

**Town of Knightstown
Knightstown Town Council
March 17, 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: Bart Whitesitt, Clerk Treasurer,

Chuck Rhodes, Mitch Roland, Landon Dean, Cheryl Hammer, Sarah Ward all present.

Motion made by Chuck Rhodes to approve February 2022 Minutes, second by Landon Dean, motion carried 5-0.

Motion made to recess public meeting to convene public hearing made by Cheryl Hammer, second by Chuck Rhodes, motion carried 5-0.

Petition to vacate alley for Dave Lukens packet presented by Ben Bowling. Alley is located on West Grant Street. Plans for petition were publicized and surrounding property owners notified. Alley is not black topped or maintained, it is a right of way that was available should the town extend jurisdiction south. It is the boundary between town limits and Rush County. No public comments.

Petition to vacate alley for Church of God packet presented by Ben Bowling. Alley is located on West Grant Street. Plans for petition were publicized and surrounding property owners notified. Alley is not black topped or maintained, it is a right of way that was available should the town extend jurisdiction south. The alley Mr. Lukens submitted petition for comes to the east side of the alley Church of God submitted petition for. No public comments.

Motion to adjourn hearing and reconvene public meeting made by Cheryl Hammer, second by Chuck Rhodes, motion carried 5-0.

Sarah Ward provided works manager's report as Randy Anderson was out of town. Ward announced installation of remote water meters wrapped up today. Anderson reported 60 meters company could not complete. Parts have been ordered. Our guys will try to finish them up.

Police- Chief Beatrice advised we have advertised to sell items in the barn on 775 W for 6 weeks. Beatrice requested permission to accept sealed bids as one lot. This will clear up a lot of room for the works guys. Motion made by Chuck Rhodes, second by Mitch Roland, motion carried 5-0.

Beatrice requested approval for Ward or Whitesitt to accept contract for JAG grant. Quarterly reporting is required. Contract should be received within the next week. Roland started

motion for Ward or Whitesitt to sign for JAG grant. Ward stated we just needed one signature and it should be Whitesitt. Motion made for Whitesitt to sign contract for JAG grant made by Mitch Roland, second by Chuck Rhodes, carried 5-0. Morelock advised if there is a problem, Ward can sign and motion can be ratified.

Beatrice advised Officer Gordon Miller graduates from ILEA Academy on 3/31 at 10am- it is open to the public and the council is invited.

Beatrice requested update on officer holidays to match the rest of the town employee holidays. Whitesitt stated his opinion was to give them back- the money is there. Additional appropriations can be requested. Holidays will go from 7 back to the original 13. Motion for officer holidays to match town employee holidays made by Cheryl Hammer, seconded by Mitch Roland, motion carried 5-0.

Cheryl Hammer requested update on help from county to cover unmanned hours. Beatrice said nothing has happened. He has talked with other departments- everyone is having staffing issues, especially with reserves. Landon Dean stated he asked for permission to bring the county down like they have in the past. Permission was not granted by the sheriff. Dean asked if Beatrice has thought anymore on coverage- if we cannot get reserves or part time, four officers isn't enough. Beatrice advised he has been in discussion with Whitesitt- they are still trying to crunch numbers for 5th full time officer. Mitch Roland asked about retired officers and advertising again for part-time officers.

Motion to approve claims made by Landon Dean, second by Cheryl Hammer, motion carried 5-0.

Whitesitt notified Council First Merchant's Bank was leaving Town and the Town would be moving accounts to Citizen's State Bank. Morelock will have Depository Ordinance at next meeting.

Hearing for remote water meters will be set sometime. Steve Brock recommends seeing if there are increases due to new water meter installation.

Whitesitt announced the utility office will be opening two days a week beginning 3/29 and 3/30. The office will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to start out moving forward.

Ordinance 031722, for the alley vacate for the Church of God, first reading, motion for approval on first reading made by Landon Dean, second by Chuck Rhodes, motion carried 5-0. Motion to suspend the rules and continue with second reading by title only made by Cheryl Hammer, second by Chuck Rhodes, motion carried 5-0. Motion to approve as read made by Landon Dean, second by Mitch Roland, motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 031722A, for the alley vacate for David Lukens, first reading, motion for approval on first reading made by Landon Dean, second by Chuck Rhodes, motion carried 5-0. Motion to

suspend the rules and continue with second reading by title only made by Cheryl Hammer, second by Landon Dean, motion carried 5-0. Motion to approve as read made by Mitch Roland, second by Chuck Rhodes, motion carried 5-0.

Shane Spicer with FPBH presented several documents on behalf of Dan Wright. The on call engineering contract, just a continuation of services, renewal, motion to accept by Chuck Rhodes, second by Cheryl Hammer, motion carried 5-0.

Asset Management for the Wastewater Plant- is like a database of equipment. It is required by the state and has to be completed for NPDES permit. If not completed, cannot get NPDES permit for new wastewater plant or wastewater funding in the future. Ward questioned funding and costs. Council tabled.

Square Striping- Dean asked if the fire department has reviewed this. Mike Biehl, fire chief, questioned, stated it was okay as long as they could get the trucks through. Motion to approve striping agreement, made by Landon Dean, second by Cheryl Hammer, motion passed 5-0.

Drinking water improvement- discussion about financing 109 project, document was tabled by Ward.

Ward asked for public comments. Roger Hammer spoke on behalf of the RDC. The masonic building is out for bid as part of a standard process. The branding project is winding down. The RDC will send out a survey the following week with branding design options. The RDC is hosting a branding launch party in May. They would like to give away and sell t-shirts and stickers. The RDC is requesting \$1000 to be able to provide those things. Motion made to provide \$1000 if the town can fund it made by Landon Dean, second by Chuck Rhodes, motion carried 5-0.

Landon Dean requested RDC be put on the agenda monthly.

Hammer also spoke on RDC discussion of moving more foot traffic through Knightstown. RDC lawyer suggested Riverfront District designation. This allows alcohol licenses in the area. Ward asked to move on. Dean stated it should be discussed instead of moving on it really fast.

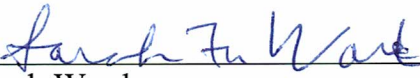
Mike Biehl questioned estimates on post at cemetery hit by fire truck- the insurance company is asking for them. Ward stated she made proposals to Mr. Weimer and Mr. Johnson on things she would like to have done. She is waiting to hear from them and has not brought it to the Council because the Cemetery Board has not made a decision. Biehl stated they are just trying to get an estimate to repair the part they messed up. Wanda Olsheske stated insurance company is asking for three quotes to fix only damages done, they said they are not concerned with any changes made. Ward told Biehl we would look into it.

Ward adjourned meeting at 8:02pm.

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TOWN OF KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA, BY ITS TOWN COUNCIL

Voting Affirmative:



Sarah Ward



Landon Dean



Mitchell Roland

Cheryl Hammer



Chuck Rhoades

Voting Opposed:

Sarah Ward

Landon Dean

Mitchell Roland

Cheryl Hammer

Chuck Rhoades

ATTEST:

Bart Whitesitt, Clerk-Treasurer