

The Santa Claus Town Council & Santa Claus Town Council met in regular session on November 14, 2022 at the Santa Claus Town Hall located at 90 N Holiday Blvd Santa Claus, In. The meeting was called to order by President, Michael Johannes at 5:35 pm

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Town Council Present:** Jason Little, Patricia Vaal, Michael Johannes, & Seth Windell

**Absent:** Kevin Burke

**Also, Present:** Clerk-Treasurer; Kelly Greulich, Town Attorney; Kevin Patmore, Fire Chief; Max Meyer, Park Superintendent; Zach Tischendorf, Police Chief; James Faulkenburg, & Superintendent; Russ Luthy

**Absent:** Building Inspector; Todd Hays

**MINUTES**

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve the September 12, 2022 regular meeting minutes as written and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Motion: Carried

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Danita Grosvenor was present to discuss the town's employee health insurance. A sheet listing the benefits was passed out to the council and to the employees that were present.

UHC Current Coverage: Individual \$ 1,200.00, OOP Max \$ 7,500.00, Office co-pay \$30/\$60, Coinsurance 80/20, Pharmacy 10/40/125/300 an increase of 9.4%. UHC Opt. 1 HMO Individual \$ 2,500.00, OOP Max \$ 7,900.00, Office co-pay \$30/\$60, Coinsurance 80/20, Pharmacy 10/40/125/300, UHC Opt. 2 Individual \$ 1,500.00, OOP Max \$ 6,500.00, Office co-pay \$35/\$75, coinsurance 80/20, Pharmacy 10/40/125/300 an increase of 9.25%, Anthem Individual \$ 2,500.00, OOP Max \$ 5,000.00, Office co-pay \$25/\$50, Coinsurance 80/20, Pharmacy 15/60/125/400, SIHO Individual \$ 1,500.00, 3,000.00, 6,000.00, OOP Max \$ 5,000.00, 7,500.00, Office co-pay \$30/\$60, Coinsurance 90/80/50, Pharmacy 15/45 deductible \$ 100.00.

A discussion followed, Grosvenor recommended to the council UHC Option # 2 with the 9.25% increase that mirrors the current policy as close as possible.

Jason Little made a motion to approve UHC Option # 2 for health insurance for the 2023 year and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Motion carried

Grosvenor stated there is no change in the premiums for the UHC Vision and Life Insurance from United Healthcare for the town and Paramount dental has no increase in premiums as well.

Jason Little made a motion to approve United Healthcare for the town's vision and life insurance for 2023 with no change in the premium and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Motion carried

Jason Little made a motion to approve Paramount dental for the town's dental insurance for 2023 with no changes in the premium and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Motion carried

Kelly Greulich stated the underwriters have not completed the changes for the town's liability insurance for a 2023 premium due to the fact the town has had many add ones with the current capital projects in water and

11-14-2022 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

wastewater. A special meeting will need to be held later this month. A discussion followed; a meeting was set for November 28 at 5:00 pm.

Greulich asked the council about the Independent Contracts for the 2023 year. Council will address contacts at the December 12, 2022 meeting.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Michael Johannes stated Holiday World has finished the filming of the trails. The video is ready for the town website. Where are we on the donation set up for the website. Greulich stated the town should look into other options for the donations because with the issues the town has had with Invoice Cloud, we do not want to use their service for the donations. Johannes stated in the past the town has talked about hiring a town manager, the town is growing and this would be a good time to start the process. Greulich stated emails were sent out to the council on job descriptions of town managers from other towns. The council can take these ideas and form their own job description that will suit the needs of Santa Claus. Seth Windell stated the town manager will write grants for the town, take over the zoning issues for the town, be the ADA coordinator and department heads will report directly to the town manager. A discussion followed and Seth Windell and Jason Little will work on a job description for the town manager position.

Johannes reminded everyone that the Santa Claus Christmas parade is December 10, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

### **OCTOBER REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS**

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT MAX MEYER**

First Responder-15 EMR

Fire Alarms-5

10-50 PI-1

Total Activities-21

On October 26 a pre-construction meeting was held with Mid America & Gerry's Automotive in regards to the pumper truck for the fire department. On October 29, 2022 a Firefighters roundtable was held in Oakland City with elected officials from around southern Indiana. Patricia Vaal stated she had attended the event and it was very nice. Meyer stated the fire department was awarded the Southern Indiana Power grant in the amount of \$ 2,400.00 to purchase 3 dual band pagers.

Michael Johannes stated America's Christmas Hometown is asking the town to approve by a motion to have the parade added to the town insurance for the event if a cost is associated with the addition America's Christmas Hometown will pay for that.

