

October 18, 2023
TOWN OF AVILLA
AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
108 S. Main St. Avilla, IN 46710

THOSE PRESENT: Phil Puckett, Rita Grocock, Bill Krock, Paul Shepherd, Kevin Kelly, Kierston Wright, Brian Carroll, Adam Dunlap, Chad Geiger, Matt Getts, Michael Hensinger, Brandon Bryant, Melissa Bryant, Lisa Krock, Grace Casewell, Kyle Herron, Kyle Baker, Kameran Baker, Kaydance Baker, Amara Baker, Kara Hand, Ryan Nordon, Chris Arnett, Bill Ley, Allie Daugherty.

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 6:03 P.M.

Claims in the amount of \$560,510.04 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 3 – Nays 0

Paul Shepherd made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2023, meeting as submitted. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

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, reported to the council that the recloser by the corner of S. Main St. and Washington St. has been bypassed and needs to be replaced soon. The replacement will be a reconditioned unit with an 18 - month warranty for a total cost of \$13,495 from Circuit Breaker Sales, LLC. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, reported to the council that the Sensus Base Station needs to be upgraded with a new transceiver, antenna, and Isolation duplexer. The cost of the upgrades is \$18,600. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the purchase. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, presented two quotes for new Electric Transformers to the council. The first quote from Sunbelt Solomon was \$102,860 for 36 transformers and the second quote was from T & R Electric was \$115,790 for 36 transformers. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve Brian to purchase the transformers from Sunbelt Solomon. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, reported to the council it was time for the annual Bobcat Excavator upgrade. The cost this year for the Bobcat is \$2500.

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, explained to the council that the Kautex Textron Lift Station needs some repairs. The total cost of the repairs is \$7801.94 quoted from Evapar. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the expense. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, reported to the council that he purchased a new spare sewer pump for the Avilla Town Hall at a cost of \$1314.71 from Grainger. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nay 0

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, conveyed to the council that the locators that his employees have been using are not working correctly. After speaking with employees with the USIC they explained to him that they use Radiodetection Locators and the distributor for these is C & S Solutions, Inc. The cost is \$11,834.99 for the electric locators and \$6806.99 for the water and wastewater locators. William Krock, Jr made a motion to approve the purchase of both. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, reported to the council that the building that was built over the secondaries at the Wastewater Treatment Plant sweats in the winter. Brian received 3 quotes to have spray insulation put on the walls and ceiling, but he did not feel comfortable with one of the companies, SOTO Insulation because there are not any reviews to check with. The other quotes were from Momper Insulation for \$20,288 and Koala Insulation for \$17,136.36. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase from Koala for \$17,136.36. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, informed the council that he would like to replace the 2002 Chevy Truck with a new one. He received three quotes on trucks. The 2024 Chevy Silverado was \$60,171.00, a 2024 GMC Sierra 3500 HD was 61,646.00, and the 2024 Ford 350 was \$59,094.33. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the purchase of a truck not to exceed \$60,171.00 and the cost to be split between MVH, Water, Electric and Sewer. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, informed the council that the press they use to press accessories on large wire is not building pressure. The one they use now has already been rebuilt once. The employees have located one that can be used on various sizes of wire, and the cost is \$4352.95 from Brownstown Electric. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, reported to the council that he would like to sell the Ford Tractor since he only uses it to mow with the bushhog. The tractor is a Ford 340b Diesel and was purchased in the mid 1980's. Council approve putting the tractor up for sale.

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, reported to the council that the curb by Harper Funeral Home needs replaced. Milestone Contractors quoted to replace the curb for \$53.25/ft. at a total cost of \$4792.50. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve hiring Milestone Contractors to complete the project. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Marshalls Report – Glen Wills was absent; Officer Chris Arnett gave the report for the month.

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

Chad Geiger, Fire Chief, reported the council that a ladder needed to be replaced. He obtained a quote from Municipal Emergency Services to purchase an ALCO-LITE Pumper Roof Ladder 14' for a total cost of \$851.08. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the purchase. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Park Board Report – President, Lisa Krock, was present to inform the council that she is receiving quotes to replace the light fixtures in the Community Center. October 31, 2023, will be Trick or Treat in the Park, with a costume judging contest.

Clerk Treasurer's Report – Rita Grocock, informed the council that Town Resident Jamie Luh recently paid \$168.00 meter deposit for a new construction she was going to build, but is no longer in need of the meter because she has purchased a home elsewhere. Paul Shepherd made a motion to refund her deposit money. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Rita Grocock, Clerk Treasurer, conveyed to the council that it is was time for the annual CD renewal of \$353,819.10 that was at Community State Bank. She obtained three new quotes for the next year. Community State Bank quoted 5.25% with no restrictions for taking out early. Horizon Bank quoted 5.25% without indicating anything on the quote about early with draw. The third quote was from Campbell & Fetter Bank for 3.25%. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the quote from Community State Bank for 5.25%. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

New Business:

The first item on the agenda for the evening was the appointment of Katie Schaller to the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Grace Casewell spoke briefly about the appointment of Katie. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to appoint Katie to the board. Paul Shepherd seconded the appointment.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Next item on the agenda was to appoint a new Park Board member. Councilman, Philip Puckett, Jr. made the announcement and welcomed Mike Hensinger to the board.

The Town of Avilla was taking sealed bids to purchase the Police Departments Retired 2009 Ford Explorer. There were eleven sealed bids received. The high bid went to Kara Hand for \$6000. Paul Shepherd made a motion to sell the 2009 Ford Explorer for \$6000. Philip Puckett, Jr seconded the motion. It must be paid for and picked up by Monday 10/23/2023 by 4:00 P.M. or it goes to the next highest bidder.

Vote: 2 Ayes – 1 Abstain

The 2024 Salary Resolution was presented to the council for discussion on employee raises for 2024 year. After some discussion, Rita Grocock spoke about giving her employee, Petra Papai a higher raise. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to give a 5% employee wage increase across the board, except Petra Papai will receive a 6% increase. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Next item on the agenda was a discussion about possible allocating funds to donate to the Avilla Chamber of Commerce. There was some discussion on whether this was a legal donation. Town Attorney, Seth Tipton, said he thought it was, but would look further into it first. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to donate \$3000/per year going forward contingent with the findings of Seth and it is okay to make the donation. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

The Planning Commission has been making a request to obtain funds to make updates to the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances. The cost to complete this \$67,000. Clerk Treasurer, Rita Grocock, described how this could be funded to the council. In the year 2024, \$20,000. can be paid out of the General Fund, \$18,000. out of CCI, and \$29,000. out of CEDIT. Paul Shepherd made a motion to approve the request to be paid as stated above all in 2024. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Last item on the agenda was the sale of .21 acres of land to NIPSCO for gas service upgrades. The plat number 59-09-34-100-410.000-005 for a cost of \$10.00. The property is at Albion Street and Minor Road. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the sale of land to NIPSCO. Paul Shepherd seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Old Business: None

With no further business to conduct for the evening Paul Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 P.M. Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

After a short discussion, the meeting was opened back up at 7:33 one item had not been completed.


Ordinance 1663-8-23 for the 2024 Budget was read again for the 2nd reading. A motion to approve the ordinance was made by Paul Shepherd, William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

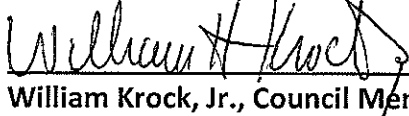
With no further business to conduct the meeting Paul Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 P.M. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

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