



MEETING MINUTES
POSEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Date of Meeting: Tuesday March 14, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Michael Baehl President at 5:30 PM.

PRESENT: Bruce C. Baker, Mike Baehl, Justin Rutledge, Council Attorney William Bender and Clerk Treasurer Christy Foster

Virtual Meeting held due to the Pandemic Virus, as well as in person
Virtual Attendee's: Brenda Devries, Jim Higgins, Derick Wiggins, Ben

In person Attendee's: list attached to minutes.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES February 14, 2023

Motion was made to approve minutes from February 14, 2023 by Bruce Baker 2nd by Justin Rutledge
Roll Call Vote taken, Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes and Mike Baehl Yes

CLAIMS WERE PRESENTED at Town Hall at 12 pm on March, 2023

Motion was made to approve the claims by Justin Rutledge and 2nd by Bruce Baker
Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes

BANK RECONCILEMENT

Motion was made to accept the bank reconciliation as presented by Justin Rutledge 2nd by Bruce Baker
Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes

President Mike Baehl Opened Public Hearing Concerning adding Water tower improvements to SRF loan:

Public Hearing Discussion: There were no one present or virtual that requested to speak on this subject.

President Mike Baehl hearing NO concerns closed the public hearing

President Mike Baehl called for Council Discussion: Justin wanted the public to understand by adding the Water tower to the current loan, it will not cause any additional rate increases.

Jim Higgins had provided the rate impact to the council in advance of this meeting. (Exhibit A) Showing no increases. Mike added that the 5-year inspection of the water tower from IDEM requested a rehab of the exterior and interior of the tower. Normal erosion of tower, just in need of cleaning and rehabbing. Jeremy Farrar Operator and manager of the water department commented. Tower was built around 1998 this is the second time the town has had to do these requested repairs. In 2016 inside and out painting had to be done. Now it is time to do some rehabbing and painting again. Officer Carter asked if it would have to be drained.

Jeremy said it would. He said there will be little impact if any to the residence. Mike Crawford Fire Chief asked about hydrants. If there was a fire need for water during this time? Jeremy said to call him and he would use the holding tanks at the water plant saved for this type of issue while the repairs would be done. Jeremy also wanted the public to know that if they see funny looking things on the hydrants during this time of repair these are hydrant pressure relief valves.

President Mike Baehl Call for Vote on adding Water Tower improvements to the SRF Loan

A Motion was made by Bruce Baker to add the Water Tower improvements to the SRF loan 2nd by Justin Rutledge

Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes

Main Street Fiber Optics: Mike said that he had spoken to Mainstream and they will not be in attendance. His hope was to have a discussion to answer any question that the board or public would have on this project. Mike was very disappointed. Mike is not sold on their proposal. Bruce was hoping that they would come as well, many questions. Bill Bender stated that the law grants utility companies the ability to come in to the streets and alley using easements. This is 66 feet wide right of way. This will get beyond the curbs. Citizens need to know that their yards will potentially be disturbed. Mike said his concerns is that they will be crossing utilities. Mike also is not happy that our new curbs and streets on Cale Street will be cut up. He would like to know what their intentions are on repairs to the road, curbs, and residents' yards that are disturbed. Jody Rankin resident asked the board if they could deny them access? She hates for all the hard work on the street and curb work to be tore up. Justin asked if there was a way to make them accountable for the damage and repairs, they cause.

Bruce said he would like a document, a directive per say. He wants something signed by the company that they will put things back as they were when they started. Mike wondered if they are just running conduit or are they running the fiber. Bruce traffic issues with bus service will be impacted. They have not discussed this with us. What about the boxes that will potentially be in people's yards. When are they scheduling this project? Many questions unanswered.

Since they Mainstream company is not in attendance the board **Tabled** this issue. Hoping to have a meeting in the near future.

Police Department: Officer Carter presented new officer application to the board Alex Carr. Officer Carter explained that officer Carr was coming from Deaconess Security team. He had previously worked for the Posey County Sherriff Department. There will be no equipment expensed because Deaconess is allowing Carr to use his Security equipment for his Deputy hours for The Town of Poseyville. A document was given to the Council from deaconess addressing their permission of use of said equipment.

A motion was made by Justin Rutledge to hire Alex Carr as deputy Marshall for the Town of Poseyville 2nd by Bruce Baker

Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes

Swearing in will occur following the meeting.

