

MEETING MINUTES
POSEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Date of Meeting: May 14, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Justin Rutledge at 5:30 PM.

PRESENT

Justin Rutledge, Jodie Rankin, Michael Baehl, and Clerk-Treasurer Christy Foster (left meeting at approximately 5:40pm)

Virtual Attendee's:

Derick Wiggins, Jonathan Smith, Rutledges

In person Attendee's:

list attached to minutes.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Just prior to the beginning of the meeting, Clerk-Treasurer Christy Foster asked for a moment to speak once the meeting was called to order. She was given the floor and she announced that she was resigning her position as Clerk-Treasurer, effective 5/14/2024. She read her Resignation Letter, turned her key fob over to Marshal Charles Carter and then left the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes were presented from the 4/9/2024 Executive Session Meeting and the 4/9/2024 Regular Meeting.

A Motion to approve the 4/9/2024 Executive Session Meeting Minutes was made by Jodie Rankin, 2nd by Micheal Baehl.

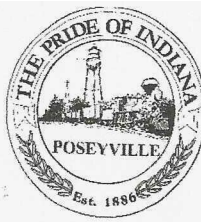
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

A Motion to approve the 4/9/2024 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin.

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

CLAIMS

The Claims Docket was emailed to the Council on 5.14.2024 prior to the meeting, much to the delight of Council members. Jodie asked about 811 payments and Mike explained that he thought the Town must pay to be a member of 811 and the Town pays based on the number of



locates called in, but he was not sure what the rate structure was. The Council agreed it could be looked at in the future to determine what the Town is required to pay.

**A Motion to approve the Claims was made by Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank reconciliations for May 2024 were presented.

**A Motion to approve the May Reconciliations was made by Jodie Rankin, 2nd by Mike Baehl.
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Theresa Bratcher announced that the Farmer's Market is getting ready to kick off on June 4th. She said they are hoping to have a large tent set up on the patio area of the Community Center. Mike Baehl cautioned Theresa that they need to check with the State to see if they will need a "stage permit" because he believes another group had to get one for the same kind of tent on the patio. Theresa asked who she would contact and Justin said it would likely be the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.

Theresa also announced that August 20th will be "Safety Night" at the Farmer's Market and plans include having several public safety agencies present to interact with citizens.

BILLING FOR NITRATE PLANT

Derek Wiggins with Midwestern Engineers, Inc. was present via Zoom. He had previously emailed pay requests from Huntingburg Machine Works in the amount of \$123,475 and Midwestern Engineers in the amount of \$42,032 for work at the Water Treatment Plant.

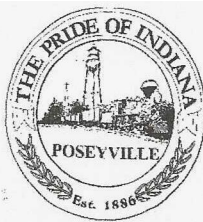
A Motion to approve the Huntingburg Machine Works pay request was made by Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin.

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

A Motion to approve the Midwestern Engineers, Inc. pay request was made by Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin.

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

Jodie asked Derek about when we need to pick the color of the water tower. He said we will probably need to do so soon. He said he will get ahold of the contractor to obtain some color cards and will give them to the Council when he receives them.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Town Marshal Charles Carter reported there was a good turnout for the Town-wide Yard Sale. He said he registered approximately 10 golf carts throughout the day. Jodie said she recently met with Charles to discuss Ordinances related to property violations and she appreciated his good suggestions for Ordinance updates.

Mike asked Charles what the speed limit was on unmarked town streets and Charles responded 30mph. The Council briefly commented that 30mph seemed too fast for town streets, and Charles said he believed to change the speed limit, the Town would have to pay for a traffic study before passing an Ordinance. The Council asked Charles to research the issue further and report back with any findings.

UTILITY DEPARTMENTS

Just prior to the meeting, Utility Operator Jeremy Farrar emailed the Council a quote from Huntingburg Machine Works to complete work on the backwash system for the water plant. This will avoid having to put the Town under a boil order several times each year when maintenance processes are conducted on the water tower. Justin commented that when he talked to Jeremy about getting quotes for this project, he had asked him to attempt to get at least three quotes. Jodie and Mike said they thought Jeremy said he did reach out to three companies, but only received Huntingburg Machine Works' quote. Justin asked that this decision be tabled until we can find out for sure if more than one company was contacted for a quote. Justin also commented that the Council will likely have to call a Special Meeting in the next week or so to act on this since the lead time to obtain the needed valves may be extended.

A Motion to table the backwash project quote was made by Jodie Rankin, 2nd by Mike Baehl.

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

STREET DEPARTMENT

The Council was provided with a quote from Joe Lupfer for patching holes in the streets. Justin asked that this also be tabled until he could talk to Jeremy about whether more quotes were solicited for this project.

A Motion to table the street patching quote was made by Jodie Rankin, 2nd by Mike Baehl.

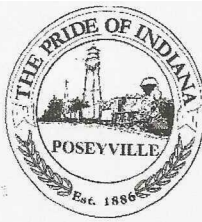
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Council was presented a quote from Allstate Tower for repairs to the communication tower at the fire station.

A Motion to table the tower quote was made by Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin.

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)



PARKS DEPARTMENT

Jodie announced that Heart of Poseyville organized another Pick Up Poseyville day and the group of volunteers and high school students did a tremendous job painting curbs, trimming trees, painting the park sign, installing the playground at the ball parks, etc. The Council expressed its great appreciation for all of the hard work!

