

September 21, 2022
TOWN OF AVILLA
AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
108 S. Main St. Avilla, IN 46710

THOSE PRESENT: Phil Puckett, William Krock, Jr., Rita Grocock, Paul Shepherd, Brian Carroll, Chad Geiger, Kevin Kelly, Matt Getts, Tena Woenker, Chad Rayle, Kaleb Walker, Chris Arnett, Glen Wills, Kiersten Wright, Jessica Balyeat.

Town Council President, Phillip Puckett, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. opened the public hearing on Ordinance 1651-9-22 Vacating a Certain Utility Easement located in the Town of Avilla at 6:01 P.M. After a brief discussion the public hearing was closed at 6:03 P.M.

William Krock, Jr. made a motion to Suspend the Rules on Ordinance 1651-9-22 for Vacating a Certain Utility Easement located in the Town of Avilla. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Ordinance 1651-9-22 for Vacating a Certain Utility Easement located in the Town of Avilla was read on the 1st reading. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the ordinance on the 1st reading. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Ordinance 1651-9-22 for Vacating a Certain Utility Easement located in the Town of Avilla was read on the 2nd reading. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the ordinance on the 2nd reading. Paul shepherd seconded the motion.
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. opened the public hearing on Ordinance 1649-8-22 for the 2023 Town of Avilla Budget at 6:04 P.M. After a brief discussion the public hearing was closed at 6:05 P.M.

Ordinance 1649-8-22 for the 2023 Town of Avilla Budget was presented to the council on the 1st reading. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the ordinance on the 1st reading. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Claims in the amount of \$556,247.04 was submitted to the council for approval. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

William Krock, Jr. made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 17, 2022, and the August 31, 2022, special meeting as submitted. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Managers Report – was given by Tena Woenker.

Superintendents Report – was given by Brian Carroll.

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, reported to the council that he rented a mini excavator while they were repairing water leaks on Van Scoyoc Street and other areas that needed repaired. The cost of the rental was \$2735.00 plus insurance and environmental charges. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the expense not to exceed \$4000. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, informed the council that he hired Best Electric to test our electric poles in the town. They found 52 poles that were bad. They were able to treat 13 of the poles to preserve them for a few years, but 39 poles need to be replaced due to rot in them. Best Electric provided a quote to repair the 13 poles for a total cost of \$12,650. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the payment to Best Electric not to exceed \$12,650. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, reported to the council that he received a quote from Power Line Supply for the transformers needed for the New Subdivisions in Town. He indicated that it would take 18-20 weeks to receive them if ordered now. The cost for each transformer is \$6862.00 plus freight. Brian said it would take 10 to complete the subdivisions. The cost could also vary at any point when they come in. They cannot guarantee the price will remain at that cost. After some discussion Paul shepherd made a motion to approve Brian to get them ordered. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, informed the council that he was looking into purchasing a Mini Excavator for the Town of Avilla because he had been renting them quite frequently and thought it would be a good idea just to purchase one. He received one quote from Bobcat of Fort Wayne because they are the only company that sells them and offers the yearly trade in for a new contract for \$2500. per year. The cost of the new Mini Excavator is \$93,928.66. Brian indicated it could be paid for out of 50% electric and the balance split three ways with MVH, Water and Sewer. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase of the new Mini Excavator. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Marshalls Report - Glen Wills gave his report for the month.

Fire Chiefs Report – was given by Chad Geiger.

Chad Geiger, Fire Chief, informed the council that he would like to have Dekalb Door come and give an estimate on what garage doors need repaired at a cost of \$200.00/door for a total cost of \$1200. The original doors were installed in 1987.

Park Board Report – President, Jessica Balyeat, informed the council that the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the pocket park would take place on Saturday December 3, 2022, Santa will arrive at 5:00 P.M. She asked to have the police available again this year to ensure it is safe for patrons on Albion Street from the traffic. After some discussion the council agreed to close the parking lot on the south side of the street as well as the parking spaces on Albion Street from Main to Van Scoyoc Street from 4:00 – 9:00 P.M. for the event.

Park Board President, Jessica Balyeat, informed the council that she has one and possibly two board members resigning after this year, so she is need of three new board members at this time.

Clerk Treasurer Report- Rita Grocock, did not have anything to report this month.

Old Business:

Ordinance 1652-9-22 Amending the Heretofore Enacted Code of Ordinances pertaining to the regulation of traffic upon public streets of the Town of Avilla (S. Main Street Parking) was read on the 1st reading. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the ordinance on the 1st reading. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Next item on the agenda was the current schedule for the Utility Employees. They are asking to have their current pay period schedule be changed to match their on-call schedule which is Monday to Sunday. After a long discussion no decision was made at this time.

Town Manager, Tena Woenker, spoke to the council about the 2023 Employee Health Insurance renewal. The increase for 2023 was substantial at 23% but the town had not had a large increase for several years. The council had approved to keep the employee insurance with PHP under the same plan they are Grandmothered in on, at the new cost. Town employees have only had to pay \$1.00 per year for their medical insurance for several years as an added benefit to them. Paul Shepherd made a motion to continue with the town paying for the insurance for the employees, with the employees paying the \$1.00 per year as in years past. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

New Business:

Setting the Trick or Treat time was presented to the council. Halloween is on Monday October 31, 2022, this year. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to have Trick or Treat in the Town of Avilla on Monday October 31, 2022, from 5:30 – 7:30 P.M. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

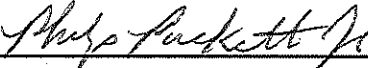
Open Discussion:

Resident Kiersten Wright inquired about the Country Kitchen closure and if it was going to re-open. The Town does not have the answer for this.


With no further business to conduct for the evening William Krock, Jr. made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 P.M. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL


Philip Puckett, Jr., Council President


Paul Shepherd, Council Member


William Krock, Jr., Council Member

ATTEST:


Rita Grocock Clerk -Treasurer