

Dillsboro Town Council Meeting

October 23, 2023

The regular meeting of the Dillsboro Town Council was opened by President, Doug Baker, with the pledge to the flag on October 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Prayer was given by Mike Hill.

Council members present: Doug Baker, Becky Fryman, Tim Benning, Charlie Caldwell and Jerri Jackson.
Attorney present: John Watson.

The minutes from the Regular Council Meeting and Executive Meeting on October 9. CM Fryman made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by CM Benning. Motion carried.

Dearborn County Planning & Zoning – Deena Collins was present in the absence of Nicole Daily,

- An approval of the Encroachment Permit for the Town of Dillsboro. A draft permit application and definition has been created (which would have been added to the Town Ordinance) back in March of this year. This is a permit that someone would apply for to add an awning to the front of their building in which their building is right on the right-of-way line, therefore the awning would hang over into the Town's right-of-way and over the Town's sidewalks. This would provide liability coverage for the Town. Collins need to know if these were presented and/or if they were approved. Attorney Watson will do some research and believes there is an ordinance.
- Increasing the cost of an additional \$4,000.00 to the 2024 Interlocal Agreement to have zoning request to be heard by the Dearborn County Plan Commission and the County Board of Zoning Appeals. These boards with the Town have had minimal attendance by the members, making it hard to meet quorum when it comes time to vote on a request. An idea to solve this would be to create a Zoning Review Board which would be represented by citizens of Dillsboro, to review request or items that would be forwarded to the Dearborn County Plan Commission or County BZA to make the final vote.

Steve Williams, Side Street Station, asked if he will find out at the next council meeting regarding his request of the awning. Council stated yes.

Clerk-Treasurer – Rita Stevens

- September Financial Reports were given to council. Water & sewer is improving.
- Invoice from Dearborn County Sheriff regarding the \$2,500.00 yearly fee for collection, storage, handling and disposal of evidence. CM Benning made a motion to approve the invoice and be paid from the Public Safety Fund. Seconded by CM Caldwell. Motion carried.
- Received an additional monthly REMC statement for the security gate at the sewer plant is \$122.42.
- Cinta's quote on mats in front of the Town Hall is \$40.00/month. In 2022 it was \$28.19. CM Fryman made a motion to approve this service from Cinta's and be paid ½ from water and ½ from sewer. Seconded by CM Jackson. Motion carried.
- 2024 Salary Ordinance needs to be approved at the December 11th council meeting.
- Boot Camp is January 16-18 in Indianapolis. This is only scheduled every 4 years. It is for council members and clerk-treasurers.

Fire Department – Tim Heitmeyer

- Presented the copy of the agreement dated on 1969 between the Town of Dillsboro and Clay Township Trustee. Clay Township Trustee pays 60% and the Town pays 40% of expenses.
- Next meeting will have a proposed By-Laws change in the officers.

Police – Josh Cady

- Ashley Brown, previous police officer, still has a police badge and Tahoe key fob. Will be sending a letter to her in the cost of the items.
- 2021 Tahoe – Getting some designs and quotes for the Tahoe. Should have enough in the police budget.
- School Crosswalk – Morning is dark. Contacting Duke Energy to get this issue addressed. South Dearborn Community School Corporation is not getting this issue taken care of.

Utility Superintendent – Matt Bauer

- Water extension easement on North Street. Bauer has ½ of the easements signed.
- Met with a INDOT representative. Will be removing the fence along US 50 right-of-way in the next month or so. And cleaning it up during the winter months. Also the representative is aware of some property owners that wants their fence left up.
- All the big meters have been replaced but 2 on Texas Gas Road.
- Small water tank did get cleaned.
- Salt Spreader quotes from Knapheide Truck Equipment. Stainless Steel Gas V-Box with Pintle Chain for \$7,502.00. And a Stainless Steel Electric V-Box with Auger for \$7,234.00. Bauer recommends the \$7,502.00. CM Jackson made a motion to purchase the Salt Spreader for \$7,502.00 and to be paid from streets. Seconded by CM Caldwell. Motion carried.
- Will be starting to pick-up leaves.

CM Baker stated the town does have a contract with HWC on road inventory. Bauer did state he knows that now but didn't know it at the last meeting and has contact Curry & Associates regarding this.

CM Baker also stated the soccer fields needs to be overseeded this fall. Asking Bauer of having the utility employees could possible do this. Bauer will get prices of seed and fertilizer. This would be paid from the park fund.

Art Center -Thom Maltbie presented to council what has happened in the year of 2023 at the Art Center and what the future plans are. The Creator Space Grand Opening Gala is December 8. Thanks council for all their support they have given.

Beautification – Charlie Caldwell – nothing

Parks – nothing

Attorney – John Watson

- o DCRSD – Regarding SEI in putting the high speed internet in the ditch. Should be no problem.
- o Watson stated there should be a completed Downtown Dillsboro Design Committee Ordinance.
- o Concerned the town will lose control over the Planning & Zoning if taken over by the county. CM Fryman is going to contact the town’s Planning Commission & BZA members to see if they still want to be on the board.

Old Business – none

New Business

Tim Heitmeyer stated the Civic Club will be putting up Christmas Lights on November 5. Can use all the help they can get.

Public Comment

Susan Greco stated the Downtown Dillsboro Design Commission has not met since the Summer of 2022. They do have a ordinance and it should be in the ordinance book. Regarding the Planning & Zoning and the BZA there is a list of the members in the town manager’s office. The county sends a email to the town manager when there is a request.

Being no further business. CM Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. And seconded by CM Fryman. Motion carried.



Rita Stevens, Clerk-Treasurer


