

**TOWN OF
DARMSTADT, INDIANA**

SETTLED 1822

INCORPORATED 1973

**Minutes of
December 22th 2020**

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript.

TOWN COUNCIL

Paul Freeman, President
Aaron Kendall, Council Member
Ken Godeke, Council Member
Ray Engler, Council Member

CLERK-TREASURER

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

**The 12-8-22 meeting was suspended until Tuesday, December 22nd at 2pm remotely.
December 22, 2020 at 2pm Continuation of December 8th Meeting on December 22, 2020**

Town Attorney Jason Spindler called the meeting to order via phone at 2pm. Present was Clerk-Treasurer Mallory Lowe, Council members Aaron Kendall, Ken Godeke and Ray Engler. Also present was Superintendent Jeff Goerges, Assistant Superintendent Aaron Enlow. Attending via phone were Paul Freeman & Jason Spindler.

Jason Spindler advised that he is submitting rezoning. BZA has it as last phase in process, auditor's office asked about our town ordinance on it. Spindler noted the APC meeting is January 14th and Darmstadt rezoning meeting will be February 9th.

Ray Engler advised that we need to get appraisals on the bank building. Kendall made a motion, seconded by Engler to have appraisals done. Motion passed by 4-0 voice vote. Jason will arrange to have the appraisals completed.

Lowe advised that council's payroll has gone over budget this year from the extra meeting pay Freeman added for himself and Godeke. Lowe noted that we make the budget in August, council has the public hearing in September and annual budget is adopted by the council every year in October. The added stipends and payroll increases to the council's payroll that were set in December after budget had been submitted sent us \$5,400 over budget in the general fund. Lowe advised she spoke with the state about this issue and that we need a public council vote to transfer appropriations from the General Contractual fund to the Council payroll fund to cover the overage. Kendall made a motion to make the transfer of \$5,400 of appropriations from General Contractual to General Council Payroll to cover the overage, seconded by Engler. Motion passed by 4-0 voice vote.

Spindler advised we needed to visit and conclude our payroll ordinance for 2021. Godeke stated he had a motion on the floor from December 8th. Motion was for the original 2021 payroll suggestions that Paul Freeman stated of a 1.5% increase for Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Clerk-Treasurer, a \$250 performance bonus to Aaron Enlow, a \$500 performance bonus to Jeff Goerges. A change in health stipend to change Aaron Enlow's annual stipend from \$9,000 a year down to \$8,000 and change Jeff Goerges health stipend from \$7,560 up to \$8,000, changing both maintenance positions to a flat \$8,000 a year health insurance stipend. Engler seconded the motion. Ken Godeke voted Aye, Aaron Kendall, Paul Freeman and Ray Engler all 3 voted Nay. Motion did not pass.

Public discussion between Council, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Clerk-Treasurer and town Residents over the proposed changes went on concerning the cut in annual performance bonuses, whether the clerk-treasurer should receive the retirement benefit which is one annual stipend check paid April 1st of each year that maintenance receives and over the changes to the maintenance personnel's health insurance stipend which is paid bi-weekly added to their paychecks. Paul Freeman went into a long rant stating as long as he is on council the Clerk-Treasurer will never receive benefits. Freeman stated he was abstaining from any further vote on this. At the end of the long discussions, the council decided to vote on the same exact proposed suggestions that were previously suggested to be voted on again. Aaron Kendall made a motion, seconded by Engler. Motion passed with a 3-0 voice vote. Paul Freeman abstained from voting. Engler hand wrote Freeman's suggestions on payroll ordinance that were voted on, council signed.

Meeting adjourned 3:48pm.

Attest

Mallory Lowe
Town Clerk-Treasurer

