

January 13, 2025

Meeting opened by President Steve Hall with the Pledge to the American Flag.

Members present: John Blankenbaker, Steve Hall, Spencer Reed, Jeff Davis

Members absent: Randy Dunnuck Present by Video

Others present: Jerry Scott, Earl Clark, Joyce Hamilton, Caleb Halsema, Justin & Scott Schwieterman, Melissa & Shannon Fritz, Rick Freiburger

Spencer made a motion, seconded by John, to approve minutes from the 12/23/24 meeting.

Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Council members signed a docket for current expenditures. Jeff made a motion, seconded by John, to approve. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

Public Hearing Opened by Steve Hall

Steve presented Res. 2025-1, additional appropriations. After discussion, Spencer made a motion to approve Res.2025-1, seconded by Jeff. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

John made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Jeff. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

There is not really anything new to report on the amphitheater currently. Work will begin again when the weather allows in the Spring. The concert sponsors are beginning to come in.

The annexation and TIF area and tax abatement for Superior Fresh has been put on hold. Evidently the Delaware County Redevelopment Committee is not on board with the plan that was proposed. It will take some time and discussions that need to take place with the newly elected officials on various boards and committees.

Gary and Justin Schweiterman were in attendance concerning the proposed ditching plan in the field east of Gillcrest.

Steve said that our attorney has asked them to provide a narrative describing the plan along with the square footage of all the tile being put in. Attorney Brooke has also indicated that a charge could be possible, with 4 cents per sq.foot on tile. The base rate of \$10.64 is if there is just water, only impervious material going into the ground. They will email this information to Joyce, and she will forward to John Brooke.

Chief Fritz asked the Council about the K9 training facility he proposed out at the Farm Ground. After discussion, Randy made a motion, seconded by Jeff to approve of using the area submitted to the Council at the farm ground for the K9 training facility. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0. We will check with our insurance agent on coverage for the area.

New Business

Steve read a thank you card from Doug and Lori Ritchey for the Employee and Volunteer Dinner held on December 17th.

He also wanted to thank Chad Thornburg for cleaning off the sidewalks on State Street after the last 2 snowfalls. It is much appreciated.

Steve presented a contract between the Town and Branden Scott for extra manpower if needed for snow removal. This would be at a rate of \$17.00 per hour and he is covered on the insurance since he is a firefighter with Albany Volunteer Fire Department. This would be at the discretion of Jerry if the extra manpower is needed. Spencer made a motion, seconded by Jeff. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Steve presented the 2025 committees and boards appointments to the Council for approval. John made a motion, seconded by Spencer. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Steve presented 2 quotes for water main repair at the entrance to Albany Heights off of State Street. The quote from Culy Construction is \$14,940.00 and the quote from Cobalt Civil is \$37,076.00. After some discussion to make sure we were comparing each quote as the same work, John made a motion, seconded by Jeff to approve the Culy quote. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Steve asked Jerry if the bearing that was purchased for the sewer plant was working now. Jerry said that they are waiting for Culy Construction to come and install the part, after they are sure that it is working correctly, then they will need to order the same bearing to be put on the inventory shelf. Spencer made a motion to let Jerry order the part, seconded by John. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Steve presented a request from Second Harvest that they be allowed to come in on the 4th Tuesday of each month with their mobile market. This would be held at the Elementary School parking lot, to allow access for several cars to park while the patrons go through the market trailer. We will need to have a few volunteers there to assist patrons if needed. The market trailer would be open from 4pm to 6pm. We have received the certificate of insurance from Second Harvest for the school, and the town will also provide one for the school for use of the parking lot. Jeff made a motion to approve the Second Harvest mobile market, seconded by Spencer. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Rick informed the Council that the #2 well pump is having a problem sucking up the water up. He said that he did some trouble shooting and the Peerless will be here on Wednesday to pull the pump. The motor was rebuilt in 2023 and could be under warranty. They think it's the pump and not the motor, but we do have a motor on the inventory shelf, if needed. Rick will know more after Wednesday and report back to the Council on what needs to be done.

Steve said that Jerrett Flesher contacted him about lowering the list price on the remaining lots at the Industrial Park. They are currently listed at \$45,000 and his suggestion is that we drop the price to the upper \$30's. They have only been listed for a couple of months, so the Council is not inclined to lower the price at this time. We will keep the price at \$45,000 for each lot for a few more months.

Steve said that Lori Ritchey contacted him about the sign that sits near Roy Padgett's business on the highway, as you come into town from Muncie. The sign was damaged in a windstorm recently and since the Beautification Committee of Albany is no longer active, they asked if the Town would assume responsibility for maintaining the sign. They will send the town a check for \$2,500.00 to cover the repair of the sign and from this time forward the Town will assume responsibility for the sign. John made a motion to assume responsibility for the sign, seconded by Randy. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Steve asked for a council member to take responsibility for getting the sign repaired. Spencer said he would take on this project of repairing the sign.

Joyce presented Resolution 2025-2, making year end transfers. Jeff made a motion to approve this resolution, seconded by Spencer. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Fritz presented the Council with some quotes for a new police vehicle. Most of the trucks are in the upper \$50,000 range, with a couple vehicles on the lot and are in the upper \$40,000 range. He will continue to do some research, and Joyce will try to find out if there are any grants available. We will need to investigate where we will get the additional funding from, since we do not budget that much money for a new vehicle. Spencer and Randy will work with Chief Fritz and then come back to the Council with a recommendation.

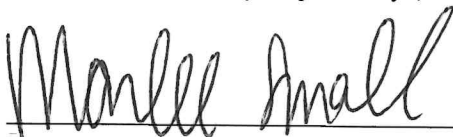
Public


Melissa Fritz asked when the next Concert Committee meeting is scheduled, she would like to attend so she can inform the committee on the Fall Heritage Day Festival on September 13th.

Caleb Halsema asked if Joyce had heard anything from Hoosier Technologies about the upgrade to the police internet issue. Joyce recommended Caleb to email Jason about the issue.

Randy made a motion, seconded by Spencer: the meeting was adjourned by Steve Hall at 7:51pm. Roll call vote was taken: Jeff Aye, Spencer Aye, John Aye, Steve Aye, Randy Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Attest:


Deputy Clerk Treasurer
Marlee Small


Council Vice President
Randall Dunnuck