Seth Windell made a motion to provide at no cost to the town, approving the parade be added to the town's events for insurance purposes and Jason little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

#### **PARKS & RECREATION/COMMUNITY CENTER ZACH TISCHENDORF**

SCCC Active Members-117, New Members-16, Daily-23, Big Room Rental-4, Big Room Hourly Rental-2  
COMPLETED PROJECTS OF PARK'S DEPARTMENT-repaired all dusk to dawn lights, installed 5 new park signs, improved drainage ditch on east end of Bermuda field, replaced bridge, replaced 4" drain pipe by maintenance building with a 12" pipe, installed guard rails on bridges, Trick or Treat Trail estimated 300 participants (weather didn't cooperate) all but 2 vendors didn't show up and next month reports on fall sports/concession stand will be given.

11-14-2022 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

NEW/ONGOING PROJECTS-continuing of community center remodeling, park has been winterized, on 12-3-22 the community center will host Prancer's Play Time.

COUNCIL ITEMS TO DISCUSS TOWN COUNCIL & REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION- 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance 2022-16 AN ORDINANCE ALTERING SECTIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING PARKS AND RECREATION FEES.

Seth Windell made a motion for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of ORDINANCE 2022-16 AN ORDINANCE ALTERING SECTIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING PARKS AND RECREATION FEES and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

**BUILDING INSPECTOR ABSENT TODD HAYS**

Number of ILPS Issued	5
Number of New Permits	3
Number of Post Hole Inspections	1
Number of 911 Addresses Assigned	0
Number of Electrical Permits Issued	1
Number of Solar Inspections	0
Number of Footing Inspection	2
Number of Foundation Inspections	2
Number of Rough in Plumbing Inspections	0
Number of Rough in HVAC Inspections	0
Number of Rough in Electric Inspections	1
Number of CenterPoint Inspections	0
Number of Gas Inspections	1
Number of General Inspections	8
Number of Framing Inspections	5
Number of Concrete Floors/Slabs	1
Number of Basements Walls Inspections	1
Waterproofing Foundations Inspection	1
Number of Underground Plumbing	0
Number of Electric Meter Inspections	2
Number of Final Inspections	5
Number of Certificate of Occupancy	1

Michael Johannes stated the Zoning Administrator is working on rezoning of Back 9 Development properties, certified letters were sent out to adjacent property owners. Several contractors have been notified that current building permits are set expire and must file for extension. Building Inspector must submit his Independent Contract in December for council approval.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT JAMES FAULKENBURG**

- Off Duty Call Outs-22
- Citations TOSC-13
- Warnings TOSC-75
- Crash Reports-5
- Vehicle Inspections-6
- Domestic Disturbances-9
- Assist another Department-16

11-14-2022 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

Medical Emergencies-3

Disturbances-46

Theft Reports-2

Verbal Warnings-0

Case Reports/Investigations-7/53

Warrant Service-4

Gun Permits-1

Arrests-2

Assist Motorist-8

Reserve Hours for the month of October are as follows: Jazyk-8 hrs, Luker-0 hrs, Kennedy-8 hrs, Goffinet-8 hrs. Faulkenburg introduced Beau Anderson as the newest police officer for the town of Santa Claus. Beau will attend SRO training in Evansville next month and will be working in the school system as the SRO Officer.

### **TRAILS RUSS LUTHY**

JIM YELLIG PARK-hard surface to replace gravel areas of the trail, made current trail ADA compliant. EASTSIDE TRAIL-Clark-Dietz requesting additional money for additional time spent on construction engineering inspections. Luthy stated it has been brought to his attention the rock for the trail was billed out twice and paid for twice.

Greulich stated that Quality Craft in their last invoice had the tree removal in the total amount and the redevelopment commission authorized the funds to be paid from the TIF fund when it was paid out of the grant fund. The \$ 4,369.85 was paid out of the DNR grant fund and the overage of the trail will be paid from the TIF funds.

Seth Windell made a motion to amend the payment that was authorized last month in the amount of \$ 4,369.85 to be paid from the grant fund and any overage will have to be authorized by the Redevelopment Commission and paid from the TIF fund and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Luthy stated we have a pay request in the amount of \$ 88,747.58 from Quality Craft Construction for the Yellig Park DNR grant for council approval.

Seth Windell made a motion for the pay request # 4 for Quality Craft Construction in the amount of \$ 88,747.58 and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Luthy stated an updated agreement signed by the president between INDOT and the town is needed for the Eastside Trail.

Seth Windell made a motion to authorize president Michael Johannes to sign the agreement between the INDOT and the town concerning the Eastside Trail and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Patricia Vaal stated she will investigate why the town of Santa Claus trails are not on Google Maps and report back to the council next month.

