

**TOWN OF SWAYZEE INDIANA  
213 S WASHINGTON STREET  
SWAYZEE INDIANA 46986**

**DESIREE ARENAS  
CLERK TREASURER  
765-922-7953**

**AARON TRAVIS  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

July 15, 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 and Heather Zirkle; Town Board Members.

Also in attendance were Kyle Persinger, Town Attorney; Brittnany Riner, Media; Josh Miller, Town Marshal.

Visitors: Don Thompson, Kenny Cates, Brady Edgington, David and Kathy Corey, Mike Shrock, John Key, Dwayne Collins, Kristen Miller, and Braelyn Miller.

Paul Hamilton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Paul Hamilton made a motion to accept the June 17, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. Heather Zirkle seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0-1.

**VISITORS**

Don Thompson from SEDC- The SEDC will be receiving \$40,000 from the USDA Revenue Loan Grant, working on all of the paperwork.

OCRA has come out with new community grants that are due in August and need to see if any of them may fit our community.

Mr. Thompson and the Zoning Committee also met with Ivisa Huber, 101 S. Washington St. about the progress of the restaurant. Ivisa has lots of plans with no issues from the Zoning Committee. Ivisa's plans may have to move the entrance to the restaurant and are around \$150,000.

The new business in town, Sassy Diva Sisters Boutique, are looking into having the grand opening during Swayzee Days including a band.

Mr. Thompson has also reached out to find out information on the cost for a pickleball court.

The EDC also has a meeting with Ball State in August. Discussion on the new USDA "And Justice for All" posters that were hung up at Town Hall per requirements.

Mike Shrock- Questions on whether there will be any more paving done in the community due to a large pothole on the SW corner of Lavengood and Wilson Streets. Aaron stated that he would look into this issue. Mike also raised questions about the possibility of getting a Post Office back in the community. Aaron Travis, President, stated that he met with someone from the state and looked at different properties around the community for possible sites of a new post office. The properties looked at were 115 N Washington street, close to where the post office boxes are currently located, or possibly sharing with the Swayzee Telephone Company. The town would like to build or own the property and have a long term lease with the Postal Offices.

Kenny Cates- stated that he sprayed for Thistles at the Town Sewage plant. Questions about the food trucks coming into town and where they would be able to park once the restaurant opens. Wanted to know the plans on the possibility of expanding the fire department to include more bays for more trucks.

Dave and Kathy Corey- came to bring up the concerns that they personally have for the property at 106 Sycamore St. During current storms a tree fell in the backyard of the property on the shed. The house is also abandoned and just covered in housewrap with pallets and other items in the yard. Josh Miller, Town Marshal, stated that he has spoken with the real estate company that owns the property and will continue to try to contact. There has been difficulty reaching someone about this property due to being under three different companies. The Corey's have reached out as well and have also offered to purchase the property, but were informed that the sale price was too high. Aaron Travis, President, stated that we need to start citing and fining the property owners to have it cleaned up. Kyle Persinger, Town Attorney, stated that he would reach out via phone call as well.

Brady Edgington-spoke about the lights at the basketball courts at East Park. There are five (5) lights on three (3) different breakers and people keep leaving them on. He personally did some research and would like to set up and install a smart system for the lighting and the total cost for this upgrade would be between \$150 and \$175. The new system would be on WIFI and Brady has offered to give his internet to provide this service. Rhonda brought a motion to offer reimbursement for the cost of the upgrade to the lighting and Aaron second the motion. Vote 4-0-1. Time set for the lights to shut off should be midnight.

### **CLERK TREASURER**

Aaron to mention and sign the new updated Town of Swayzee Employee Handbook at this meeting. The other council members signed at the last meeting on June 17, 2024.

Council to review and sign the updated salaries for 2024.- This is on hold until the Executive Meeting.

McPeak- Nuisance- 117 W Lincoln St, property has been cleaned up but the vehicles are still in the yard. They are not tagged nor do they run. Court is July 29th.

