
Fountain City Town Council Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2022

Call to Order

The public meeting of the Fountain City Town Council was held at the City Building at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. Attendees included Shane Shroyer, Steve Clark, Cecil Mullins, Laurie Hayes, Michael Gray. Aubrey Crist, town attorney, was not present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Shroyer confirmed that everyone had read July's minutes. Clark motioned to approve July's minutes as written. Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Welcome Visitors

- Mr. Foster was present to discuss his water bill after the visit from the meter specialist. He requested that his bill be averaged from previous bills and include the recent rate increase for sewer. Council asked McGuire how adjustments are usually handled. She informed them that a water leak that doesn't use the sewer system can have the sewer portion adjusted to a normal month's bill, but the water still has to be paid for. Mr. Foster was also informed that he is responsible for pipes from his building to the meter. Gray motioned to adjust the sewer portion of Mr. Foster's last two bills and remove the penalties that were added. Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- Mr. & Mrs. Bicknell were present to discuss their water bill after the visit from the meter specialist. They still do not agree with their meter consumption and don't understand how it's possible. It was explained that a dripping faucet or running toilet will use a lot more water than the average person would realize. They were also informed of some pipe issues located at the property. Council discussed and offered to do the same adjustment as Mr. Foster received. Gray motioned to adjust the sewer portion of the last two bills and remove penalties added. Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- Scott Fisher was present from Indiana Earthworks, which are doing the work on the stormwater project. They are presently waiting on a permit to continue with work. Other than that issue, they are ahead of schedule and plan to finish ahead of schedule.

New Business

- Discuss Visit from Meter Specialist – Gray shared the information received from the meter specialist from Utility Supply, which visited the town last week. The specialist informed us the function of our new meters. Our new meters are still mechanical not electronic and are built the same as old meters. The only difference in the meter itself is a radio reader attached to the top. These meters can be data logged and show the monthly, daily, and hourly consumption. We

cannot tell anyone where the water is coming from or going to, but there is water going through the meter. Therefore, the new meters are functioning properly. If a resident still wishes to contest the meter reading, they may have the meter pulled and sent for testing. But if the meter comes back as no issues, the resident will be responsible for all costs associated with the testing.

- New Procedures – Gray informed council that a new procedure will be work orders created through the new system for work needed done. The clerk’s office does not have answers to why a resident’s consumption is high. When calling the clerk’s office, tell them the nature of your problem or concern and they will create a work order for the appropriate employee. Gray wants to reiterate that we all live here and we are in this together. The old meters were anywhere from 30 to 50 years old and were slow in reading consumption. Almost everyone’s water bill increased to some degree, including Gray’s.
- On Call/Called into Work – Council stated that they would like for overtime to be paid on a daily basis instead of a weekly basis. McGuire informed them that she has discussed it with Crist and our policy is worded in such a way that either is permissible. They would also like to make for a call into work a minimum of 2 hours pay at overtime rate. McGuire will need to change the personnel policy and then vote on the changes. Tice requested that there be alternating weeks for the two employees to be on call. This will alleviate Tice from having to be on call every day of the year. The only difference would be a water problem that Parrett can’t do himself.
- Phone for Water Dept. – Gray informed council that he would like to look into getting company phones for the water department. This will alleviate Tice having to use his personal phone for work including access to the new system. Hayes motioned to get a company phone for the water department. Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- Water/Sewer Operator Coverage – Gray informed council that they need to look for water/sewer coverage for Tice. This will enable him to take a vacation due to Parrett not being a licensed operator. There have been offers from Indiana Water for coverage. They need to find out some names and what the fees would be for coverage.
- Office Hours – Shroyer stated that council cannot dictate the clerk/treasurer hours but they can set town hall hours. McGuire agreed but the council will have to find coverage for those hours and figure out how to pay the person. Shroyer asked whether the deputy clerk was the clerk’s or the town’s employee. McGuire informed him that the deputy clerk is her employee. Mullins motioned to table this until next month. Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- Daily/Monthly Duties – Gray would like to table this until next meeting due to not having time to go over it thoroughly before the meeting. Clark motioned to table this until next month. Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Unfinished Business

- Attorney’s Contract – Crist informed council that they need to vote whether they want her to stay on as afar until the end of the year or find new council. Hayes motioned to keep Crist as attorney from afar. Gray seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Department Reports

Water/Sewer Departments – Charles Tice

- Tice read his report.
- Gray wanted to discuss Tice’s pay while doing department reports. He has researched the pay of water/sewer operators in the area and feels that Tice should be given a raise. Gray motioned to

increase his pay to \$28 per hour. Clark seconded the motion. Then, Clark made another motion to increase his pay to \$29.50 per hour instead. Gray seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Police & Fire Department – Marshal Carey Martin & Shane Shroyer

- Marshal Martin read his report.
- Shroyer had nothing for the fire department report.

Parks/Building & Grounds Department – Kyle Parrett

- Parrett read his report.
- Shane asked about the balance of donations to the park department. McGuire informed him that she would do some calculating to find that total. He would like to use ARPA funds along with the donations to purchase the Gazebo agreed upon a while ago. Hayes motioned to use ARPA funds to cover what else is needed. Mullins seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Street Department – Kyle Parrett

- Parrett read his report.
- Parrett informed council that he hasn't received any quotes for tree removal except Tree Amigos; therefore, he has no other options. McGuire informed council that she could use available funds for tree removal and the remainder from EDIT. Gray motioned to accept Tree Amigos' quotes totaling \$14,278 for seven trees completely removed and use funds suggested by McGuire. Hayes seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Financial Department – Trina McGuire

- Council was provided with the Fund with Investments and APV Register Summary Report.

Claims

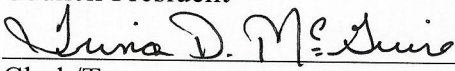
Mullins motioned to approve all current claims. Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment

Hayes motioned to adjourn the meeting. Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.



Council President



Clerk/Treasurer

Sept. 6, 2022

Date of Approval