Office Carter presented prior to the meeting a vehicle lease agreement with the Posey County Sherriff Department. This is being requested for the period needed for Poseyville's patrol car repairs. It has to have

repairs done which leaves the town without a vehicle during that time. Justin asked how long will it be down? Officer Carter has not scheduled this repair yet. Collins Body Shop will be doing the repairs. He wanted to get a car lined up for the time it was down before he scheduled repairs. Purely a cosmetic repair. He has been and will continue to use his car until repair time is needed.

**A motion was made by Bruce Baker to sign the lease agreement 2nd by Justin Rutledge
Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes**

Utilities: Jeremy Farrar was present to discuss a resent water line exposure. Jeremy was made aware of the exposure yesterday and began getting bids for repair. He has heard back from three companies. Two of the companies wanted to bore and bury the line. The cost was anywhere between \$30,000-\$40,000. The company that was most reasonable was Deig Brothers. Their bid came in at \$8,500. Their solution was to reroute the water so there would be a lower rate of erosion. Then to cover the line with #11 stone. This is a time sensitive repair. We cannot let this line stay exposed. There is no fear of freeze and thaw because 80,000 gallons of water moves through their daily, we do not want it exposed for any reason. Mike asked about the rub due to vibration and movement of the water? Will this cause issues with a hole in the pipe later from the rubbing of the stone? Jeremy assured Mike the pipe would not be hurt from the stone. Jeremy has trust in the Deig Brothers they are a well know company that has been around for years doing this type of construction. Justin asked for a quote on paper. Jeremy has this and will e-mail everyone on the board tomorrow. Due to the time issue of the exposed line Jeremy asked to move forward with this repair.

**A motion was made by Justin Rutledge contingent on the contract to approve Deig Brothers for this emergency repair 2nd by Bruce Baker
Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes**

Jeremy wanted to comment on Mainstream. The lack of response and no exploration of what could be in the line of construction (utility service) not only concerns Jeremy but offends him. They have not once reached out to discuss the potential utilities that might be in their proposed route. They send plans but do not request for locates? Jeremy considers this very unprofessional. The first meeting when asked why they did not place on preexisting poles. Main stream responded, that it would cost them money. They would have to pay Duke Energy for pole rental. The town is willing to work with them but they need to work with us also. Jeremy also feels they should have some standards to be up held to fees or permits to proceed. Something to show there is some responsibility if there is a failure.

Fire Dept: Fire Chief Mike Crawford presented a list of drivers that had been requested for insurance purposes. Christy told Mike she would send the next day to the insurance company. Mike also presented a billing for the IAM Responding app. This is used because of the failure of the 911 pager system. The fire department cannot depend on the pagers to work. The app is used on the fire fighter's phones. The app is not replacing the pager it is in assistance with. So, no call will potentially not be missed. The bill was for \$660.00. Justin asked mike to remind the volunteers to stay off the phone when driving.

**Motion was made by Justin Rutledge to approve the request for IAM responding app billing 2nd by Mike Baehl
Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes**

Mike also asked for payment on a quote he has for calibrating the gas meter. It should be done every two years.

A motion was made by Bruce Baker to pay for the Calibration for the gas meter 2nd by Justin Rutledge

Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes

Mike Crawford reminded the board that the chassis will be in the first of April or first of May. The chassis has to be paid for when delivered. Christy asks that Mike keep her in the loop. The closer to the date of delivery she would arrange for the loan paperwork.

Justin asked Mike if he had received his insurance needs. Mike said he had been working with Christy and that she had provided declarations. Christy had contacted the insurance company for a complete book of coverage for the fire house.

Larry Robb injected a comment concerning the pager system. This Friday there is to be a meeting with a company that is supposedly to be able to assist with the current problems with the system.

Street Dept: Jeremy asked that there be no grass clipping blown into the streets this clogs up the drainage in the sewers.

Parks Dept: Mike said that the water at the parks will be turned on next week. Mike has been in contact with the Scout that is to get the concrete for the shelter floor. He is working on Scout paperwork. He has a contractor who is willing to assist with the pouring of the concrete.

Community Center: Bernie Fehribach proved his annual statistics for the usage of the Community Center. Document is included in the minutes. (Exhibit B)

Christy asked permission to pay Bernie for a printer he purchased himself. There was a misunderstanding on who was purchasing the printer. So, Bernie went ahead and bought one.

