

August 9, 2012

Be it remembered that the Versailles Town Council met for their regular monthly meeting on July 12, 2012. All council members and attorney Larry Eaton were present. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Jim Henson was in attendance to discuss a letter he received concerning the condition of his property. Attorney Eaton advised Mr. Henson that the property needs to be brought up to the town ordinance standards as soon as possible, or it may be torn down. Mr. Henson stated that he is trying to secure funds to complete the necessary repairs. John Holzer asked if the repairs would be completed in the next 30 days, and Mr. Henson said he could not come up with the money in that amount of time. Attorney Eaton stated that since Mr. Henson has not provided specific plans for rehabbing the property, the town has the right to tear it down. Steve Mathes asked Mr. Henson to have a timeline for repairs, along with plans and a contractor's bid to present to the council by the September meeting. Mr. Henson agreed to do so.

Jeff Cornett was in attendance to inform the council of his interest in purchasing Tyson Auditorium. Mr. Cornett would like to transform the auditorium into a community center with a fitness center, and basketball leagues. John Holzer said that he thought that Mr. Cornett had good plans, and that an offer had been made of \$30,000. John stated that he would rather sell the building at a low cost to someone who could use the additional money to put into repairing it. John made a recommendation to sell the building for \$30,000. The town council members will attend the next Tyson board meeting to discuss with them the reason for selling the building for less than the town paid for it, since the Tyson Fund had granted the money to the town to purchase the auditorium. The town council will hold a special meeting Monday, August 13, following the Tyson board meeting. Attorney Eaton will write up the necessary paperwork, and the town council can agree at that time to sell the building, pending signing paperwork.

Fire chief Ben Sieverding reported 27 calls since the last meeting. Chief Sieverding commended the Versailles Volunteer Fire Department for their hard work. The grant for new emergency sirens has been approved by the Rising Sun Regional Foundation. Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Libby, and Chief Sieverding thanked the RSRF for the funding.

Marshal Joe Mann stated that everything was running smoothly in town. Marshall Mann would like to have a meeting with the town council, the school board and the superintendent to discuss possible additional funding for the school resources officer.

Superintendent Kevin Hensley reported that the smoke testing in town was finished. Kevin expressed concerns with the cost of chemicals for treating the water. Since the lake is so dry, more chemicals are required to make the water usable. Attorney Larry Eaton stated that the town can impose an emergency rate increase to defray some of the cost. The rate increase would be temporary, just until the condition of the lake improves. Larry will contact Umbaugh to do a rate study as soon as possible. A bid was submitted from Independent Concrete for curbs and sidewalks on Clearview Ln. The council unanimously agreed to accept the bid.

Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Libby reported that the total profit for concessions at the sports complex was \$8,992.91, and commended Barb Hensley for her hard work during the baseball/softball season. A letter was presented from the Versailles American Legion asking permission to use the alley between the Legion and town hall for the Pumpkin Show. The council unanimously approved. The inter-local agreement with Ripley County Economic Development was approved by the council.

Steve Mathes will call to follow up on getting signs to mark direction to the sports complex. Shawn Halcomb would like to know the physical address for the complex, so it can be given to people to program into their GPS.

Attorney Eaton spoke with Mr. Hinman's son about cleaning up the property on Harvest Ridge. John Holzer will get some bids for trimming the cherry trees in town. Sue Meisberger has received a request for using golf carts in town. Marshal Mann stated that he did not want golf carts on the streets. Sue also

requested that Kevin block the alley beside the Corning property on Main street for an auction. Kevin agreed to do so.

South Ripley Middle School Principal Rod Hite was in attendance to discuss the school resources officer. Mr. Hite has given a presentation regarding the School Resources Officer to the superintendent, and will also present to the school board. The grant for the SRO program has been slightly reduced this year due to a shortage in funding. The town of Versailles has contributed a total of \$29,000 in funding and in kind services toward the SRO program. The town council will meet with the school board to further discuss the SRO program.

With no further business coming before the council, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Attest: _____
Kiersten B. Libby, Clerk-Treasurer

Council President – Sue Meisberger

Council Member – John Holzer

Council Member – Steve Mathes