Justin informed the Council that he had responded to Duke Energy's inquiry about LED lighting for the town. A Duke representative used the "Contact Us" feature on the Town website to inquire about upgrading the remaining few Town outdoor lights to LED. Justin said he spoke with the representative who explained that they would do a field audit for free to identify any lights that have not been converted to LED and then send Justin a report. The Town could then decide whether or not to utilize a program that Duke Energy offers to upgrade the lights at no cost to the Town. Justin said he hoped to have more information by the June meeting.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Justin explained that the Town recently posted a job opening for the Community Center Manager position with a salary of \$5,000/year. He said the Council was very fortunate to have received 15 applications from many well qualified individuals. Of those 15, the Council met in Executive Session and decided to interview 3 candidates. Those interviews already occurred, and Justin said it was time to hire someone if the Council felt comfortable doing so.

Jodie commented that we had very good candidates and she was appreciative of all the interest.

A Motion was made by Jodie Rankin to hire Lori Motz as the Community Center Manager at a pay rate of \$416.67 per month, 2nd by Mike Baehl.

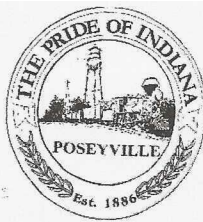
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

There was discussion on how to pay Lori for the partial month of May. Justin said he would contact her with the offer and if she accepts, she could be paid half of the regular monthly rate for May.

A Motion was made by Mike Baehl to pay Lori Motz half of the regular monthly rate for May, 2nd by Jodie Rankin.

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

Jodie asked about declaring the desk in the Community Center Conference Room as surplus. Justin agreed that it would be a good idea to try to sell it to someone because it is not needed at the Community Center or any other Town offices. Mike asked if we should wait until we clean out the room and just make one surplus declaration for all items that we want to get rid of. Justin said he thought it would be good to go ahead and declare the desk surplus because it takes up so much room.



**A Motion was made by Jodie Rankin to declare the desk surplus, 2nd by Mike Baehl.
Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)**

Jodie said she had been working on new rental rates for the Community Center because the current rate structure is confusing and hard to follow. She proposed a new rental rate of \$200 (\$100 rental + \$100 refundable deposit) and a half-day rental rate of \$100 (\$50 rental + \$50 refundable deposit). No action was taken at this time but will likely be revisited during the June meeting.

CEMETERY

Justin asked Marshal Carter if the mowing crews were doing better about blowing grass out of the roadway and he said they were doing good.

Mike asked about contacting Eric Bender, the owner of the mowing company, to make sure the cemetery was mowed for Memorial Day. Justin and Jodie said they thought the contract specifically mentioned mowing for holidays, but they were not positive. Justin said it would be fine to contact Eric or Jason Murphy about holiday mowing.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Due to the Clerk-Treasurer's resignation, the Council discussed signers on the Town's bank accounts.

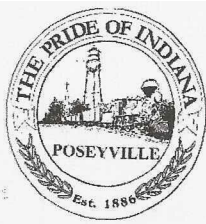
A Motion to remove Christina (Christy) Foster from all Crane Credit Union accounts and add Justin Rutledge, Jodie Rankin, Michael Baehl, Diana Powell, and Billye Robling to all accounts was made by Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

A Motion to remove Christina (Christy) Foster from all German American Bank accounts and add Justin Rutledge, Jodie Rankin, Michael Baehl, Diana Powell, and Billye Robling to all accounts was made by Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Justin Rutledge (yes)

Justin explained that there had recently been an issue with the Town employee's supplemental insurance through Aflac. Town employees contacted the Council very concerned because they received cancellation notices from Aflac saying their coverage was ending even though the premiums have been deducted from their paychecks as normal. When asked about the issue, Clerk-Treasurer Christy Foster said the payment was sent but was not received by Aflac due to "a mail issue." Clerk-Treasurer Foster has blamed "a mail issue" several times when payments to vendors were not on time, so Justin contacted Aflac directly and learned that the issue was not due to the mail. The Aflac representative explained that the first check that the Town sent "bounced" due to insufficient funds because it was a check from one of the old Fifth Third accounts. This caused the insurance to be late for two consecutive invoices and when another payment was sent for both months, Aflac did not apply the payment correctly. Due to



this, the representative said any claims that were denied during that period would be allowed to be resubmitted for review.

Jodie announced that Heart of Poseyville received their official designation as an Indiana Main Street!

Jodie said some business owners had asked her about having benches in front of their business. She asked Mike if Grow Poseyville was still planning to put benches in on Main Street. Mike said he thinks either Matthew Nix or Jared Baehl have a list of businesses that want benches or trash cans and anyone interested should contact them to ask about getting on the list.

Theresa Bratcher asked about closing N. Church St. for the Farmer's Market on June 4th. Justin said he would email Jeremy and ask that the barricades be placed in the Community Center lot for that day.

NEXT MEETING:

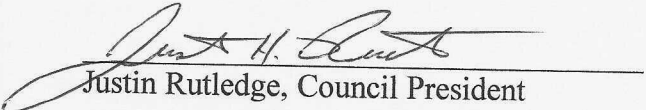
The next meeting of the Poseyville Town Council for 2024 will be held **Tuesday, June 11, 2024** at 5:30 PM, in person and virtual meeting.

Motion was made by Jodie Rankin to hold the next meeting on June 11, 2024 @ 5:30pm, 2nd Mike Baehl

Roll Call Vote: Jodie Rankin (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), and Justin Rutledge (yes)

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, the meeting was adjourned by a Motion from Mike Baehl, 2nd by Jodie Rankin.

Respectfully submitted,


Justin Rutledge, Council President