

**September 20, 2023**  
**TOWN OF AVILLA**  
**AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MEETING**  
108 S. Main St. Avilla, IN 46710

**THOSE PRESENT:** Phil Puckett, Rita Grocock, Paul Shepherd, Kevin Kelly, Andy Uhl, Kierston Wright, Glen Wills, Chad Rayle, Brian Carroll, Julia Dunlap, Adam Dunlap, Chad Geiger, Matt Getts, Michael Hensinger, Brandon Bryant, Melissa Bryant, Phil Coplin, Rhonda Coplin, Mike Hensinger, Alicia Hensinger, Chris Harlan, Michelle Harlan, Melanie Kellogg.

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

Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. opened the public hearing on Ordinance 1663-8-23 for the 2024 Avilla Town Budget at 6:01 P.M. After no one spoke, he closed the public hearing at 6:02 P.M.

Claims in the amount of \$945,425.00 were submitted to the council for approval. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Phillip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Paul Shepherd made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 16, 2023 meetings as submitted. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Town Managers Report – Adam Dunlap gave his report for the month.

Superintendent's Report – Brian Carroll gave his report for the month.

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, asked the council for permission hire Brownstown Electric to test the town's 3-phase meters. The cost to complete the testing is \$9710.00. Paul Shepherd made a motion to hire Brownstown Electric to complete the project. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, reported to the council that the cost of the electric pole change out was exceeded by \$35,924.00 over budget. He indicated that six additional poles that were not quoted were changed out. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the additional charges. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, asked the council to allow him to purchase six new transformers for stock items through Solomon Corporation. The cost for all six is \$10,350.00. Paul Shepherd made a motion approving the purchase. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

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

Town Marshall, Glen wills, asked permission to put the 2012 Ford Explorer Police Vehicle up for sale. It will be placed in the Town Hall parking lot and sealed bids will be accepted. The money from the sale will go back into the General Fund. The council approved selling of the vehicle.

Glen Wills, Town Marshall, asked the council for permission to purchase quick clot medical kits from North American Tactical. He asked to purchase 24, but the company only has nine available to purchase right now. The cost is \$70.00/each for a total cost of \$630.00. Paul Shepherd made a motion to allow the purchase of the nine right now. They will be paid out of Public Safety Funds. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2– 1 Absent

Town Marshall, Glen Wills, asked the council for permission to purchase three new radar units at a cost of \$2000.00 each. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase not to exceed \$6000.00 and to pay for out of public safety funds. Philip Puckett, Jr seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Fire Chiefs Report – Fire Chief Chad Geiger gave his report for the month.

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

Clerk Treasurer’s Report – Rita Grocock, indicated that she did not have anything.

New Business:

Melanie Kellogg with the Noble County Economic Development Commission gave a presentation on the 2023 EDC Projects they have going on.

Ordinance 1664-9-23 amending the zoning map on Baseline Road to allow 2 acres of DMN, Inc. property to be rezoned from 1-1 (light industrial) to R-2 (Low Density Residential) to construct a residential home, was presented to the council for approval. Paul Shepherd made a motion to suspend the rules, Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Ordinance 1664-9-23 amending the zoning map on Baseline Road to allow 2 acres of DMN, Inc. property to be rezoned from 1-1 (light industrial) to R-2 (Low Density Residential) to construct a residential home, was presented to the council for approval on the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve on the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Ordinance 1664-9-23 amending the zoning map on Baseline Road to allow 2 acres of DMN, Inc. property to be rezoned from 1-1 (light industrial) to R-2 (Low Density Residential) to construct a residential home, was presented to the council for approval on the 2nd reading. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve it on the 2nd reading. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Next item on the agenda was the PHP Health Insurance Renewal. At last month’s meeting it was approved to continue the same plan for another year for town employees. The new Town Manger was not on the insurance program yet and so therefore was not included in the quote. They are asking the town to pay an additional \$4113.09/month. The new monthly cost for all employees would be \$52,577.40. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the additional \$4113.09/month. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

The planning commission requested the Town Council refund the \$100.00 for an application fee for a subdivision to Thomas & June Beeber. The sub-division would have created a non-conforming use, and therefore would not have been approved. Paul Shepherd made a motion to refund the \$100.00, Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

Resident Jamie Luh previously obtained a building permit from the Town of Avilla for \$371.00 to install a double-wide home on her property at 417 S. Main. She is no longer going to proceed with this and was asking for a refund on her building permit funds. Town Manager, Adam Dunlap, is requesting we hold \$50.00 for the administrative fee and refund the balance \$321.00. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve refunding Jamie Luh \$321.00. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

The last item on the agenda for the evening was to set the Trick-or-Treat hours for 2023. After some discussion Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve Trick-or-Treat on October 31, 2023 from 5-7 P.M. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – Absent 1

Old Business: None


Open Discussion:


Town Residents Phil and Rhonda Coplin were present to voice their concerns about concrete that was poured in front of their residence on 1<sup>st</sup> street. There was miscommunication between the town and them about the property in front of their home. The council cleared the problem up and told them the concrete poured in front of their home is a parking space and not a sidewalk. They are welcome to use the parking space.

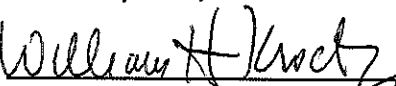
With no further business to conduct for the evening Paul Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 7:05 P.M. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 2 – 1 Absent

AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL

  
Philip Puckett, Jr., Council President

  
Paul Shepherd, Council Member

  
William Krock, Jr., Council Member

ATTEST:

  
Rita Grocock Clerk -Treasurer