

**TOWN OF
DARMSTADT, INDIANA**

SETTLED 1822

INCORPORATED 1973

**Minutes of
August 11th 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

Board president, Paul Freeman, called the town meeting to order at 7:30pm. In attendance were President Paul Freeman, Clerk-Treasurer Mallory Lowe, council members Aaron Kendall, Ken Godeke and Ray Engler. Also present was Superintendent Jeff Goerges and attorney Jason Spindler.

Godeke made a motion, seconded by Engler to accept the minutes from last month. Motion passed 3-0 voice vote. Godeke made a motion, seconded by Engler to approve last month's financial report. Motion passed 3-0 voice vote. Engler made a motion, seconded by Godeke to approve the accounts payable claims. Motion passed 3-0 voice vote.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: Our budget meeting with Robert Norris from the State Dept of Local Government Finance this week. I still have info to enter into Gateway before then. The Gateway program has been down a couple times because of several glitches. Robert and I will go over numbers and make any necessary adjustments. Our public budget hearing will be next month in September and then our budget adoption will be at our October meeting. Budget is what sets our property tax levies in town, I'm keeping our levies at the max. Our property tax levies are for the General fund and in the CCD fund.

In the Utility Department: We continue to receive a couple calls for pool fillings and had one hose left on. I've mailed out all the sump pump letters, shared it on our town website and on the facebook page a few times. Eyewitness News called yesterday wanting to do a story on our sewer inspections, I told them I really didn't think that was news worthy but that was their call. I'll be applying the sewer rate hike this month on the bills I mail out at the end of the month. I will also work to apply the \$20 credits on the homes that have completed inspections, before I calculate and print the bills.

I made a spreadsheet for Jeff so that he could hopefully keep everything organized, track and record residents contacting us with their info, date of inspections and any illegal connections. I will be recording when credits have been posted.

There have been some problems apparently with mail delivery lately mostly along Boonville-New Harmony road. I've had at least 7 people call letting me know they didn't receive their sewer bill or they received someone else's bill. I've instructed them all to contact the post office who delivers their mail to report the errors and get it straightened out, as we are not responsible for mail delivery and that statement is printed on the bills. I gave them a couple more days to get their payment in but they will have to stay on top of it next month.

In General Town Items: As you may know, the Frog Follies were cancelled this year which always brings a ton of revenue to this area. However, in October, for the first time, the Eville Shindig will be coming to the 4H center which is also a 3-day weekend car show like the Frog Follies. It will October 15th thru the 18th.

Old Business

1. Sewer Sump Pump Inspections/Outflow update

Jeff noted that he has been working on arranging inspections with the plumber. Jeff noted that there have been about 80 inspections completed so far. Jeff is pleased with the plumbing company we are working for the inspections. There are a few homes that have made corrections before their inspection, so the system is improving and we are closer to our goal of removing all sump pumps and gutters from our sewer system.

2. Update on Hillsdale Land/House/Road

Kendall will work on getting an appraisal on the house.

3. Bank Building Lease/Advertising

We will advertise that the building is available for lease starting in October.

New Business

1. Closure of Railroad Street/Repairs

Engler stated that Tri-State Equipment on Inglefield and railroad tracks is causing road damage and blocking Railroad street across the road from them with large delivery trucks. The shoulders are damaged and collapsed a culvert. Engler has spoke to the business and asked them to stop using Railroad street for their trucks. Engler spoke with Jason Spindler and sent them a letter. Engler also spoke to Commissioner Jeff Hatfield about what could be done. Hatfield looked into and found that the business does not have proper permits for their docks and traffic. Tri-State Equipment is in violation. Engler noted that we closed Railroad street to stop the problems. Fines from the county are now in effect for this company with sits in Vanderburgh county, not Darmstadt. Engler advised that the trucks are quite a safety concern.

Superintendent Report

Jeff Goerges stated that they had 23 service calls last month and 9 this month so far. Jeff noted that he took pictures from the work they've been doing on Wortman road to dig the ditch and work on the side of the road. The water was coming over the road and had a drop off. Jeff also stated that he is still working on the trash truck damage on St Joseph Avenue when the trash truck overturned and dug several gouges deep into the pavement. Jeff is working with the insurance company and the insurance has offered \$6,500 to get road repairs. Freeman suggested that he and Jeff meet with the estimator from David Enterprises. Kendall suggested that perhaps we can get David Enterprises down to \$8k and insurance company up to \$8k. Spindler will send a letter. Jeff noted that the tractor broke down again. Jeff advised that the State Police caught a speeder that flew passed Aaron on the mower very unsafely.

Fire Dept Report

Not present

Deputy Sheriff Report

Not present

Board member comments

No further comments

Attorney comments

Spindler introduced the Ordinance 2020-7 removing any criminal prosecution from the town's original ordinance from 1987. Godeke made a motion, seconded by Engler to accept the ordinance. Motion passed by 4-0 voice vote.

Resident comments

Carol Schlumpf agreed with Ray Engler about the road damage around Inglefield and Railroad Street from the heavy truck traffic at the Tri-State Equipment business.

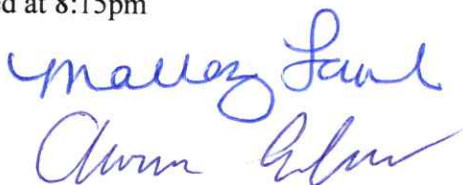
Mrs. Robert Hayden noted that Mr. Mark Davis has not completed the landscape work on his property that he said he would do. She said there are areas by mailbox and fire hydrant that have not been trimmed. Mrs. Hayden asked if the board could send him a letter stating to finish and continue to keep property maintained properly.

Carol Schlumpf asked about the tree limbs on Inglefield near Darmstadt road on north side could be trimmed. Jeff noted that corner was in the county. Carol Schlumpf asked about a post on the corner of road could pulled out.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Attest:

Mallory Lowe
Clerk-Treasurer



Mallory Lowe
Aaron Godeke