

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**POSEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Date of Meeting: Tuesday April 09, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Executive Session meeting was held at 4:30pm. The regular meeting was called to order by Council President Justin Rutledge at 5:30 PM.

**PRESENT**

Justin Rutledge, Jodie Rankin, Michael Baehl, Council Attorney William Bender, and Clerk-Treasurer Christy Foster

**Virtual Attendee's:**

Derick Wiggins

**In person Attendee's:**

list attached to minutes.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes were presented from the 3/12/2024 Regular Meeting and the 3/18/2024 Special Meeting (award of cemetery mowing contract)

**A Motion to approve the 3/12/2024 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Mike Baehl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

**A Motion to approve the 3/18/2024 Special Meeting Minutes was made by Mike Baehl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.**

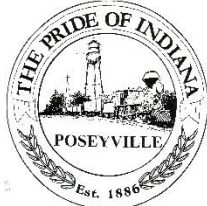
**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

**BANK RECONCILIATION**

Bank reconciliations for March and April were presented.

**A Motion to approve the March and April Reconciliations was made by Mike Baehl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**



### **CLAIMS**

Presented at Town Hall at 12:00 pm on April 9, 2024. Jodie asked about insurance payments and about payments made for roof damage at the sewer plant. Christy explained the insurance payments and told Jodie she would have to ask Mike about the roof repair. Jodie asked if the roof repair was from storm damage and Mike said he was unsure.

**A Motion to approve the Claims was made by Jodie Rankin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Baehl  
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

### **COMMENT**

Justin explained that he would like to start moving the Town's Department Heads up on the Agenda if they are present for the meetings so they can get back to what they need to do rather than sitting through an entire meeting. He reminded the Department Heads that they were welcome to stay for the full meetings and did not have to leave, but it's the Council's way of showing appreciation for them being present at the meetings. Justin asked if anyone had any major opposition to doing so and there was none.

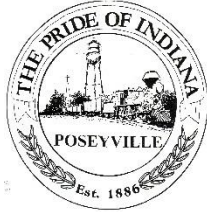
### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Town Marshal Charles Carter was present and reminded the public that it is grass mowing season again and to refrain from blowing grass clippings into the streets because it is a violation of Town Ordinance to do so. He also said the new mowing crew at the cemetery has blown grass clippings into the street and asked that they be informed not to do so. Mike Baehl commented that they did the same thing again today. Justin said he would contact the mowing company and let them know.

Carter also announced that the Town Wide Yard Sale would be taking place during Mother's Day weekend, and he said he was going to use some of his Police Department donation money from his "Community Outreach" fund to pay for an extra dumpster for citizens to get rid of large items. This will alleviate tax dollars being used for both dumpsters.

Carter said he will be at the Community Center during the Town Wide Yard Sale from 11:00am – 1:00pm for golf cart registration. Citizens with golf carts can ride to the Community Center and purchase their registration sticker. Registration is \$25 per year or a 4 year tag is \$75. He will also have orange flags, slow moving vehicle placards, reflectors, etc. for sale and there is no markup on the cost. If anyone is not able to go to the Community Center on May 11<sup>th</sup>, Marshal Carter said they can contact him and he will set up an appointment to conduct the quick inspection.

Jodie asked about Carter's monthly Call Report that was sent to the Council by email prior to the meeting. She asked if that report includes anything he does during the day as a School Resource Officer and he said it does not. He then clarified that part of his SRO Agreement with the school district is that the Town Marshal position is a 24/7 position and he is able to take town



complaints that can be handled by a phone call during school hours, but he said no emergency calls that are on the Report are handled during school hours.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief Mike Crawford was present and explained that the Fire Department was able to replace all of their SCBAs (self-contained breathing apparatus) thanks to the FEMA grant they recently received. As such they no longer need the old SCBA units and New Harmony Fire Department is wanting to purchase those for \$8,000. Chief Crawford provided a list of the equipment which includes; 16 Honeywell Survivair Complete SCBAs, 30 Survivair SCBA Bottles, and 15 Survivair SCBA Masks.

**A Motion was made to declare the listed equipment surplus by Jodie Rankin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Baehl.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

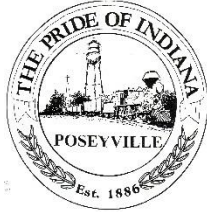
Council members commented that it was a good deal for New Harmony FD and good for Poseyville to get something back on the equipment. Mike Baehl asked if the \$8,000 would go into the General Fund or Fire Department Equipment Fund. Christy responded that it would go into the General Fund.

