

Town of Fortville

09.16.2024

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 6:30 pm. Moment of silence was observed for Dan Justice.

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; Adriana Krueger, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer.

Not Present:

N/A

Approval of Agenda:

Ryan Rummell makes the motion to approve the agenda, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0. Ryan Rummell makes motion to consolidate public hearings A & B, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion is passed 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

Tonya Davis makes the motion to approve the minutes for the September 3, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes. Libby Wyatt seconds the motion. Motion carries, passes 4-0; 1 abstains.

New Business:

- a. Jared Hiner – Kammy’s Kause addresses Council. He states they have had a record-breaking year and asks Council for any feedback regarding the events of this year. Tonya Davis reiterated the overall approval of the Friday night event and requests that it be repeated more often. Jared was concerned Excise had shown up and threatened to shut the event down. There are no open container laws in Indiana so he wasn’t sure if this was a rumor or something they will need to consider moving forward. Alex Intermill stated that it really did depend on where the beverage came from, but it is something the DORA would address. Artisan and IPA breweries do have carry out privileges that other larger beverage companies do not have.

Ryan Rummell makes motion to recess council meeting for Public Hearing at 6:37 pm, Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

- b. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Council to hear first reading of the 2025 Budget from Beth Marsh, Bookkeeping Plus. Budget will be voted on during the October 7, 2024, council meeting. The complete document is available through the gateway but will be read aloud to the public.
- c. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Council to hear the presentation of additional appropriations for the Parks department by Beth Marsh.

Ryan Rummel makes a motion to close public hearing and reopen council meeting at 6:43 pm. Vanessa Battaglia seconds. Motion passed, approved 5-0.

- d. Ryan Rummel makes motion to approve additional appropriations presented for the Parks Department. Libby Wyatt seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.
- e. **Council to consider Ordinance 2024-9A, Amending & Restating the Rental Fees within the Town of Fortville.** Heath Luther presented the minor changes made to the fee schedule. The gym was removed from the application and minor verbiage was changed for athletics fields. Three new batting cages have been put up for the public to use. Organized sports teams will rent them for \$25 each. Ryan Rummell makes motion to approve Ordinance 2024-9A, Libby Wyatt seconds, Motion carries and is passed 5-0.
- f. Dave Thompson, Water Plant Superintendent, addressed the Council concerning water tower maintenance. New Chloride limits have been lowered by the EPA. Iron remains an issue which is causing the intermediate brown water. There are some cosmetic problems with the softener system, but he will be looking into resolving those soon. Dave has presented a possible resolution to the issue by using Polymer as it helps clump the iron in order to possibly decrease the iron issues. In any event, he will check all the filters first before the iron issue is addressed. Dave has indicated that reverse osmosis may be another possibility to resolve the water softener issue. Joe Renner commented that lead content in the water is minimal to none and usually shows up primarily in older homes. Fortville is compliant with the EPA's standard lead levels. Water levels will be checked again come November first.

Unfinished/Old Business:

N/A

Department Head Reports:

Town Manager:

Joe Renner stated there is still a considerable need for additional hires for the street department. The growth of the town, while very good, comes with added strain on those few employees working in the street department. Dave has been working very hard, but more attention will be needed to hire additional personnel to make sure nothing falls through the cracks. Patrick Osborn is a new hire that started in June and

Tony Buechler started the Monday prior to this meeting. Joe wanted to remind everyone about *Visit the Ville* on Wednesday from 5:30-8:30 for the concert.

Parks Manager:

Heath Luther presented the Council with an option for a mobile stage. This will facilitate future festivals. He is looking for opinions from the council about whether they would like to consider future festivals. Playgrounds are in the process of being refurbished. The design and cost have been approved and they should be open to the public within several weeks. He knows there have been complaints from residents, but there really isn't anything they can do at this time as the remodeling of the playgrounds is much needed and takes time to address efficiently. The shelter house and restrooms for the park remain open. "Coming soon" signage will be available and put up as soon as possible.

Planning & Building Director:

No comment

Clerk-Treasurer:

No comment

Police Chief:

Absent

Town Attorney:

No comment

Public Comment:

No comment

Council Members:

Tonya Davis

No comment

Ryan Rummell

No comment

Libby Wyatt

No comment

Fritz Fentz

No comment

Vanessa Battaglia

Wanted the public to know the Senate has passed a bill that required all foreign corporations to submit an application for property purchase approval. This was meant to curtail adversarial countries from buying up land in Indiana. She will post more about it on her personal Facebook page for those who would like to do some more research on it.

Approve and Sign Vouchers:

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

Adjourn:

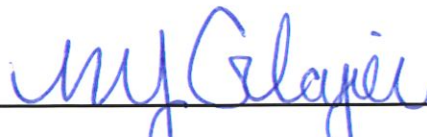
Tonya Davis makes the motion to adjourn at 7:33 pm, Ryan Rummel seconds. Motion carries, passes 5-0.

President: _____



Tonya Davis

Clerk-Treasurer: _____



Missy Glazier