

Town of Darmstadt, Indiana

SETTLED 1822

INCORPORATED 1973

Minutes of March 19th 2024

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript.

TOWN COUNCIL

Cecil Poag, Council President
Ray Engler, Council Member
Eric J. Gries, Council Member
Crystal Kahre, Council Member

CLERK-TREASURER

Mallory Lowe
P.O. Box 20
Darmstadt, In 47618

Cecil Poag called the town meeting to order at 6:30pm. In attendance were Clerk-Treasurer Mallory Lowe, council members Ray Engler, Eric Gries, Crystal Kahre, and Town Attorney Josh Claybourn.

Engler made a motion, seconded by Gries to accept the minutes from last month. Motion passed 4-0 voice vote.
Engler made a motion, seconded by Kahre to accept last month's financial report. Motion passed 4-0 voice vote.
Engler made a motion, seconded by Gries to accept the accounts payable claims. Motion passed 4-0 voice vote.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mallory Lowe stated that Kristen Duetsch, our HR director at New Focus, completed updating our job descriptions and employee handbook. Lowe completed and submitted all the questionnaires for American Publishing and provided them with a full copied set of all our town ordinances and resolutions going back to our incorporation in 1973. They will continue to work on codifying and updating them. American Publishing informed us it could be a few months before they are complete. Lowe advised she completed the town's municipal annual report for 2023 and submitted it to the state by the Feb 29th deadline. Lowe stated that our town insurance company, Torian, contacted us to verify that Paul Freeman is now off the town council. Torian advised that they will be able to return Darmstadt back to regular municipal insurance coverage during our renewal, if we can provide documentation, that the high liability council member, Paul Freeman, who committed the crimes against the town, is no longer on the town council. Lowe stated that Torian Insurance notified Darmstadt after Freeman's illegal contracts and thefts, that the municipal insurance company we had for many years, dropped us, from the council president's criminal activity, confessions and police report. Darmstadt lost our coverage and our agent could only find one municipal company that agreed to give us a policy, while having a high liability council member, remaining on council. Freeman was notified of the extra insurance fees he was costing the town but refused to step down during his last term. Torian sent notification to Darmstadt, that they recommend we plan to move our liability coverage back to Selective Insurance, effective on our next renewal this year, now that Freeman is no longer on the town council. Documentation of current council and employees for the insurance company can be submitted, before our October renewal period, so that we may go back to our regular rates since there are no high liability persons employed here now.

Lowe stated that Reedy Financial completed all of the RDA's annual financial reports on Gateway since there has been no accounts created, submissions or reports since the RDA's creation 4 years ago. All is now up to date and submitted to state. Lowe advised that the final fire territory meeting will be next Tuesday at 6pm at German Twp Fire department, on Tuesday, April 2nd at 9am we have a seminar in Haubstadt hosted by Trust Indiana, a Roundtable meeting with AIM on Thursday April 11th at 5pm in Poseyville and our Annual Darmstadt Clean Up Day will be Saturday, April 13th meeting at 8am in the Shopping Center parking lot.

Fire Dept Report

Lowe read aloud the fire report submitted by Brandon Zimmer via email who was unable to attend. The Scott Township Fire Department made a total of 13 runs in the Darmstadt area. 10 were EMS calls, 1 Community Paramedic Visit, 2 False alarms. Average response time was just under 5 minutes.

Sheriff Report

Deputy Nilssen reported that they continue to work with the flock camera company to receive and install soon.

Maintenance Dept Report

Cecil Poag stated that the maintenance department had 28 locates and 16 service calls since the last meeting. They have completed putting rock on the edge of Hoing Road. Aaron and Mick completed the March septic tank inspections. Poag advised that Aaron and Mick attended the GeoSpatial Training and also completed their 811 safety training classes. Mick and Aaron removed and cleaned up the plow and salt equipment from the dump truck and replaced a few road signs around town that were worn out.

Old Business

New Business

1. Ordinance 2024-3 Fire Territory

Josh Claybourn advised that he will email Ted and Joe about the updates on our fire territory contracts and ordinances. Claybourn advised that Council will vote on the fire territory contract and town ordinance at the final public fire territory meeting held at German Township Fire Department on March 26th at 6pm.

Attorney comments

No further comments

Board Member comments

Crystal Kahre stated that she attended the first solid waste board meeting and it went well. She stated that there will be a total of 9 meetings a year for the Solid Waste Board.

Eric Gries stated that Darmstadt Clean up day will be Saturday, April 13th for anyone who would like to participate and volunteer, to please let him know.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm

Attest:

Mallory Lowe

Clerk-Treasurer