

**DARLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL & UTILITY BOARD
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 2, 2021**

Call to Order

President Kim Carpenter, opened the meeting with four (4) council members present. Mrs. Cohee was not present. President Carpenter was joined by Clerk Treasurer Michelle Cash, Electrical Jason Gates, Marshall Dave Long, Code Enforcement Officer – Mike Smith and Attorney Ethan Myers.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Suiter made a motion to approve the August 5, 2021, regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Riddell. Motion Approved (3-0). President Carpenter abstained; she was not present for the meeting.

Money Matters

Motion to approve the payroll and appropriation, by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Suiter. Motion Approved (4-0)

At 5:16 p.m. the 1st Hearing of the 2022 Town of Darlington budget was read. There were no public comments, the hearing was closed at 5:20 p.m., and the regular council meeting was re-opened.

New Business

President Carpenter ask the council to take a look at the burn ordinance for the town, and consider making some changes to the current ordinance. Clerk Treasurer Cash will reach out to some other towns to see what their ordinance looks like.

Mrs. Suiter made a motion to accept the 2021 Amended Salary Ordinance to add on Tim Shoptaw and Jill Mullen, seconded by Mr. Riddell. Motion Approved (4-0)

The 2021 Halloween hours will be Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Old Business

Ms. Parker asked the council to consider making changes to the current fireworks ordinance and consider adopting the City of Crawfordsville with a few date changes. Attorney Myers will make the changes and the 1st reading will be at the October meeting.

Festival Update – Clerk Cash presented the council with final numbers from the Fish Fry and Festival.

The police car will remain under old business per Ms. Parker until more information is gathered. Marshall Long gave some numbers for the cost of the detailing of the new vehicle.

President Carpenter will be having a baseball/softball meeting with the coaches to have them turn in equipment, keys and a 2021 receipt/expense form along with the remainder of the money from the season.

The structure of the park will remain under old business. Mrs. Suiter will be putting together a help wanted ad with a list of duties to advertise for the position of park maintenance.

President Carpenter would like the Covered Bridge added under old business, to keep the public updated on the renovations still needing done.

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 August 2021.

Electric Report – Utility Linesmen Jason Gates reported work being done at the Auction House on State Road 32. Mr. Gates reported on some storm damage repairs, and the fire on West Street.

MVH Report – Nothing

Darlington Police Department Report - Town Marshal Dave Long presented the council with the September schedule. Police Activity reports emailed. Marshal Long reported that the town would no longer be collecting on gun permits. Marshall Long asked for specific details on the hiring of a new officer. Ms. Parker along with the council agreed to \$17.00 an hour for a 16-hour work week.

Park - Nothing

Code Enforcement Officers – Mr. Mike Smith reported on the Dale property and asked the council to consider getting a quote on an exterminator for the rat infestation. The council agreed to have an estimate done to get the property protected from other neighbors. The council addressed Kyle Ashburn – tenant (property owner – Aaron Wall). Mr. Ashburn requested the council grant him a variance on his property and move the property lines so that he can keep his farm animals. Mr. Ashburn was noticed on July 6th that the only animals allowed in the town limits are 8 chickens and no rooster. After much discussion the council explained that a variance could not be granted, a motion to extend the time to be in compliance until October 7, 2021 if the compliance hasn't been met then the fine will start from the September 13th date, was made by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mr. Riddell. Motion Approved (4-0).

Clerk Treasurer Cash presented the billing report for the month of August 2021.

Public Comment – Rosie Zell addressed the council about the raise in the electric fee, and wanted to know why they took such a big jump. President Carpenter explained that the fees had not been raised in years and the cost of material was on the rise.

Mrs. Kenzie Harris thanked the council for the temporary allowance of the camper to live in while their house is under construction. Mrs. Kenzie said that the work is being completed on time and they should be able to move in within the 45 days.

Council Members Report

Marilyn Cohee – Not Present

Noelle Suiter – Nothing

Nick Riddell – Nothing

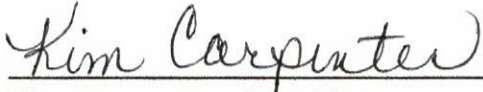
Nicole Parker – Nothing

Kim Carpenter – Thank the Fire Department for a job well done on the structure fire on West Street. President Carpenter encouraged all council members and town employees to attend the Broadband Ribbon Cutting on September 16, 2021.


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

Town Board and Utility Board Monthly meeting will be on October 7, 2021 – 5:00 p.m. – Darlington Community Center.

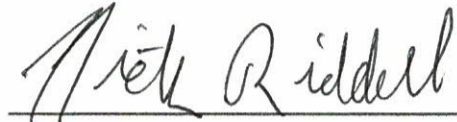
Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Parker seconded by Mrs. Suiter. Motion Approved (4-0).



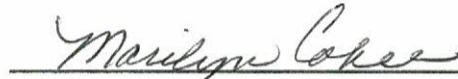
Kim Carpenter, President



Nicole Parker, Vice President



Nick Riddell, Council Member



Marilyn Cohee, Council Member

Noelle Suiter, Council Member

Attest:



Michelle R. Cash, Clerk-Treasurer