

March 15, 2023
TOWN OF AVILLA
AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
108 S. Main St. Avilla, IN 46710

THOSE PRESENT: Phil Puckett, Bill Krock, Rita Grocock, Paul Shepherd, Chad Geiger, Matt Getts, Kevin Kelly, Katherine Pierce, Andy Uhl, Kierston Wright, Glen Wills, Billie Gienger, Chad Rayle, Brandon Bryant, Octavious Harris, Tena Woenker.

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

Claims in the amount of \$468,533.97 were 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 January 18, 2023, February 15, 2023, and the Executive session on March 8, 2023, meetings as submitted. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Managers Report – was given by Tena Woenker.

Tena Woenker asked the council for permission to attend the Managers Conference at Winona Lake on April 26-28, 2023. The charge for this is \$150.00. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the conference. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent's Report – Brian Carroll was absent. Tena Woenker gave his report for the month.

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, would like permission from the town council to purchase 33 new electric poles for the town at a cost of \$13,942.11 from Power Line Supply. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, would also like permission to hire Gaylor Electric to install the 33 new electric poles for a total cost of \$230,037. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve Gaylor Electric to install the poles for a cost not to exceed \$240,000. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, also would like to purchase five geo-bags at a cost of \$500.00/each. The bags are to help eliminate the sludge we need to get rid of. The geo-bags will be reusable. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the purchase not to exceed \$2500. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, would like to know if the council will re-imburse Jason Pieper for his insurance deductible of \$500. Damage incurred during a power outage, when he used his personal truck to jump the bucket truck when it would not start, and his personal truck was

damaged. The town's insurance would not pay for the damage. After some discussion William Krock, Jr. made a motion to table until the Town Attorney had time to investigate the situation. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

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

Town Marshall, Glen Wills, reported to the council that he would like to upgrade the department's guns. He indicated that their guns were over ten years old. They will also be trading in the used guns for the purchase of the new ones. If the officer would like to purchase his used gun, they may do so through the company making the sale. The cost of the new guns is approximately \$1200. each for a total of ten guns. The guns will be paid for out of Public Safety Funds. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the purchase not to exceed \$12,000. Paul shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Fire Chiefs Report – was given by Chad Geiger.

Chad Geiger, Fire Chief, said he would like to personally thank the Town of Avilla, the Police Department and everyone involved during the major fire they had this week on Main Street. There were several fire departments involved as well as the police and citizens who came to help.

Park Board Report – no one present to give a report.

Clerk Treasurers Report, Rita Grocock, informed the council that a resident at 508 Viburnum Creek Run had a water leak due to an outside water spigot being left on. Superintendent, Brian Carroll, investigated and verified that the water went out on the ground and not into the sewer. The homeowner was asking for the town to write off \$19.71 of their sewer bill for the water that did not enter the sewer. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the write-off of \$19.71. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Old Business:

None

New Business:

The first item on the agenda was a Survey Fee and Deed for the NIPSCO regulator station. A survey is needed of the proposed property the town is giving to NIPSCO for the regulator station. Josh Lash with Midwest Land Surveying proposed to complete the survey for \$850. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the survey to be completed. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Next item on the agenda is to set up the annual Spring Clean-up Day. Noble County Disposal, and Washler Inc. quoted the clean- up day. Noble County Disposal proposal was for May 20, 2023, and Washler Inc. was for June 10, 2023. See the quotes for a breakdown of the charges. After some discussion about the date, it was decided that it was better to hold this when it is a little warmer outside for the residents, because they hold garage sales prior to the town clean-up day. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve Washler Inc. to complete the townwide clean-up on June 10, 2023. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

A supplemental agreement from A&Z Engineering for the 2022-2 Community Crossings Projects was presented to the council for approval. The supplemental to the original contract will be for inspection and documentation, if needed. The supplemental is not to exceed an additional \$5000. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the agreement. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

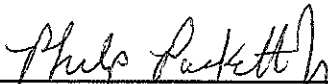
A resident at 233 E. Albion Street was asking for reimbursement for water damage created by the Town's Storm Sewer backing up into their basement. The water in the basement ruined the homeowner's hot water heater, which had to be replaced for a cost of \$1689. After some discussion it was denied by the council.

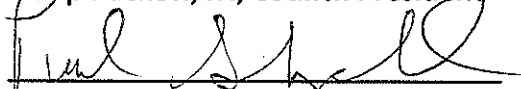
Resident, Billie Gienger, was present to voice her concerns over safety issues on Autumn Hills Drive. With the barricades in place it is causing problems with people not seeing the barricades in time to avoid them due to them sitting too low on the roadway. People are also not seeing the Road Closed Ahead sign ahead and are continuing to drive down the road until they must turn around, and are using residential driveways to turn around in, sometimes several times a night. Councilman, Phillip Puckett, Jr. spoke about the necessity of having the barricades in place. The town will research making the barricades and the road closed sign more visible to see if this will help with the traffic problem.

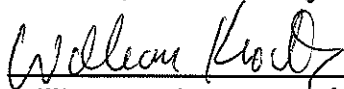
With no further business to conduct for the evening William Krock, Jr. made a motion to adjourn at 7:03 P.M. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

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