

**Town of Knightstown
Knightstown Town Council
April 21, 2022
Minutes**

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Pledge to the Flag: Ward asked those in attendance to join her in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Greg Morelock, Town Attorney

Sarah Ward, Mitch Roland, Chuck Rhodes- present.

Cheryl Hammer, Landon Dean, Bart Whitesitt -not present.

Additions to the agenda by Ward: Chris Sanders- IMPA Solar Park, Joe Peacock- Town WiFi, IMPA- Lighting Downtown, Office Opening, Continued Public Hearing for 301 W Pine Street, and tax abatement for the IMPA Solar Park.

Chris Sanders with IMPA spoke regarding the IMPA solar park. Projected start date is in July or August.

Morelock presented Declaratory IMPA Resolution 042122. Motion to ready by title only, made by Rhodes, seconded by Roland, carried. Morelock read Declaratory Resolution by title- motion to approve made by Roland, seconded by Rhodes. Will publish notice of public hearing and confirmatory resolution for next meeting.

Landon Dean arrived at 7:13pm.

Joe Peacock spoke regarding Main Street Inc and Beautify Knightstown applied for a public wi-fi grant through Henry County Tourism. They were number 14 selected. Around \$51,000 was awarded with matching elements. Peacock explained the benefits of public wi-fi- advised it will be put on the new visitor website and a landing page will be created for local businesses to advertise. Jed Behny, school superintendent, is highly in favor for children to have access. The buses with wi-fi can be deployed further into the county instead of in town, if necessary. Outdoor seating construction begins on the square the first week of May, public wi-fi will be a perk when this is completed. Peacock will work with Randy Anderson and IMPA to power equipment at 11 pole locations for transmitters if the town approves. BKI contributed \$3000, Main Street Inc contributed \$1400, the Community Law Enforcement and Education Fund contributed \$5300, and CFH contributed \$3000. The town would need to contribute about \$624 in materials. Peacock is focusing on 2023. Service will be \$800/monthly- Peacock asked the town to contribute \$600 per month while Main Street Inc. would contribute \$200 per month. If the town will not agree to this amount, the grant will have to be turned down. There are plans for a \$20,000 expansion in the next phase- allowing the wi-fi to reach more areas. Will put on agenda for next month once all Ts are crossed.

Ward acknowledged Dean's late arrival to the meeting. Dean was late due to receiving an award. Dean was recognized by the Henry County Sheriff's Department as the outstanding internship supervisor.

Motion to approve March 17 meeting minutes made by Rhodes, seconded by Dean. Motion carried.

Randy Anderson spoke on needs and need to dos. Anderson advised we have to have a federally required water audit done every other year due by August 1. He has obtained a quote to complete this from Wessler for \$3,000. Motion to hire Wessler for \$3000 to complete the water audit made by Dean, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

Morelock spoke on fire hydrant claim. State Farm will pay full of claim. Motion for Sarah to sign release made by Roland, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

209 E Main Street, Anderson stated valve was broken during water meter installation. Culy can complete the job at the same time as they fix the fire hydrant on Main Street. Anderson provided quote from Culy for \$3747. Motion to accept Culy quote made by Roland, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

Anderson spoke on the 1998 backhoe. There is a worn pin in the bucket and the backhoe needs serviced. Anderson will bring quote to next month's meeting.

Anderson spoke on storm water issue on North Franklin Street. Anderson suggested installing storm grate in front of house draining water so hose can go directly into the storm drain instead of a drain down the street. Anderson provided a quote from Culy for \$4588 and a quote from Jim Florea for \$5600. Motion to accept lowest bid from Culy provided Bart says money is available made by Dean, seconded by Roland. Motion carried.

Anderson provided two options to address complaints on street conditions- a full-fledged street department or getting quotes from paving companies to take care of some spots. Anderson will obtain some quotes. Anderson and crew will work on areas they can in the meantime.

Rick Taylor spoke about the sewer plant. Disinfection season started April 1. Part of the display screen on the control panel will not light up. This is a known issue with the product. Replacement screen is around \$800. Screen was not part of the project- is 3 or 4 years old. Dan Wright will work with Rick on figuring this out.

Taylor spoke on sewer issue at household on Blaine and Morgan. There is no clean out. Overman's stated they did not find anything until 75' out. They think it could be an obstruction on our side of the lateral from Miller Pipeline boring in the area. The sewer is deep in that area. Morelock stated home owner will need to install clean out so we can determine there is not an issue from the house to the lateral.

Anderson spoke on the splash pad. IDEM requires information to be submitted monthly due to the splash pad draining in the creek. Anderson would like to hook the splash pad back up to the sewer and waive the sewer fees. Motion to hook the splash pad back up to the sewer and waive the sewer fees made by Roland, seconded by Dean. Motion carried.

Anderson would like to look into hiring another person and start setting up interviews. Would be hired on a 3 month probationary period. Motion to advertise before next month if Bart feels the money is available for a salary made by Dean seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

Anderson spoke on how much effort the guys are putting in and would like to get them raises. Ward questioned the American relief money, Morelock advised it was not allowed for salaries the CARES money was for COVID related things. Ward thinks there is \$8000 left that may be able to be used for bonuses. Morelock advised working with Janet Alexander.

Frank Beatrice attended the meeting via phone.