Greulich stated the town received again this year installments for property taxes on parcel # 74-02-35-400-039.000.003 & 74-05-01-104-024.000-005 those are the pieces of property that are in front of Circle S and Subway where the Santa Claus Lincoln Discovery Trail is located. Patmore stated he has

11-14-2022 TOWN COUNCIL MTG.

sent the information in to the County and does not understand why the town is still be assessed chargers of back taxes on those properties because the town does not own them. Patmore will send Greulich an email to forward onto the Auditor of Spencer County concerning the back taxes.

## **STREET DEPARTMENT**

### **STREET OPEN ACTION ITEMS**

Mowing- Yes

Sign-replace/repair/install- No

Complaints- No

Street Repairs- Yes

Assist other departments as needed, culvert inspections, monitor CR 850 culvert, vehicle/equipment maintenance repairs, road inspections, and pothole patrol.

Michael Johannes informed the council the town is still negotiating with the State on the old HWY 245 road. The State will pay the town \$ 300,000.00 if the town will take the road over. If the town agrees to this it does not mean the town has to fix the intersection. Basically, it is free money!

## **WASTEWATER**

PLANT INFORMATION: Treatment October 2022 8.32 MG, October 2021 17.72 MG

Precipitation October 2022 1.87 Inches, October 2021 5.38 Inches

OPEN ACTION ITEMS: Process control testing, plant O & M. Work continues AMP project. Note other items on file at WW Plant.

SSO(s)- 0

COLLECTION SYSTEM: Routine station maintenance checks, sewer main and lateral rehab ongoing, begin LS rehab/capital projects, work is completed on LS # 1 & # 4. LS 20 rehab complete, Jet lines, monitor manhole on Evergreen Dr.

LATERAL INSPECTIONS: Revolving total lateral inspections-28, New in September-0, COC's completed -0, requiring repairs-0, no repairs-0, exempt laterals-0.

YEAR TO DATE: Requiring repairs-11, no repairs-14, exempt-3.

Luthy stated Deig Brothers has a pay request # 4 in the amount of \$ 291,706.05 and Midwestern Engineers in the amount of \$ 12,576.66 for council approval.

Jason Little made a motion for Deig Brothers pay request # 4 in the amount of \$ 291,706.05 from the wastewater capital fund and Seth Windell seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Jason Little made a motion to approve Midwestern Engineers invoice in the amount of 12,576.66 and Seth Windell seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Luthy stated he has an invoice from CenterPoint in the amount of \$ 8,056.41 upgrading the LS # 4 to a 3-phase panel to be paid out of WW capital projects.

Seth Windell made a motion to approve pay request for CenterPoint in the amount of \$ 8.056.41 out of WW capital projects and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

**OSHA**

No lost time injuries, 4- field hazard assessments: water leak, sewer tap, force main tap & jetting.

**WATER RUSS LUTHY**

Work Orders-Total Received- 18

Work Orders Completed- 17

Work Orders Pending- 1

OPEN ACTION ITEMS: all pads and piers are complete for elevated water tank, begin electrical and communications work at well # 3. The water well is 60% complete currently.

**INDUSTRIAL PARK**

Greulich stated Linda Winkler called and said the deed has not been recorded on the property they purchased from the town. Patmore stated the courthouse is behind. Patmore stated Kimball has contacted the town about the abatement they had asked the town for earlier this year. Their project was put on hold and Kimball will now have to file a new form and if the council chooses a new Resolution will need to be approved.

**TOWN ATTORNEY KEVIN PATMORE**

Patmore stated no ruling on Gosnell litigation at this time.

Seth Windell made a motion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption of ORDINANCE 2022-11 ~~AN~~ AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER BOARD and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Seth Windell made a motion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption of ORDINANCE 2022-12 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING OPIOID FUND -UNRESTRICTED and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Patricia Vaal made a motion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption of ORDINANCE 2022-13 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING OPIOID FUND -RESTRICTED and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Patmore was instructed to prepare a Proclamation for November 25, 2022 Tis the World Cup Day and the council will need to authorize president, Michael Johannes to sign the proclamation.

Seth Windell made a motion to have president Michael Johannes sign the proclamation and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

A discussion followed about the food & beverage tax that has been brought up for discussion recently. Patmore stated first off, the council should have conversations with Senator Mark Messmer and State Representative Stephen Bartels on the matter. It will require a legislation change in order to enact. If the council chooses Patmore stated he could draw up a letter to send to the representatives.

Seth Windell stated it makes sense to pursue the food and beverage tax when the town has an influx of people when Holiday World and Lake Rudolph are open for the season. The town can see as many as \$ 25,000 more

11-14-2022 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

order banners to be put up before the Christmas parade. Council advised you have funds in the budget you can order without council approval. Greulich asked the council for guidance on the 2023 salary ordinance, council agreed to use the numbers that were presented during budget time.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

An email was received asking the town to support small business day November 26, 2022, Greulich stated she will put the notice on the electronic sign out front.

