

**Town of Roachdale**

Roachdale Community Building; 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN 46172

June 21, 2023 Town Council

Regular Meeting Minutes

The Roachdale Town Council held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 6:00 p.m. at the Roachdale Community Building, 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN.

President Rick Miles Jr called the monthly meeting to order after recognizing that the agenda was posted pursuant to the Indiana Open Door Law and that a quorum was present.

Council Members Present: Rick Miles Jr, Katrina Asher, Holly Cook

Council Members Absent: None

Clerk-Treasurer, Town Superintendent, Deputy Marshal, Town Attorney

Guests Present: Roberta Albright, Thomas Albright, Mike Kleinpeter, Jim Cromwell, T.J. Whitaker, Jennifer Stranger, Judith Wethington, Clifford Wethington, Linda Walls, Liza Davis, Malia Dunlop, Derick Wiggins, David Peebles, Kyle Crooks, Ronald Moore, Larry Kersey, Glenda Burdine, Jillian Sessum, Shane Sessum, Scott Griffin, Denise Gentry, Vickie Cornett, Keith Cornett, Billy Watts Sr, Carolyn Wireman, Paul Wireman, Nick Pride, Bailee Pride, Raelynn Pride, Belinda Wireman, Brent Wireman, Tonya Bowers, Kevin Spencer, Joe Buser, Brandy Muse, Chris Muse, Zach Bowers, Megan Phipps, Nina Thompson, Michelle Tinsley, Amanda Pullin, Kathryn Gross, Lisa Ziener, Trevor Ring, Adrian Lepine, Melissa Lepine, Bret Fair, Pat Moore, Amber Brown, Aaron Harcourt, Johna Stull, Ryan Stull, Mitch Scott, Rita Reffett, Vic Reffett, Bobbi Boller, Ronnie Campbell, Cody Asher, Kim Boesch, Kristina Yeley, Marcella Lister, Janis Fenton, Amanda Newcomer, James Newcomer, Stephen Edwards, Connie Edwards, Tyler Edwards, Chelsea Edwards, Fred Blaydes, Joshua Fenton

- I. Rezoning Public Hearing – 100 E Washington Street and 102 E Washington Street. President Rick Miles Jr opened the Rezoning Public Hearing for 100 E Washington Street and 102 E Washington Street at 6:02 p.m. President Rick Miles Jr read Ordinance 06-2023 An Ordinance Approving the Petition to Rezone a Parcel of Land Located in Roachdale, Putnam County, Indiana. President Rick Miles Jr opened Public Comment Time and Larry Kersey asked for an explanation. Rick Miles Jr explained that the rezoning was necessary due to an error when the original zoning map was done. As there were no further public comments, the hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve Ordinance 06-2023 An Ordinance Approving the Petition to Rezone a Parcel of Land Located in Roachdale, Putnam County, Indiana on all three readings.
- II. Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption – Lisa Ziener, Putnam County Planning and Zoning explained the plan. Kristina Yeley asked if it means we will accept hazardous waste like is going to Heritage Environmental in Russellville and Lisa Ziener stated that it does not have anything to do with hazardous waste. Zach Bowers asked if the Council had had plenty of time to review the plan and Lisa Ziener stated that it was emailed to them a month prior to tonight's meeting.  
President Rick Miles Jr presented and read Resolution 01-2023 A Resolution of the Town of Roachdale Adopting the 2023 Putnam County Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to adopt Resolution 01-2023 A Resolution of

the Town of Roachdale Adopting the 2023 Putnam County Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented.

- III. Wastewater Project Update – Mike Kleinpeter, Kleinpeter Consulting Group gave an update on the funding for the project and stated that the Town should know by the end of July if they will be receiving additional funding from SRF or USDA.

Derrick Wiggins, Midwest Engineering explained the project and what it would involve.

- IV. Community Crossings Matching Grant Update – Derrick Wiggins, Midwest Engineering, gave an update on the project which is expected to start soon and stated that the contractor, DC Construction, still needs to sign the amendment to the contract for additional sidewalks.