Beatrice asked the council to open and vote on sealed bids previously advertised for items in the barn. Three bids were received. \$1017 bid by Ronald Roberts. \$610 bid by Shea Goodpaster. \$1175 bid by Derek Howard. Motion to accept Derek Howard's bid made by Roland, seconded by Dean. Motion carried.

Beatrice spoke on option for JAG grant. Beatrice received and previously provided quotes for radios. He recommended going with the Kenwood radios over Motorola to save money and possibly buy new desktop computers. Motion to approve the quote for Kenwood radios for \$10481 made by Rhodes, seconded by Roland. Motion carried.

Beatrice recommended accepting the body armor quote from Jenkins at 5 vests for \$3975. Motion to accept the quote from Jenkins for \$3975 made by Dean, seconded by Roland. Motion carried.

Beatrice spoke on body cameras. 6 of current 10 body cameras are unusable to do internal batteries. County is using Watch Guard. Ward asked Beatrice to find something more reliable. Beatrice will continue to research.

Motion to approve amended SOPS for pursuit and taser policies made by Dean, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve claims as presented made by Rhodes, seconded by Roland. Motion carried.

Morelock to receive rate study from Steve Brock on 4/23, he will prep for discussion next month.

Ordinance 042122 regarding thresholds application to the town of Knightstown, Indiana read by Morelock. Motion to approve on first reading made by Dean, seconded by Rhodes. Motion

carried. Motion to suspend the rules and continue with second reading by title only made by Dean, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried. Motion to approve as read made by Roland, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

Bank depository resolution 042122A presented by Morelock. Motion to approve made by Rhodes, seconded by Roland. Motion carried.

Motion to allow part time office book keeper up to 35 hours made by Dean, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

Annual RDC report has been approved and Bart uploaded to Gateway. New branding has been chosen, "Hoosiers Made Here." Website ready to roll out on April 24. Ward questioned why there were two separate websites ran by the RDC and the town. There has been one bid on the Masonic Lodge.

Ward sending Council an email. Man who bought the strip where the pizza shop is on Main Street wants to put in a vaping store. The area is not zoned for this. Ward hopes Council will support the Planning Commission and BZA. Ward stated vaping is just as harmful as smoking and she doesn't think we need it here.

Dean spoke on areas by the Hoosier Gym that are filled with gravel that need fixed. Dean would like to start planning and have a time frame to fix holes. Dean would like to see white lines painted in front of stop signs for crosswalks at intersections for safety. Dean would like to see new stop signs as the ones in town are faded. Anderson will bring quote for stop signs to next meeting. Dean would like to have the agenda and minutes ahead of time to post on the website to be transparent. Ward stated again she doesn't think it is smart to have two websites for the town.

Henry County Community Foundation offered dumpster for 7 days for community cleanup day. Town's cost would be \$220. After discussion, there is nowhere to secure the dumpster so Knightstown will not be participating.

Ward stated she is getting complaints about office not being open. Office is currently open two days a week. Will continue discussion when Bart returns.

Dan Wright advised rates will need to be adjusted to remove utility receipt tax by 7/1. Wright presented quotes for clock repair and restoration. Ward stated she raised the issue because we do not look bright as a community with a clock that is not the right time so she suggested removing it or putting something else up there. It seems to be really dumb to her to have a clock on your town hall building that doesn't keep time. Dean stated he would hate to take it down. Ward said to leave it up there and she will tell people she tried to do something.

Motion to issue notice to proceed for CCMG for Brown Street made by Dean, seconded by Roland. Motion carried.

Wright advised quotes were solicited for striping around the square. There were no participants. Will go back to the drawing board.

Wright said he and Bart Whitesitt attended Zoom meeting with EWIG for financing on water and wastewater projects to 70. Wright stated meeting went well.

Existing wastewater project is wrapping up. Trying to obtain reimbursement on UV with leftover monies.

Wright spoke on the asset management plan required by IDEM and USDA that was presented last meeting. Assistance may be available for the cost.

Wright presented water proposal. Still looking for funding.

Wright stated he will work with Midwest Paving to see if we can coordinate quotes for paving other areas while they are in town. Anderson will get other quotes as well.

Wright working with Force construction and INDOT on water upgrades on 40 during paving.

Anderson meeting with Midwest Meter to make plan to change remaining 240 water meters.

Motion to recess the public meeting and convene a public hearing made by Dean, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried. Unsafe building violation of James True at 301 W Pine Street. No public comments. Motion to close public hearing and reconvene public meeting made by Dean, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried.

Motion to declare 301 W Pine Street unsafe made by Rhodes, seconded by Roland. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Mark Tompkins, 117 N Franklin Street, concerned about height of Brown Street with milling and resurfacing. Height of street will not be raised. Tompkins requesting permission to place 40 foot container on his parking lot to work on his property. Motion to allow made by Roland, seconded by Rhodes. Motion carried. Tompkins addressed alley behind his house. It is very deep.

Meeting adjourned 10:09pm.

April 21, 2022 Minutes

TOWN OF KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA, BY ITS TOWN COUNCIL

Voting Affirmative:

Sarah F. Ward
Sarah Ward

Landon Dean
Landon Dean

Mitch Roland
Mitchell Roland

Cheryl Hammer
Cheryl Hammer

Chuck Rhodes
Chuck Rhodes

Voting Opposed:

Sarah Ward

Landon Dean

Mitchell Roland

Cheryl Hammer

Chuck Rhodes

ATTEST:

Bart Whitesitt, Clerk-Treasurer