rd, 2023, regular meeting, seconded by Teresa Sutherlin. Motion Approved (3-0).

MONEY MATTERS:

The motion to approve the payroll docket, accounts receivable and appropriation report for August 2023 was made by Teresa Sutherlin and seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (3-0). All reports are emailed *before* the meeting to be reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS:

The 1st reading of the 2024 budget was read. With no question. The 2024 budget will be approved for adoption on September 21, 2023 special adoption meeting.

Clerk Treasurer presented the 2024 Animal Welfare League Control Service Contract. Due to the increase in cost and a lengthy discussion a motion to not approve the contract was made by President Parker, seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (3-0)

Clerk Treasurer asked Attorney Tyler Nichols to review the requirements for newly elected official that must be completed by January, 2024 before entering into office.

Clerk Treasurer Cash asked for approval to cut a check for \$629.80 from the restricted Opioid Fund that was sent to the town in error by the Office of the Indiana Attorney General's Office. A motion to approve was made by President Parker, seconded by Teresa Sutherlin. Motion Approved (3-0)

OLD BUSINESS:

Brenda Devries-Bose McKinney & Evans LLP along with Attorney Tyler Nichols, discussed the electric line project, the bond process, the bidding process, and the accounting report. Mrs. DeVries report the bond will be through the Indiana Bond Bank with two payments due twice a year, the bond can't be paid off before five years has passed. Closing funds will be available on or after October 5, 2023 unless bidding is not complete. Attorney Tyler Nichols will reach out to James Hall with Alpha Engineering, Inc. to discuss the process for bidding out the project. Project can't be divided out, no separate contract, sealed bids must come to the Clerk Treasurer then will be opened by the council.

Clerk Treasurer reported the Toll House roof and siding were completed from the hail damage. A motion to pay \$800.00 to put new gutters on the Toll House was made by President Parker, seconded by Teresa Sutherlin. Motion Approved (3-0). At this time the council chose not to approve additional siding for the Toll House that wasn't covered under insurance.

Clerk Treasurer asked for a motion to approved the Pole Agreement with Windstream KSL, LLC. A motion was made by President Parker, seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (3-0)

STAFF & ELECTED OFFICIAL REPORT:

Attorney Report –no report.

Wastewater Report –

Tom Astbury with Astbury Water Technology, Inc reported that the wastewater received full compliance for August 2023. Mr. Astbury covered the repairs that have been completed now, and the upcoming repairs and the timeline they will be completed. Mr. Astbury said in a couple months we should be looking good with maintenance and maintaining our current system. Mr. Astbury wanted approval to reach out to Clerk Treasurer Cash when something goes down on the system and needs immediate repair. A motion to appoint Clerk Treasurer Cash to be the liaison for wastewater was made by Teresa Sutherlin, seconded by President Parker. Motion to approve (3-0) Mr. Astbury asked for approval of a claim to BBC for \$19,930.50 which was a quote that had been approved a couple of month ago for Plant Blower Valves. The quote changed due to other damage found on the blowers. A motion to approve was made by President Parker, seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (3-0)

Electric Report – Linesman Jason Gates and Brian Mullen updated the council on the project on 32. And reviewed the process for bidding out the project.

MVH Report- None

Darlington Police Department – Marshall Kevin Crull sent the August activity logs and the September 2023 police schedule email.

Park – Reported that he was able to fill the part time position approved at the beginning of the year with Joshua Boone for 20 hours a week unless an emergency happens. Clerk Cash just asked that a motion be made to approve Mr. Boone, A motion was made by President Parker, seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (3-0) This motion is only to approve Josh not the position.

Code Enforcement Officers – The council turned in a few complaints on homes to be looked into. Attorney Nichols will be reviewing the weed ordinance to bring it up to date with the state statue.

Clerk-Treasurer Cash presented the billing report for the month of August 2023. The Trick or Treat hours will be on October 31, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Community Center Kitchen floor will be installed by September 13, 2023. The doors have been completed on the center. An approval for \$500.00 sidewalk money for Rhoda Ames was approved. A motion to approve was made by Nicole Parker, seconded by Nick Riddell. (5-0)

A motion to approve the amended tracking factor for October, November and December 2023

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Marilyn Cohee -Not Present

Teresa Sutherlin – Nothing

Noelle Suiter – Nothing

Nick Riddell – Not Present

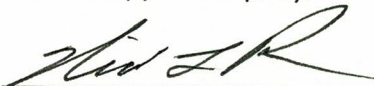
Nicole Parker – Nothing

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

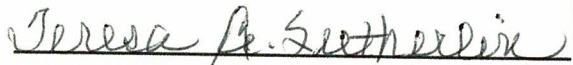
The Adoption of the 2024 budget meeting will be on September 21, 2023 0 at 5:00 p.m. – at the Darlington Community Center.

The next scheduled Town Board and Utility meeting will be on October 5, 2023 – at 5:00 p.m. – at the Darlington Community Center.

The motion to adjourn was made by President Parker and seconded by Mrs. Noelle Suiter.
Motion Approved (3-0).



Nicole Parker, President



Teresa Sutherlin, Council Member


Nick Riddell, Vice President



Noelle Suiter, Council Member

Marilyn Cohee, Council Member

Attest:



Michelle R. Cash, Clerk-Treasurer