

Danville Town Council Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2020

- I. **Call to Order:** Council President Tom Pado called the meeting of the Danville Town Council to order on November 18, 2020, in the Danville Town Hall.
- II. **Roll Call:** Town Council President Tom Pado acknowledged a quorum of the Council. Tom Pado, David Winters, and Nancy Leavitt were present, while Greg VanLaere joined by phone. Chris Gearld was absent. Town Manager Mark Morgan and Clerk-Treasurer Jenny Percy were present.
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** Nancy Leavitt motioned to approve the executive session minutes and David Winters seconded. Motion passed 4-0. David Winters motioned to approve the council minutes from November 4, 2020 and Nancy Leavitt seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
- IV. **Public Comment:** No one came forward.
- V. **Public Meeting:**
 - a) **Swearing in of New Police Officers**—Kennedy Wilson and Quintin Oller were sworn in as the Danville Police Department’s newest officers.
 - b) **Appointment of a Park Board Member**—Council President Tom Pado appointed Bill Sutton to the Park Board. He did not require council approval for this appointment.
 - c) **Annexation Introduction**— Lesa Ternet, Town Planner introduced the property of Rex Wilson, 527 N 50 E for annexation into the town. She also mentioned that she would like to reach out to a few other residences in town to see whether or not they would like to be annexed into the town and try to do them all at once rather than separately.
 - d) **Capital Expenditure Request**—The Wastewater Department could not be in for this request so Town Manager Mark Morgan spoke on their behalf. The request was for two “choppers”. The expenditure would be \$19,313.54 and Jenny said that he had sufficient funds. David Winters motioned to approve the expenditure and Nancy Leavitt seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
 - e) **Capital Expenditure Request**—The Wastewater Department had another request for \$8,450 to remove trees and brush from their future work zones. Jenny confirmed that the money was available for this, as well. Greg VanLaere motioned to approve the expenditure and David Winters seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
 - f) **Resolution 11-2020**—Police Chief Hilton requested to move money that would normally have gone to pay for officers in the two positions that have been empty to replace some of the department’s tasers, as Chief Hilton reports that the old tasers were at the end of their life cycle. He emphasized that it was important to have functioning tasers as a less lethal option. He wanted to buy 27 tasers. David Winters motioned to approve the transfer and Nancy Leavitt seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
 - g) **Capital Expenditure Request**—Having secured the transfer of funds, Police Chief Hilton then requested the council’s permission to use the money for the purchasing of tasers. The transfer was for \$45,000 and the tasers would cost roughly \$32,000. Chief Hilton said that he would be using the remainder to buy some other equipment that the department needed. Nancy Leavitt motioned to approve the expenditure and David Winters seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
 - h) **Danville Downtown Partnership Contract**—The council briefly discussed the 2021 contract for the Danville Downtown Partnership. They had discussed it early during a work study that preceded the council meeting and at that meeting they had arrived at the figure of \$80,000 for the town to give to the Partnership. They decided to leave it at that number. They would vote on this later.

- i) **Greater Danville Chamber of Commerce Contract**—The council discussed the 2021 contract for the Chamber. David Winters was fine with leaving the figure at \$45,000 but Greg Vanlaere initially wanted to increase it by \$20,000. He decided to revise this in making a motion and made a motion to increase the amount from \$45,000 to \$55,000. Nancy Leavitt seconded this motion. The vote led to a tie with Greg Vanlaere and Nancy Leavitt voting “aye” to the motion and David Winters and Tom Pado voting “nay”. Clerk-Treasurer Jenny Percy broke the tie by voting “aye”. The motion to increase the contract amount to \$55,000 passed 3-2.
- j) **Capital Expenditure Request**—Assistant Town Manager/Parks Superintendent Will Lacey came before the council to give them a presentation prior to making a capital expenditure request for the town’s trail systems. The request would be for \$39,000. Nancy Leavitt motioned to approve the expenditure and Greg VanLaere seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
- k) **Approval of Expenditure by RDC**—Town Manager Mark Morgan came before the council to ask for their approval to use some leftover funds that fell into the hands of the Redevelopment Commission from a now defunct TIF district. Mark asked the council’s approval to use some of this money for stormwater work on Commerce Park. David Winters motioned to approve the expenditure and Greg VanLaere seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

VI. **Staff Comments**

Will Lacey came forward to talk to the council about the jail fees. He said that the group that he had formed to discuss this issue had decided that a 50% reduction in the water and sewer tap fees was best, which would bring the fees to \$128,814.61. This agreement would be submitted first to the County Council and then it would come back to the Town Council for their approval.

Mark Morgan gave the council an update on the departments:

Public Works was doing its leaf pickup as well as working on Christmas decorations and assessing wind damage from the most recent storm.

Water was finishing up some sampling and flushing some hydrants. They were going to backwash one of the tanks if they got the time.

Police obviously hired two new police officers. They were planning on holding a merit board meeting to discuss reserve and part-time officers. They had been dealing with some exposures to COVID.

Stormwater/Building was paving on Washington, Columbia, Broadway, Kentucky, Clinton and Indiana. Barry was also doing stormwater work with the new Goodwill and had recently issued eight new permits. He was still working on the problem with the chiller at Town Hall and had a lot of meetings lined up with different companies to get the best fix for it.

Planning had seen several meetings of Lesa’s various committees. She had worked on some variances recently as well as the plat plan for Arbor Homes. The RDC was working on having a piece of property donated to the commission.

Parks was dealing with COVID issues, as well. They were winterizing park facilities and putting together Winterland. They were also working on the new sign and the trail system. Will thanked Public Works and the Water Department for helping put in the new sign as it saved him quite a bit of money.

Wastewater had COVID issues as well. They were working on lateral inspections and with the Goodwill on their taps.

Fire had COVID issues, too. They reported 1,419 runs YTD.

Admin had COVID issues, as well. They were planning on sanitizing the building the Friday after the council meeting. Mark reported that he would be gone for a week the following Monday. They did receive another grant from IPEP for around \$20,000 according to Mark.

Mark informed the council of a contract that the town is doing with the State of Indiana retroactively when they did work together that involved town equipment at the intersection of 36 and Main St. Mark needed the council's approval for him and Jenny to sign it. David Winters motioned to approve and Nancy Leavitt seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Mark also mentioned that he had received Council President Pado's permission to start advertising for the openings that there will be on the various town boards and that he would start on that soon.

Nancy asked about the Parks department employee that was hurt and Will said that he was doing fine.

David thanked Kelly and the Chamber for all of their work. He mentioned that a Danville High School 2020 graduate named Beth Walker was featured on the cover of National Rifle Association's magazine. He also mentioned that it was his wife's birthday and he wished her a happy birthday.

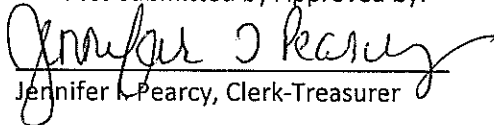
Greg attended the RDC and Plan commission meetings. He attended the Hendricks County Economic Development meeting virtually and mentioned a marketing campaign that they are doing in which he would like to have the town involved.

Will was hoping to have action taken on the sign within the next week.

VII. **Claim Docket** – David Winters motioned to approve the claim docket and Nancy Leavitt seconded. Motion passed 4-0

VIII. **Adjourn** – Nancy Leavitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting and David Winters seconded. Motion passed 4-0. The meeting ended at 7:47pm.

Minutes submitted by Approved by:


Jennifer L. Pearcy, Clerk-Treasurer



Tom Pado, President