March 5, 2025 Minutes

Arthur called the meeting to order at 5pm.

This was followed by the Pledge to the Flag and the Lord's Prayer.

In attendance was Arthur Kirtley (Board President), Barbara Johnson (Council Member), Robert Hutchens (Council Member), Suzan Myers (Attorney), Michael Straley III (Clerk Treasurer), Brad Fisher (Marshal), and Travis Jones via zoom (Deputy).

Arthur called on Zalo Wilson. He was not there.

Robert made a motion to approve the minutes for February 5, 2025. Barbara second the motion. Motion was carried all in favor.

Barbara made a motion to approve the Bank of New York Transfers. Barbara second the motion. Motion was carried all in favor.

Robert made a motion to approve the claims. Barbara second the motion. Motion was carried all in favor.

Arthur called for council information. There was none.

Arthur called for attorney information. There was none.

Arthur called for Employee information. Brad states Clean up days will be on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. He will be looking at property and letting them know the clean up days was happening. Brad stated Zalo had concerns over the parking along the street on Sherman street. When they are exiting the funeral home in the alley, they are unable to make that turn. Brad stopped by to speak with the resident today and he wasn't there. Brad said he would continue to stop by to discuss it with him. With that being said the curbs will be painted this summer. Next Brad discussed the tornado siren. With the tower coming down we need to plan ahead for this. He had 2 quotes from Sentry. This is who we currently have now. One was for a 7hp for \$28,422.00 and a 10hp for \$27,710.00. The 7hp has a built-in battery backup that would allow for the siren to work even without power. He recommended we try to get the 7hp one. This price is for the siren as well as complete setup. Michael stated he had contacted Merchants Bank of Indiana for a possible donation. Arthur asked where this would be located. Brad said the best spot is where it is currently. Suzan asked if we would be without a siren for any amount of time. Brad said if we can get this approved at the April meeting it should give us plenty of time. They told him it would take 4-6 weeks. Brad said it would be a 50ft poll with 20ft being in the ground. This would leave 30ft out and it would be like a utility pole. Brad said all of the internal items would be under lock and key the same as the current one.

Arthur called for Clerks information.

Michael stated that we had a Pay app#2 for the water tower in the amount of \$172,721.03 Robert made a motion to approve the pay app#2, Barbara second the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

The next was Pay App#3 for \$107,924.43. Robert made the motion to approve the pay app#3. Barabra second the motion, motion carried all in favor.

Michael stated the Annual financial report has been completed and needed the boards signature.

Michael stated that the Union Township had some questions about the contract and were confident they would have it signed on March 13<sup>th</sup>. If they don't have it signed, they will pay us for the time we have covered.

Mike said we needed to have it approved to have clean up days on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The price is \$200 an hour. The first 20 tons is free then \$34 a ton after. Last year we went .42 over.

Barbara made a motion to approve the clean up days on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Robert seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

Arthur called for old business. There was none.

Arthur called for new business. There was none.

Arthur called for citizens' comments.

Gary Girton stated he doesn't live in town but thought he should come up. He stated the area planning voted no against the bike trail that they had been working on. He stated that they should give due diligence before voting no. The are planning person is not voting for themselves but for the community. Suzan stated that a grant was given for the plans to be looked at. Suzan said this would give an opportunity for more things for younger people to do in the community. She said they would not be taking land from people. He said the board needed to speak with John about this. Michael asked where the funds were coming from to pay for the bike trail if it was a grant or tax payer money. They said a grant would pay for a portion. Michael asked who would patrol it would more police need hired to monitor criminal activity on the bike path. They said the studies showed no criminal items happen on bike trails. Michael stated that wasn't true not long ago, 2 girls were murdered on a bike trail in Indianapolis. Michael asked how would it be maintained, would this be grants or tax payer money and there was no answer. Michael stated his opinion we are the highest taxed county in Indiana. If we have funds to be used for a bike trail that would service a small portion of the county maybe they should look at cutting our taxes and giving it back to the people of the community. Michael stated this was only his opinion, but he was against it. Gary stated everyone had a right to their opinion. Those people need to do their research.

Gary then stated that the council meeting was on Monday and Michael wasn't there. Did he not contact anyone. Michael stated that there was miscommunication, and he didn't think they were going to need this fund anymore. Suzan stated the bond was going to be completed in time. Gary said those funds were there for us to use and we should use it.

arthur Kirtley

Arthur Kirtley, President

Robert Hutchens, Council Member

Barbara Johnson, Council Member

Michael L Straley III, Clerk Treasurer