- V. Approval of Minutes – May 17, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes. President Rick Miles Jr presented the May 17, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the May 17, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

Approval of Minutes – May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. President Rick Miles Jr presented the May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Approval of Minutes – June 1, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session. President Rick Miles Jr presented the June 1, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the June 1, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session as presented.

Approval of Minutes – June 1, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes. President Rick Miles Jr presented the June 1, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the June 1, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

Approval of Minutes – June 12, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session. President Rick Miles Jr presented the June 12, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the June 12, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session as presented.

Approval of Minutes - June 12, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes. President Rick Miles Jr presented the June 12, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the June 12, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

Approval minutes - May 24, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session. President Rick Miles Jr presented the May 24, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the May 24, 2023 Memorandum of Executive Session as presented.

- VI. Approval of Claims 05/18/2023 – 06/21/2023. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve Claims 05/18/2023 – 06/21/2023 as presented.

Approval of Payroll 05/18/2023 – 06/21/2023. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve Payroll 05/18/2023 – 06/21/2023 as presented.

- VII. Approval of May 2023 Bank Reconciliations and Financial Statements  
President Rick Miles Jr presented the May 2023 Bank Reconciliations and Financial Statements as prepared by Suzy Bass, Local Government Services, as part of our Internal

Control. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the May 2023 Bank Reconciliations and Financial Statements as presented.

VIII. Public Comment Time

President Rick Miles Jr provided ground rules of be respectful, everyone gets 3 minutes, no personal attacks. He also stated that he would write down questions and answer at the end.

Jim Cromwell presented a list of properties in his neighborhood and around town that need to be cleaned. Reserve officer Bryson Tash stated that he had served 11 cleanup notices this past week along with information on Community Cleanup Days and that most of the properties Jim Cromwell asked about were served.

Pat Moore asked what is going on with the employees leaving.

Amber Brown asked to table the hiring of the marshal.

Kristina Yeley asked what the requirements were to be on the board. Also, asked if the meeting minutes could be posted on Facebook chatter page.

James Newcomer made a statement about the town board doing a good job and everyone is being disrespectful on Facebook

Denise Gentry asked if the website could be updated so that minutes could be accessed.

Billy Watts signed up to speak but decided not to speak.

Joe Buser asked if he could bring up street closures at this time and stated that the town board was doing a good job.

Zach Bowers stated that the website is not updated and it should have been.

President Rick Miles answered each question in the following:

People have left the town employ for various reasons but anyone that would like to know why should ask the individuals.

We will not be tabling the marshal hiring.

Explained that anyone wanting to run for a public office should go to the courthouse and follow the instructions they provide.

We will not be posting anything on Facebook.

Website should have been updated already. That should be followed up on at the next meeting.

Street closures should be brought up during the new business section of the meeting but the council would need the request in writing.

Stated that Debbie has done a great job and that he supports her decision to not run even though it will be a big loss to the town.

Roberta Albright asked why the meetings are on Wednesday? The council stated that the only day that didn't work was Tuesday but that since it had not come up in 4 years, it was not know that it was a concern. Day and time of the meeting is set at the first meeting of the year.

The question was asked how many people on the council? It was explained that there were 3 and that to add more required a ballot referendum.

Explained that Endeavor has put Roachdale on the 10 year plan for updated internet but that TDS has started to bring gig speed internet into Roachdale and it should be available by the end of the year.

Explained that the note going around suggesting that there was no utility or police coverage in case of emergency was patently false. There is a misunderstanding of how those things are dealt with in town. UMAC and USDI respond to water or gas calls and we always had reserves and county officers for police coverage.

Explained that the no parking on Walnut Street is due to snow removal and fire trucks not being able to get down the road.

Explained that we do not do budget billing but anyone can add money to their payment during the year to help offset higher bills in the winter.

Suggested that anyone that has a concern about someone not cleaning up after their animals should contact the town police.

