

# Town of Fortville

04.15.2024

## Town Council Meeting

### Opening of Meeting:

The meeting was held at Fortville Town Hall, 714 E. Broadway. Meeting was called to order by Council President Tonya Davis at 6:30pm.

### Present:

Tonya Davis, President; Ryan Rummell, Vice President; Libby Wyatt, Council Member; Fritz Fentz, Council Member; Vanessa Battaglia, Council Member; Joe Renner, Town Manager; Alex Intermill, Town Attorney.

### Not Present:

Missy Glazier

### Approval of Agenda:

Ryan Rummell makes the motion to approve the agenda, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

### Approval of Minutes

Ryan Rummell makes the motion to approve the April 1, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes. Libby Wyatt seconds the motion. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

### New Business:

- a. Council President – Tonya Davis to read & consider signing the Proclamation for Tree City, USA’s Arbor Day on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – Tonya reads and approves Tree City, USA Proclamation. Joe Renner states the number of trees and types are posted on the Town’s website.
- b. Council to consider an Exception to the Domestic Animals Ordinance to allow intended accumulation of bees at 713 Breakers Lane. Requested by Jennifer Powell - Jennifer Powell presents request to the Town Council. She states that a certified letter has gone to neighbors, and she has had conversations with neighbors, and all seem “excited” about her having bees. Jennifer confirms HOA has approved bees as well. Vanessa Battaglia asks if Jennifer would be willing to host a talk about the best beekeeping practices down the road and states she would be happy to do that.

Ryan Rummell asks if there were any negative responses and Jennifer states that her immediate neighbor was concerned. Vanessa asks if she would be open to having an EpiPen available. Jennifer states that she hasn't seen the requirement for her to have an EpiPen but would talk with her neighbor about it. Additional conversation ensues. Dave Beatson asks how many beehives there are and Jennifer states 2. Additional discussion about beehives at community garden - Ryan moves to allow exception for bees, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

- c. Council to review annual Tax Abatement compliance forms (CF-1) – Adam Zaklikowski presents the CF-1 statements from Taxman, Thursday Pools, and Debo Properties. Discussion was had regarding the Council review process and the nature of substantial compliance with estimate. Discussion regarding Taxman salary complies even though the # of jobs has not been met due to Covid-19 and Main Street project. Ryan Rummell moves to approve all 3 Compliance Statements, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

### Old Business:

N/A

### Department Head Reports:

#### Town Manager:

Joe Renner thanks FAI for the work performed on grant for signs. He updates the Council on attendance to the water conference and efforts to update inventory of water lines. Joe states he will be out of the office at the IN Municipal Manager's Association meeting.

#### Parks Manager:

Not present.

#### Planning & Building Director:

N/A

#### Clerk-Treasurer:

Not present.

#### Police Chief:

Not present.

Town Attorney:

N/A

Public Comment:

Bob Sterrett with FAI states that the Community Foundation of Hancock County will be touring Fortville on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Council Members:

Tonya Davis

N/A

Ryan Rummell

Asks about the landscaping and maintenance of recently acquired former funeral home property. Joe states Heath is trying to stay on top of it.

Libby Wyatt

Thanks FAI for fence around the parking lot.

Fritz Fentz

N/A

Vanessa Battaglia

N/A

Approve and Sign Vouchers:

Ryan Rummell makes the motion to approve and sign vouchers, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

Adjourn:

Tonya Davis makes the motion to adjourn at 7:02, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

President: 

Tonya Davis

Clerk-Treasurer: 

Missy Glazier



TREE CITY USA  
A11A1bor Day Foundation Program

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## OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

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- WHEREAS** in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees, *and*
- WHEREAS** this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, *and*
- WHEREAS** Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, *and*
- WHEREAS** trees can be a solution to combating climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife, *and*
- WHEREAS** trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products, *and*
- WHEREAS** trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, beautify our community, *and*
- WHEREAS** trees - wherever planted - are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Tonya Davis, Fortville Town Council President, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as **ARBOR DAY**  
In the Town of Fortville, I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, *and*

**FURTHER,** I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

**DATED THIS**

15 day of April, 2024

Council President

@Arbor Day Foundation