Shinholt- Nuisance- 307 E Main St, house fire in September 2021. Did not show up for the court date on April 29th. A copy of the Shinholt order is attached. She has seven (7) days to modify or Swayzee can clean the property up and assess costs to her. She also has a \$50 per day fine and the property is not in compliance.

Thompson- Nuisance- 303 E Main St, house fire December of 2022. Did not show up for court. He was sent a letter on February 6th. He started getting fined \$50 per day fine and the property is not in compliance.

Chuckwagon- new meter was installed on May 2, 2024. His consumption for July 2024 was 76. Will review consumption for a couple of months to see about credit adjustment.

Bridenthal's Concrete for sidewalks on State Road 13. See attached email that was sent.

### **MEDIA**

#### I. Events

- A. Swayzee Days-
  - Posting Activities- getting lots of information via social media
  - Meeting with the committee July 22.
  - Donations are coming in for the Silent Auction.
  - Still needing Sponsors for the Event.
  - Card Readers are set and ready.
- B. -Free Community Meal at UMC on July 17
- C. - Free Community Meal at UMC on July 24
- D. - Free Community Meal at UMC on July 31
- E. Back to School Night at Swayzee Elementary on August 5

## II. Social Media

- A. Total Page Followers- 2,368
- B. Top Posts
  - a. Job Posting- over 3,400 views
  - b. New Trash Provider Information
  - c. Swayzee Day Parade
- C. Scheduled Posts
  - a. Scheduled posts for Swayzee Day

## D. Message on Social Media-

Person was requesting that the town purchase a speed checker for the main streets.

## III. Website

- A. Stats (from May 1 to May 31)
  - a. 602 unique visits
  - b. 1,252 page views
  - c. Top Pages
    - Utilities
    - Contact Us

B. Working on Welcome Packets for new residents.

C. Writing a Welcome to the community post for the new Sassy Diva Sisters Boutique.

## **TOWN ATTORNEY**

Kyle reported that the ordinance violation that was set for June 24th at 1pm was moved to July.

The Phillabaum Property updates are as follows:

The Title Insurance cost will be \$1,930.00 total cost. Pertaining to the Deed, I was signed a QCD recently. However the title insurance mandates a Warranty Deed. The Real Property taxes were paid on June 5th. After some research it looks like not all of the fall 2023 taxes were not paid and some amounts remain outstanding and are listed below:

1. \$3.20
2. \$111.62
3. \$505.11
4. \$801.99

A. Amount \$5,258.05 was paid

It was also reported that the Howard real estate property sale is following procedure.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Further Discussion- The body camera contract will be the same as the Tasers.

Aaron Travis made a motion to accept the proposal to purchase the body cams for the Police Department. Paul Hamilton second. Vote 4-0-1.

### **ZONING COMMITTEE**

Rhonda made a motion to let the Zoning Board Committee update Town Zoning Ordinances. Aaron Travis second. Vote 4-0-1.

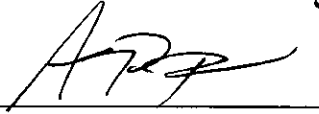
Concern was brought to the attention of the Town Council about the Town owned triangle property to possibly be the location of the new Post office. There were then several discussions about how the Town should keep the property, but there would not be enough room for the Post Office and a parking lot on the property. There were also talks about what the property should be used for. Kenny Cates then stated that he could have the concrete removed from the property at no cost to the town.

Aaron Travis, President, stated that the new siren will be installed in the middle of August. The siren will be placed at the Water Plant and will be tied to the Towns generator.

Paul Hamilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rhonda Fagan seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0-1.

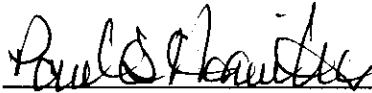
The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

The next Town Council Meeting will be August 19, 2024.



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Aaron Travis, President



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Paul Hamilton, Vice President