

January 12, 2022

On January 12, 2022, the Versailles Town Council met for their regular monthly meeting. All Council members and attorney Lynn Flederman were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, Meeting minutes were approved.

The election of 2022 officers was conducted. Roxanne Meyer was elected President; Josh Combs was elected Vice President. Monthly meetings will continue to be held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the town hall.

Fire Chief Ben Sieverding reported 121 calls for the past two months. Two new members have joined the VVFD bringing the total to 28 members with one new application awaiting approval. The wiring in the tornado siren at the old town hall needs to be repaired. The department received a grant from the Rising Sun Regional Foundation in the amount of \$40,000. The grant will be used to partially fund the replacement of the department's self-contained breathing apparatuses. More money is needed, and the department will continue to raise funds. Chief Sieverding gave an annual report, noting that the average response time for the VVFD was eight minutes and four seconds.

Randy Bustle was in attendance to address an issue with tenants of other rental units using his property for parking. Mr. Bustle wants to put up a fence to prevent this from happening in the future. Attorney Lynn Flederman advised him to contact the building inspector for specifications on fence requirements. Mr. Bustle also had a complaint about a junk car that has been up on blocks for over two years. He suggested that Marshal Mann call David Negangard to have the car towed. Marshal Mann assured the council that the ordinance violations would be his top priority.

Jason Liming addressed the council about a brush pile on his property in the subdivision between 129 and Abdon Drive. The brush pile developed after the tornado in April 2020 and has grown quite large. Mr. Liming asked if he could burn it, or if the town could haul it away. Superintendent Randall Miller will look into removing the brush. Mr. Liming also informed the council that a ditch near the property holds water all the time, and in the Summer the mosquitos get very bad. Randall will talk with Mike Holman about filling in the ditch.

Susan Underwood and Carl Taul were in attendance representing the board of trustees for the Cliff Hill cemetery. The board consists of three members, but they currently only have two. The board will be asking several local organizations about taking over management of the cemetery. They have appropriate funding, but all funds must be transferred to a tax-exempt organization. Council President Roxanne Meyer stated that the town is not interested in managing the cemetery, but the council will assist the board in finding another organization to take over.

Superintendent Randall Miller reported that there were 20 shut offs for the month. Mike Holman started working on the 12-inch main line. The flow meter at Sawmill lift station has been recalibrated. The clarifier at the sewer plant was repaired. The Christmas decorations have been taken down. The Tyson Street project is almost complete. Randall asked the council if the town should purchase the extended warranty on the new truck. The council voted unanimously to purchase the warranty. Randall discussed replacing the water meters with new cellular meters. The cost would be around \$300,000 to replace all the meters in town. The council will discuss quotes later, possibly opting to do it in phases.

Marshal Joe Mann will be meeting with Verizon about replacing some of the cell phones. Marshal Mann has been served with paperwork regarding a lawsuit on behalf of Josh Ebinger's estate. Attorney Flederman stated that she

can not represent the town on this issue, as it is a conflict of interest. She will hire someone to represent the town. The council agreed that it was o.k. for her to do so.

Lynn and the council discussed setting up the TRECS system. This would allow the town to collect outstanding utility bills from customers that no longer live in town. Any fees involved in addition to the balance would be billed to the former customer. The council appointed Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Emily Wolf as the debt set off coordinator.

Jeff French will draw up easements for the Cori and Wood Lane sewer line replacement. The town can move forward with cleaning up the Vanosdol and Brown properties and removing disabled vehicles.

Approximately ½ mile of the bike trail has been completed. The town will pay \$500 per year and provide in kind maintenance work. The commissioners have requested that the town pay to maintain the striping, which the council unanimously approved. It was also requested that the town install a 26x36 gravel parking lot. The cost would be approximately \$1,500 and the council approved.

Lynn will write up a new lease agreement for the sports complex coordinator position. It will be advertised as soon as possible. The personnel policy has been updated. The council approved the changes made.

Roxanne gave a Main Street update. They will start a rendering for the Holdsworth entertainment pavilion. They need to raise \$30,000 for a grant match in the next 6-8 weeks. The town will donate \$10,000. The town will apply for funding from the READI grant for the pocket park and the Safe Routes to Schools trail. The region was awarded \$15 million.

Trent Linville has contacted Roxanne about purchasing the old water tower. The tower will need to be taken down eventually. Lynn suggested that the town may need to use the tower as a backup, and that no decision should be made until it is researched.

With no further business coming before the council, the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Attest: _____

Kiersten B. Libby, Clerk-Treasurer

Council President, Roxanne Meyer

Council Member, Josh Combs

Council Member, Mike Daugherty