

October 8, 2019

Be it remembered that the Versailles Town Council met for their regular monthly meeting on October 8, 2019. All council members and Attorney Larry Eaton were present. The Pledge was recited, and minutes from the previous meeting read and approved.

Emily Morris and April Ralston, members of the Ripley County Youth Outreach presented their idea for a future teen hangout. The group has received a \$5,000 grant to get started and would like to have plans finalized by April, 2020. They plan on starting construction in Fall, 2020, which could consist of new construction or remodeling an existing facility. The students are seeking support and approval of the Town. Steve Mathes commended them on their hard work, and said the Town will be happy to work with them in the future as their plan progresses.

Jay Hull from Bestway disposal was in attendance to answer any questions about the new trash service. Jay stated that currently Bestway is forming their route so that they can avoid busses in the morning. Service will not start before 6 a.m., but residents are encouraged to set their cans out the night before pick up. Cans will be delivered to each trash customer before November 1, and a letter will be attached with details on trash pick up. The trash contract for November 1, 2019-October 31, 2022 between Bestway disposal and the Town of Versailles was signed.

Bridget Back from the Good News Club requested permission to have a kid's fun run 5k. The council agreed unanimously to allow permission for the run.

Sandy Picket with Meisberger Realty was in attendance with William Dougherty property owner at 234 S. Main street. Sandy gave an update on the condition of the property. A new roof has been installed, and the front porch rebuilt. The plumbing has been updated and a new bathroom added. In addition, the outside shrubs and yard have been cleaned up. Steve explained that the council did not want to have to tear the house down, but that they were left with no options since Mr. Dougherty would not correspond with them. Mr. Dougherty apologized for the delay in repairing the house, and assured the council that he would not let it fall into disrepair again. Sandy requested that the unsafe building code warning be removed to make it easier to sell the property. The council agreed to remove the warning with the condition that if things go backwards it will be pursued. Mr. Dougherty also stated that the soffit on the barn roof will be repaired on October 18. Steve stated that as long as the necessary repairs are completed, the warning will be dismissed. The council approved 3-0.

Superintendent Kevin Hensley gave an update on the blacktop on Fern Drive. It will be completed in a couple of weeks. The new water clarifier is working well. One town employee has resigned, and another is on workman's comp. The last day for limb pick up is October 30, and leaf pick up will start October 21. The walking trail at the sports complex will be completed when the blacktopping commences on Fern Drive, weather permitting.

Marshal Joe Mann reported that Pumpkin Show went well with 10 officers assisting with security and parade detail. The application deadline for the Deputy Marshal position is closed.

The council approved the 2020 budget unanimously. Purchase and sale agreements were signed for the property adjoining the new town hall, and the building next to it. The empty lot will be purchased for \$9,000 and the building and lot for \$25,000. The amendment for Curry and Associates was approved and signed.

Matt McNew informed the council that the soccer field maintenance needs to be completed in the Fall and the Spring. The recommendation is to kill the existing grass and re-seed it. The council agreed unanimously. Roxanne Meyer gave information about improvements at Pangburn Park. The town will match \$1,100 for countertops, the bathrooms will cost \$3,800 to re-do and asphalt for the parking lot will cost approximately \$15,000. Matt suggested that fencing take priority over the asphalt, and all council members agreed. The council was approached about purchasing the 20 acres behind the sports complex. At this time, they agreed that they were not in favor of purchasing the property.

The town received a grant from Community Crossings in the amount of \$321,621.00. This will be used for repaving Main Street and crack sealing. Roxanne reminded everyone of the Holiday event on the square in December.

Steve requested that the signs be amended at the park to state that the walking trail is open at all times.

Steve thanked Attorney Larry Eaton for his many years of dedication and service to the town. The council formerly hired Attorney Lynn Flederman to replace attorney Eaton upon his retirement. Attorney Eaton thanked the council and the town for all of the years of working together.

With no further business coming before the council, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Attest: _____

Kiersten B. Libby, Clerk-Treasurer

Council President, Steve Mathes

Council Member, Matt McNew

Council Member, Roxanne Meyer