

June 14, 2022

On June 14, 2022, the Versailles town council met for their regular monthly meeting. All council members and attorney Lynn Fledderman were in attendance. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Roger Kavanaugh from Leora Weare Post 173 asked the council for permission to hold Legionfest on July 30, 2022, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. The Legion would like to close the section of Water Street between Washington and Main from Friday afternoon until Saturday evening. Marshal Joe Mann said there was no issue with closing the street and the town will provide cones and barricades. The council approved 3-0. Roger also requested a donation from the town for Legionfest. The council voted unanimously to donate \$500.

Janice Wilson requested permission to use the section of North Washington Street beside the Lions Club for a park chop dinner on June 25 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The council approved unanimously.

Adam Hunger was in attendance to address a parking issue on Perry Street. Residents are parking on both sides of the street, making it difficult for vehicles to pass through. Every residence on the street has a driveway except one. Attorney Lynn Fledderman informed the council that they would need to pass an ordinance to limit parking. Marshal Mann will outline the area to be no parking and Attorney Fledderman will work on the ordinance.

Jeff French representing Jerry and Kenny Rollins requested that the town rezone their property located across from Crossroads restaurant. Currently, 1.5 acres of the property is zoned residential. The Rollins would like this section of the property to be rezoned local business so that it can be included with the rest of the property as one parcel. Jeff noted that the zoning board has rendered rezoning favorable, and all adjacent properties are currently zoned local business. Attorney Fledderman stated that she didn't see any issue with this, and the council voted unanimously to rezone the property local business.

Jeff requested permission for Versailles Main Street to hold the annual 5K on June 25. Marshal Mann will assist Versailles Main Street in marking the route. The 5K will start at 8 a.m. with water stops at Matt & Carrie McNew's house and the cemetery. The council approved 3-0.

Tom and Barb McPherson, owners of the property at 116 N. Main St., inquired about the progress of the pocket park. Holly stated that the match fund goal has been met for the Patronicity campaign, and that a stretch goal has been set for purchasing interactive percussion instruments. Construction on the pavilion will begin July 25, and hopefully be completed by Pumpkin Show.

Superintendent Randall Miller reported that the 12-inch main on Benham Road has been installed and everyone is hooked onto the line. The town will flush hydrants and cap the old lines. A water leak was repaired in Rolling Hills. Both clarifiers at the sewer plant have been repaired. The fire hydrant at South Ripley High School is not working. Since the hydrant is on the school's property, Randall questioned who is responsible for repairing it. Lynn suggested contacting the school and informing them that the hydrant needs to be repaired. Two gear boxes at the sewer plant need to be repaired. The cost to rebuild the boxes is approximately \$7,000 each which includes labor, seals, bearings, and gaskets. New boxes are approximately \$11,000. The council agreed to purchase one new box at this time, and a second one in a year or so.

Marshal Joe Mann reported that he is once again receiving complaints about stray dogs and cats. Marshal Mann suggested building a new kennel at the water plant since the dog warden is overwhelmed. The little free library at Pangburn Park was damaged again. Joe will check with Deputy Cody Buchanan to see if there is security camera footage of the vandalism.

The council voted unanimously to allot \$200 in the 2023 budget for a donation to Safe Passage.

Ordinance # 2022-03 regulating parking vehicles over manholes was passed under suspension of the rules. The first and second readings were approved 3-0.

Ordinance # 2022-04 restricting overnight parking at Pangburn Park was passed under the suspension of the rules. The first and second readings were approved 3-0.

Holly Wehr gave an update on the pocket park. The first music in the park event drew a crowd of around 300 people. The Raider Gas site visit went well, and Holly received a letter of recommendation from the health department. Superintendent Rob Moorehead has also pledged to write a letter of support. Holly met with the Rising Sun Regional Foundation regarding a match grant for purchasing the Raider Gas station. If the full grant is approved, the project will be fully funded with no cost to the town. The ribbon cutting ceremony at the bike trail went well. All signs are set, and the kiosk is up. Main Street Versailles will fund a mural in front of the Marple's property at 336 East Perry Street.

Barb McPhearson informed the council that they are moving and are planning to take the fence adjoining the pocket park with them unless the town is interested in making a deal. Roxanne informed Mrs. McPherson that there are no formal plans for fencing at this time, but in the future, they will consider a maintenance free option.

Attorney Fledderman informed the council that the easements for Cori and Wood Lane needed to be redrafted and Jeff French is working on that.

Resolution # 2022-03 declaring the Raider Gas station an area in need of redevelopment was passed 3-0. The Brownfield Redevelopment Plan was also accepted.

Randall and the council discussed a future dewatering station. The ARPA money that the town will receive will be used toward repayment of the Benham Road debt reserve if possible. If not, the funds could be used for the dewatering station. The council discussed items for the Tyson Fund application.

Trent Linville would like to sign a pre buy offer or lease to allow the town to use the old water tower if needed. The council discussed the issue and determined that is not possible at this time.

Josh Combs noted that Deputy Buchanan would like to pursue a part time job with Ripley County Probation. The council approved as long as it does not interfere with his work with the town.

The County Highway garage has been using the town's water for filling their tanks for an unknown amount of time. The council discussed ways to remedy the issue. Randall will address the issue with the County and if they continue to use water they will be billed for it.

With no further business coming before the council, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Attest: Kiersten Libby
Kiersten B. Libby, Clerk-Treasurer

Roxanne Meyer
Council President, Roxanne Meyer

Josh Combs
Council Member, Josh Combs

Mike Daugherty
Council Member, Mike Daugherty