A motion was made to pay Bernie for the printer that is being used at the Community Center by Bruce 2nd by Mike

Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes, Justin Rutledge Yes, and Mike Baehl Yes

Justin feels in the future all purchases should be handled by Town to keep it clean for record reasons.

Cemetery: Christy reported that Roberta Weedman was being replaced on the Cemetery board. Replacement not known at this time. Bruce said we should be clear on who new person was and that proper protocol was followed for replacement. Christy will touch base with President Westfall.

Public Comment:

National Guard: Army National Guard sergeant Lacey Ashby was present to let the town know that if needed she would be glad to assist in projects, as well as be included in any events. She handed out her cards for contact purposes. She was very receptive to assisting the town. Board thanked her for coming and looked forward to working with her in the future

Larry Robb: Came to discuss the five-year mitigation. Larry gave an explanation of what a mitigation plan was and asked the board to think about what their town needs could possibly be. He would be glad to work with FEMA on all the necessary paperwork to achieve this goal.

Amy Kissel: Complaint concerning billing for property clean up at Ruediger Schrepfer for two locations 76 S church St and 67 S Locust St. Amy is POA for her brother Ruediger Schrepfer. She states she knew her brother had violated the town Ordinance with Junk cars 3-4 and debris in the yard and properties. She admitted the poor shape the property was in. She wanted the board to know what poor health Rudy was in Stage 4 renal failure. Arrangements were made with officer Carter for cleanup. Property had been a blighted state since before 2016 per officer Carter. There was a dumpster, multiple trips to the compost lot, and

mowing costs for both properties. The deal with Rudy was that the cleanup would happen and he would sell the properties since he was in ill health and unable to take care properties, if this happened officer Carter would seek assistance for him. The part on Mr. Schrepfer did not occur and additional time was given. A lien was placed on the properties for the cost of cleanup. Amy stated she helped with the clean up to keep down costs. When she received the bill, she was shocked at the cost. She wants the board to assist by removing the lien and all fees. Since Rudy is in poor health, he can use the money to take a cruise or something he might enjoy in his last days. Officer Carter explained that the clean-up had to happen in order to even mow the properties. This was a big clean up. Not just a mowing. Amy stated that the office staff had refused to discuss the matter with her and that lien had been placed even after she attempted to pay Rudy's portion. Christy spoke up and state that she had mailed Lien the morning of the attempt to pay. Once mailed it is considered filed. All transactions going forward have to be made at the court house. Amy said that she had spoken to Vicki and that the lien was not filed on that date. Christy explained it had to get there for processing not a one-day filing. Amy also gave the board her qualifications and work history in her plea for fees to be rescinded.

Discussion continued.

Bill Bender then said this needed to go to an executive session for discussion.

Amy wanted to know when she would have an answer.

Bill said once it is investigated

Justin: what is your goal?

Amy: To get fees and cost of clean-up removed and to find out what the cost for others were to have their grass mowed.

Mike then tried to speak and Amy interrupted him. He told her she had been allowed to speak and now it was his turn. The dollar amount will be taken under advisement. Mike told her if in the office to talk nice to the girls. Coming in the office raising her voice or being argumentative was not good actions. No more discussions. Tabled this discussion for litigation at an executive session.

**A motion was made by Justin Rutledge to table for more information 2nd by Bruce Baker
Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes Justin Rutledge yes and Mike Baehl Yes**

Misc. Business: Christy had an e-mail from a Dawn Luckett requesting a place to meet with people for job placement. She works with Work One. She had requested an office in the Community Center if available. Mike asked Christy to contact her to see what her intentions were? If she is taking jobs out of the community or moving from one company to another, we do not need that in our town. We want to promote people coming to Poseyville not away. Christy will contact her.

Bill Bender has posted an ad in the Posey County News for the sell of the Old Town Hall. Bids are to be opened at the April 11th meeting.

Mike has requested from the board to change the May date for the meeting to May 16th. All board members were in agreement. Christy will get this posted.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Poseyville Town Council for 2022 will be held **Tuesday April 11, 2023** at 5:30 PM, This will be a in person and virtual meeting.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, the meeting was adjourned.
With a motion made by Justin Rutledge and 2nd by Bruce Baker the meeting was closed.

Roll Call Vote taken, Bruce Baker Yes Justin Rutledge yes and Mike Baehl Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Foster

Christy Foster, Clerk/Treasurer

ATTEST:

Michael Baehl

Michael Baehl, Council President