**A Motion was made to accept New Harmony Fire Department's purchase offer of \$8,000 and sell the equipment to them by Jodie Rankin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Baehl.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

Chief Crawford said the Fire Department would like to use the money to update other equipment. In a previous Council Meeting, the Council voted to approve the purchase of a one (1) Ball Intake Relief Valve that was approximately \$3,500. He has found a different vendor online, Firepenny Firefighter Equipment, where he can buy two (2) of the same valves for \$3,729.60. He is also asking to buy composite cribbing to replace the very aged wooden cribbing the FD currently has. He provided a quote from Howell Rescue Systems for \$4,977.00. Justin asked if the valves were brand new and Chief Crawford said yes they are. Justin asked why the cost was so different and Chief Crawford said because of the name brand. Mike Baehl asked why the FD needed two valves and Chief Crawford explained that the truck has a valve on each end. He said they have worked on one of the valves to keep it working as much as they could, but it is no longer useful and the other valve is around the same age and likely won't last much longer, so he would like to get both since the cost difference is small. Justin thanked Chief Crawford for seeking out the better deal and commented that it is not only good for the Fire Department, but for the taxpayers as well.

**A Motion was made to purchase two (2) Harrington Ball Valves for \$3,729.60 and to purchase cribbing from Howell Rescue Systems for \$4,977.00 by Mike Baehl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.**



Justin asked Christy how the money would work given our agreement with the Township. Jodie suggested that we would have to have an Additional Appropriation to spend the money received from the sale and Christy agreed. Christy also explained that we will likely have to have an Additional Appropriation for the Fire Department before the end of the year anyway. Chief Crawford asked if New Harmony FD could write the check to the Fire Department's 501(c)3 fund instead to make things easier. The Council did not think that would be a good idea because the 501(c)3 does not own the equipment. Charles Carter, speaking as Robb Township Trustee, offered the same thought. There was more discussion about how the money would work with the Town. Township Trustee Carter asked if the sale proceeds would be split with the Township since the equipment was purchased under the Town-Township agreement. The Council and Christy agreed that the money would likely have to be split. Justin explained to Chief Crawford that the Council appreciates the FD finding a buyer and getting some money back for the equipment and he said if, near the end of the year, the FD needs an Additional Appropriation, the Council understands and intends to help out.

**Roll Call Vote (on above Motion): Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

#### **UTILITY DEPARTMENT**

Mike Baehl said the Nitrate Filtration plant will be "on line" this week and the Town will make the deadline of May 1<sup>st</sup> to have the plant operational and water to be filtered properly. Jodie asked how long it would take for the plant to treat all of the water. Mike said it would not take too long for the nitrates to be out of the system because we use approximately 80,000 gallons of water every day. Derick Wiggins with Midwestern Engineers commented that things are coming together.

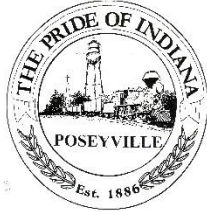
#### **MIDWESTERN BILLING REQUESTS**

Derick Wiggins was present virtually and presented a pay request from Huntingburg Machine Works in the amount of \$516,320. Derick sent the Disbursement Request Form by email ahead of the meeting.

**A Motion was made to pay Huntingburg Machine Works \$516,320 by Mike Baehl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

Council Attorney Bill Bender reminded the Council that Christy had given him paperwork that she received the same day showing another Lien against Huntingburg Machine Works. Regain Group LLC was asking the Town to withhold \$5,004 of the payment to be paid to them to satisfy the Lien. If the Lien is removed quickly like the last one was, then the entire amount will be sent to Huntingburg Machine Works like normal. Christy said if the Lien is not removed, she will reach out to SRF funding to get guidance on how to take care of withholding the amount if needed. Justin asked Derick Wiggins to get ahold of Huntingburg Machine Works and see if they



are planning to satisfy the Lien soon and he said he would. He asked that we email him a copy of the Lien Notice because he has not received it yet.

**Mike Baehl then moved to amend his previous Motion to include paying Huntingburg Machine Works \$516,320 if the Lien is removed, but withhold \$5,004 if the Lien is not removed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

Derick also presented a pay request from Midwestern Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$16,582. Derick sent the Disbursement Request Form by email ahead of the meeting.