IX. Old Business

A. Property Cleanup Updates – Town Attorney Peebles stated there were no updates on pending cases.

Debbie stated that former employee Mark Ketchem did a good job of smashing down trash that was put in the dumpsters several times during the recent Community Cleanup Days so more trash was able to be put in the dumpsters.

B. Ordinance 04-2023 – Amended Salary Ordinance for 2023. President Rick Miles Jr presented Ordinance 04-2023 Amended Salary Ordinance for 2023 for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve Ordinance 04-2023 – 2023 Amended Salary Ordinance as presented.

C. Ordinance 05-2023 – Amended Salary Ordinance for 2023. President Rick Miles Jr presented Ordinance 05-2023 Amended Salary Ordinance for 2023 for approval. Motion by Holly Cook, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve Ordinance-2023 2023 Amended Salary Ordinance as presented.

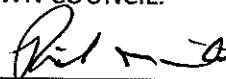
X. New Business

A. Deputy Marshal Bryson Tash presented a request from the Roachdale Christian Church to close Franklin Street to the east corner of their parking lot on July 13<sup>th</sup> 3p-9p for their Community VBS Event. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Katrina Asher, vote unanimous, to approve the request from the Roachdale Christian Church for the street closure on July 13<sup>th</sup> 3p-9p.

B. Tom Albright asked if the Town would consider adding a Tox Away Day in addition to the Community Cleanup Days and Holly Cook stated that the County has a Tox Away Day since there are so many restrictions on what all can be taken.

- XI. Deputy Town Marshal Report and New Property Cleanups – Deputy Town Marshal Bryson Tash presented the monthly report and asked for permission to add Nickolas Smith and Cole Williams as new Reserve Officers. Motion by President Rick Miles Jr, second by Holly Cook, vote unanimous, to approve Nickolas Smith and Cole Williams as new Reserve Officers.
- XII. Utility Items – New Utility Superintendent Nickolas Smith was introduced and gave a background on himself. Superintendent Smith stated that the new utility laborer Josh White will start on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Superintendent Smith stated that he has started working on his gas certification and has completed three modules to date. Troy Elless, UMAC, reported that flow testing on the wells had been completed on Monday. Troy Elless also reported that Duke Energy had replaced a pole at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and there were no issues since the generator ran during that time. Troy Elless stated that the IFA has a free program for a water testing study Motion by President Rick Miles Jr, second by Holly Cook, vote unanimous, to enter into the IFA study for water. Troy Elless stated that the valves for the Railroad Street project are in and will be done as soon as UMAC is able.
- XIII. Clerk-Treasurer Items – Debbie presented adjustments totaling \$436.02 for approval. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Holly Cook, vote unanimous, to approve the adjustments of \$436.02 as presented. Debbie stated that the next movie for the senior citizens will be on Wednesday June 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. Debbie stated that she is beginning to work on the 2024 Budget.
- XIV. Items from Town Council Members  
Katrina Asher – Katrina Asher stated that she will send the draft of the employee handbook to the Council and Attorney Peebles for review.  
Holly Cook – Holly Cook explained the Duke LED lighting project which will replace the current street lights with LED lights at a monthly savings over the current bill as well as a rebate. Debbie asked that Holly Cook check with Duke to see if the flasher at the intersection of Washington and Meridian could be added.  
President Rick Miles Jr – None.
- Rita Reffett asked what could be done about barking dogs and fireworks and President Rick Miles Jr stated that she needs to be sure and report it to Dispatch when it is happening so a Police Officer can respond.
- Motion by Katrina Asher, second by President Rick Miles Jr, vote unanimous, to require background checks on all new employees.
- XV. Motion by Rick Miles Jr, second by Holly Cook, vote unanimous, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

TOWN COUNCIL:



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Rick Miles Jr, Council President

  
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Katrina Asher, Council Member

  
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Holly Cook, Council Member

Attest

  
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Debbie Sillery, Clerk Treasurer