**TERMS/APPOINTMENTS UP ON DECEMBER 31, 2022**

- Jon Kincaid -Park Board 4-year term
- Frank Fowler-Water Board 4-year term
- Russ Luthy-APC Board 4-year term
- Jason Little-APC Board 4-year term
- James Faulkenburg-Emergency Management Advisory Council-1-year term
- Michael Johannes-Regional 15 Board 1-year term
- 2023 President of Town Council- Spencer County Solid Waste Management Board 1-year term
- Patricia Vaal- Spencer County Solid Waste Management Board 1-year term

**VOUCHERS**

Jason Little made a motion to approve general vouchers in the amount of \$ 132,548.57 and Seth Windell seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Jason Little made a motion to approve payroll vouchers in the amount of \$ 78,041.36 for the month of October and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Jason Little made a motion to approve wastewater vouchers in the amount of \$ 381,939.68 and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

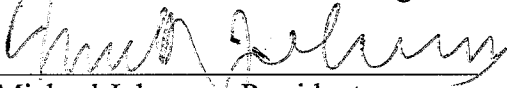
Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

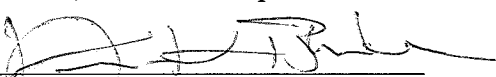
**ADJOURNMENT**

Patricia Vaal made a motion to adjourn the town council meeting at 7.40 P.M. and Jason Little seconded the motion.

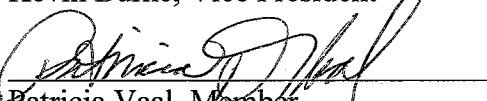
Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

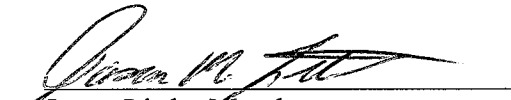
The next Town Council meeting will be December 12, 2022 at 5:30 pm

  
Michael Johannes, President

  
Kevin Burke, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seth Windell, Member

  
Patricia Vaal, Member

  
Jason Little, Member

ATTEST:  
  
Kelly K. Greulich, Santa Claus Clerk-Treasurer

11-14-2022 TOWN COUNCIL MTG

people in Santa Claus during this time. Greulich spoke up and stated with the Holiday World dorms that will eventually house up to 300 college age students along with the all the visitors in Santa Claus it would make more sense to lobby for the food & beverage tax than to have to raise taxes on the residents that live in Santa Claus. Vaal stated so if I go out to eat lunch in Santa Claus, I would have to pay the tax. Windell said yes, but you are only talking about .10 on \$ 10.00. Greulich stated the additional funds could pay for a sixth officer and possibly the town would be able to move funding around to be able to offer family insurance for town employees.

Seth Windell made a motion to approve town attorney Kevin Patmore to draft legislation and move forward with pursuing the food & beverage tax and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: Patricia Vaal, Seth Windell Nays: Jason Little, Michael Johannes Tied Clerk-Treasurer  
Kelly Greulich voted Ayes Motion carried

Greulich stated she has not received town attorney Kevin Patmore invoices for the months of June, July, August, September & October at this time. Patmore assured the council he will get those turned in immediately.

### **CLERK TREASURER KELLY GREULICH**

#### **Bank Balances MARCH:**

General \$ 4,647,589.75  
Water \$ 4,039,818.43  
Wastewater \$ 5,920,106.79  
TIF \$ 650,484.14

#### **APRIL:**

General \$ 4,571,088.30  
Water \$ 3,976,797.44  
Wastewater \$ 5,893,664.67  
TIF \$ 650,517.29

Greulich asked the council for a motion to pay the Holiday & Safety Bonuses on the December 2, 2022 payroll.

Jason Little made a motion to approve the bonuses for the full-time employees as stated in the salary ordinance and Patricia Vaal seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Greulich stated at the last council meeting the council discussed additions to add to the resolution to the County for the EDIT/CEDIT three-year plan, the resolution as sent out prior to the meeting with the additions of town facilities ADA compliant when funds are available and funding for the trail maintenance.

Patricia Vaal made a motion to approve RESOLUTION 2022-11 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SANTA CLAUS TO THE COUNTY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCOME TAX AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THREE-YEAR PLAN and Jason Little seconded the motion.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Greulich asked the council the year end meeting will be December 28, 2022 at 5:00 pm. A discussion followed about the decorative street lights that do not have a banner only 28 out 64 have banners. Greulich asked the council for permission to spend out of the promotional fund to