**A Motion to pay \$16,582 to Midwestern Engineers, Inc. was made by Mike Baehl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

Derick added that there had been a brief, virtual Pre-Construction Meeting with G&L Sandblasting, the contractor chosen for the water tower rehab project. He said they are looking to start the rehab of the water tower around the end of July or first of August 2024. Justin reminded the public that the Town is not facing any violations currently for the water tower. Derick explained that it is in desperate need of repairs and recoating to get into compliance with current standards, but is not an IDEM issue yet.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PRESENTATION**

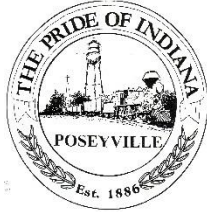
Philip Roth and Matt O'Rourke with American Structurepoint presented the Posey County Comprehensive Plan to the Council. Each Council member received a bound book containing the Plan and Philip presented a Powerpoint presentation that is included in the recorded video of the meeting. Mike commented that he was really impressed with the Plan and he likes it. Jodie said she has reviewed the Plan online and she asked what the Plan is doing for the Town of Poseyville. Philip explained that they hope it will help with connectivity and building familiarity across the county as well as the hope to build out the I-64 corridor. Justin asked to confirm that adopting the County's Comprehensive Plan would not obstruct current Council plans of obtaining a Poseyville-specific Capital Improvement Plan or Asset Management Plans and Matt said it would not cause any issues with the Town developing any of its own plans.

**A Motion was made by Jodie Rankin to pass Resolution # 2024-04-09-01 adopting the 2024 Posey County Comprehensive Plan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Baehl.**

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

### **DEBBIE BENNETT CONTRACT**

A contract to continue services with Debbie Bennett was presented. Christy explained that she has worked with the Town for many years and currently she is involved with the Nitrate filtration project and reviews the payroll and other items related to the construction of the plant addition. The contract contained language that said "not to exceed \$5,000."



**A Motion was made by Mike Baehl to accept the contract, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jodie Rankin.  
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Alex Hanna was present again due to wanting to build a fence partially on the Town's right-of-way. Justin said he called 811 and Poseyville Utilities to have the area marked and after marking was completed, it does not look like there are many lines in the area. There was much discussion between Alex and the Council (can be listened to in the meeting recording). The Council told Alex that he would need to request a variance from the Posey County Board of Zoning Appeals in order to build the fence up to 6 feet instead of 3 feet on the south side of the property and that the Town Council would not oppose such a request.

**A Motion was made by Jodie Rankin to allow the fence to be built up to the sidewalk but not on or over the sidewalk and the property owner would have to go to the Board of Zoning Appeals to request a height variance which the Town will not oppose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Baehl.**

Alex asked if he could park on the grass area on the south side of the sidewalk (Town's right-of-way) and was told no. Jodie also gave Alex her business card with her cell phone number and told him to contact her if she has any questions or needs help contacting the BZA.

**Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

### **PARKS DEPARTMENT**

Jodie said she had heard from some concerned parents that some of the playground equipment at the ball parks was not secured to the ground. Mike said there was some items that were laying on the ground, but they are working on mounting the swings and a slide. He said some of the equipment is already mounted and the Youth Club is planning on putting pea gravel in the play area.

### **COMMUNITY CENTER**

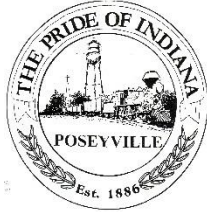
Justin announced that the Council held an Executive Session directly before this meeting to build an interview list for the Community Center Manager position. No votes were taken and the interviews will take place soon in another Executive Session meeting.

### **STREET DEPARTMENT**

N/A

### **CEMETERY**

N/A



**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

N/A

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Poseyville Town Council for 2024 will be held **Tuesday, May 14, 2024** at 5:30 PM, in person and virtual meeting.

**Motion was made by Mike Baehl to hold the next meeting on May 14, 2024 @ 5:30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Jodie Rankin**

**Roll Call Vote taken, Jodie Rankin Yes, Mike Baehl Yes, and Justin Rutledge Yes**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Justin Rutledge, Council President

**ATTEST:**

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Christy Foster, Clerk/Treasurer