

# TOWN OF SWAYZEE INDIANA

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SWAYZEE INDIANA 46986

DESIREE ARENAS  
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AARON TRAVIS  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 22, 2024  
Swayzee Town Hall

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Aaron Travis, President.

Present were Aaron Travis, President; Paul Hamilton, Vice President; Rhonda Fagan, Heather Zirkle; Town Board Members.

Also in attendance were: Kyle Persinger, Town Attorney; Trey Boswell, Town Manager.

Visitors: Harold King, Don Thompson, Rodney Lawson, and Brady Edgington.

Paul Hamilton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Paul Hamilton made a motion to accept the December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes with a correction of changing Seth Barker to Seth Parker. Heather Zirkle seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0.

Heather Zirkle made a motion to accept the December 18, 2023 Executive Meeting Minutes. Aaron Travis seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0.

Paul Hamilton made a motion to re-elect Aaron Travis as The Town of Swayzee Council President. Heather Zirkle seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 3-0-1.

Rhonda Fagan made a motion to re-elect Paul Hamilton as The Town of Swayzee Council Vice-President. Aaron Travis seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 3-0-1.

Kyle Persinger, Town Attorney swore in Aaron Travis as Swayzee Council President and Paul Hamilton as Swayzee Council Vice President. He will be filing these re-elections for the town.

Matt Ogden's open seat needs to be filled by January 31, 2024. The Council will be viewing applications.

### **VISITORS**

Don Thompson, from Swayzee Economic Development Committee (SEDC) reported that they had a meeting with the USDA. The Committee inquired about applications for different grants.

They were informed that last year's census shows the average income for the residents of Swayzee to be around \$58,400. This income level puts Swayzee in a category that requires a 50% approval amount for what is requested. The USDA did give the committee other options for grants.

They will be contacting Grant County Community Foundation for help.

Don noted that the SEDC website has been set up. He will contact Brittany Riner, Media; to add the link to the Town of Swayzee website.

Don Thompson also inquired about the water drainage project from 2018. He is asking the council to revisit the possibility of completing this project on Carter Lane.

### **TOWN MANAGER**

Peerless Midwest was on site working on the well tank sensor controller last month. There were issues with the well tank overflowing and flooding the area around the water plant. The well tank sensor had to be replaced due to a pipe full of debris. They worked with Peerless to change the new sensor. There have not been any more issues.

Jimmy, from Converse, sought help from Trey pertaining to a water leak.. Sean went over and helped fix the water leak for 3 hours in the morning, while Phil and Trey worked on hauling dirt, dispersing stone and putting on the porch roof at the mailbox location.

Utility Supply delivered the material for the fire hydrant replacement project at the East Park at the old Watkins site. Trey is getting quotes for the stump removal in the area of where the new hydrant will be installed.

Trey is also working on a lead and copper service line notification survey that he would like to have sent out in this month's billing. This will give customers the opportunity to identify the

material of their home's service line, then they can return the survey with their bill. It will give a good start for taking inventory that is due in October 2024.

Saturday January 13th, power was lost overnight at the wastewater treatment facility. Sean discovered power was out Sunday when he did the weekend checks. Trey spent part of the afternoon at the plant and could not get anything to reset. Monday morning, after more troubleshooting Trey called AEP. They sent out a crew to work on the transformer. One leg of the 3 phase power was lost and they had it restored around 2:00pm Monday afternoon. After the power outage Trey discovered the lift station pump #1 continued to trip the breaker every time it would try to run. On Saturday January 20th Berry Electric met Trey at the plant to change out the lift station controller and overload. Both overloads needed to be replaced on the pumps and everything has been working much better.

Another issue was discovered with the power outage; the drive motor for the skimmer arm on the east tank has stopped working completely. Trey will be working on getting it repaired. Most likely have to be replaced completely.

The streets have been salted as needed with the small amount of snow so far this year. Sean has been trained using the snow plow equipment. He and Trey worked on plowing the streets on Friday and Saturday February 16 and 17.

The structure and roof for the newly placed mailboxes is completed. Trey and Sean will be hanging lights inside and adding security lights on the building soon. Trey hired Brandon Tinkel of Cates Farms to remove dirt from the area south of the mailboxes. He also moved the stone in that area to help with parking and traffic for mail delivery and pickup.

Thank you to a very generous Swayzee resident who made the donation for the purchase and delivery of all the driveway stone.

Trey attached the requested information for Utility Department hours of employment and job responsibilities. Trey requested an Executive Session to discuss these items and discussions around Phillip Howell part-time vs full-time employment.

### **TOWN ATTORNEY**

Kyle reported that the Mumaw agreement is complete. This agreement gave the Town of Swayzee the title to the former Post Office property. The lien search is free and clear.

The Philabaum property has a bank lien tied to multiple properties. There is no agreement in writing giving this property to the Town of Swayzee.

Ordinance violations go to court on Monday January 29, 2024. The Rust property has seen much progress.

The deed to the Howard building has been prepared, however it has not been signed. Kyle will be looking into who the owners of 303 E. Main and 204 S. Taylor St. in Swayzee are. The properties are listed as being owned by Windgate Properties. Both properties are in poor condition.

Grant County is wanting to disperse Covid money. The County Commissioners will make a motion to award the Town of Swayzee with \$35,000 to offset the demolition cost of the Post Office and Philabaum buildings. This decision is subject to Grant County Council approval.

The BAN (Bank Anticipation Note) needs to roll forward. This is interest due on the loan for the new Wastewater Plant. \$32,535 in interest is due and \$2000.00 for bank counsel fee.

Therefore \$34,535 needs to be wired by January 26, 2024.

Aaron Travis made a motion to wire \$34,535 to roll forward the BAN. Paul Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0.

Aaron Travis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rhonda Fagan seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

The next Town Council Meeting will be February 26, 2023.



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Aaron Travis, President



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Paul Hamilton, Vice President