

**TOWN OF ARGOS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3rd, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Dustin Johnson called the meeting to order at 07:31PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Present for the meeting: President Dustin Johnson, Vice President George Null, Members Suzanne Umbaugh and Charles R. Snead, Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Mullaney and Town Attorney Derek Jones. Member Juli Stauffer resigned Jan. 1, 2018.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

President Dustin Johnson called for nominations for Council President. Council Member Snead nominated George Null for Council President. George Null accepted the nomination. Vice President Null then nominated Member Umbaugh and stated, "that way I have someone to run against and it won't look so bad either way it goes and that way I don't get too beat up later." Member Umbaugh then accepted her nomination. Member Snead made a motion to close the nominations for President. Vice President Null seconded. President Johnson then asked for those in favor of George Null for President, Members Snead, Null and Johnson were in favor while Member Umbaugh opposed. President Johnson then asked all in favor of Suzanne Umbaugh for President, Member Umbaugh voted in favor while Members Snead, Null and Johnson opposed.

President Johnson then opened the nominations for Vice President. Vice President George Null nominated Dustin Johnson. President Johnson then nominated Member Umbaugh. Both accepted their nominations. Vice President Null motioned to close the nominations for Vice President. Member Snead seconded. President Johnson then asked for those who were in favor of Dustin Johnson for Vice President. Members Snead, Null and Johnson voted in favor while Member Umbaugh opposed. President Johnson then asked who was in favor of Suzanne Umbaugh for Vice President. Member Umbaugh was in favor while Members Johnson, Null and Snead opposed.

Vice President Johnson then announced that George Null was now President and handed him the gavel.

Member Umbaugh questioned Attorney Jones about members having discussions with other members outside of the meeting. Attorney Jones stated one on one conversations would not be in violation of the open-door law. If the members met in a quorum then that would be a violation. Member Umbaugh stated the outcome of the nominations were decided long before the meeting was taking place. She stated no one was denying it. President Null stated he called members to state his desire to run for President but that was the extent of the conversation. Vice President Johnson stated nothing was decided until tonight.

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the December 20th Special Session and Regular Session were submitted for approval. Member Snead motioned to accept the minutes as written. Vice President Johnson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

MCEDC Board Member Mark Umbaugh asked President Null if he would be available to attend the quarterly meetings of the MCEDC. President Null stated with his new job he was hoping too. Mr. Umbaugh stated Argos has the worst showing of Council members. Vice President Johnson asked if the meetings were always 11:30 a.m. - 1p.m. Mr. Umbaugh stated they were. Vice President Johnson stated he does not work in Plymouth and therefore it is hard for him to make those meetings. Mr. Umbaugh replied that 60 some odd people seem to make it. President Null then confirmed that the next meeting is Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> and he would try to make it.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Attorney Report:**

Attorney Jones stated Attorney Lukenbill provided an update on the Tax Certificates. The title search has been ordered and the owners will be notified by certified mail.

The farm lease has been advertised on December 27<sup>th</sup> and bids will be accepted until January 15, 2018 and bids will be opened at the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Attorney Jones stated he sent Attorney Clevenger a copy of the signed Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Argos and Marshall County for services from Chuck Dewitt during business hours. Clerk/Treasurer Mullaney will attend the County Commissioners Meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:40 a.m. when the agreement will be presented. Vice President Johnson moved to accept the Attorney Report. Council Member Snead seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Board Openings:**

Plan Commission and Redevelopment Commission still have openings. Park Board Member Joe Stone resigned from the board as of Jan. 1, 2018. Two letters of interest were considered from Harrison Partin and Mark Dean. Member Snead motioned to waive the political party requirement and appoint Mark Dean to the Park Board for the remainder of Mr. Stone's term as long as there are no conflicts to him serving. Vice President Johnson seconded, motion carried 3 to 1 with Member Umbaugh opposing. Attorney Jones will look into this and report back at the next meeting.

### **Backhoe Bids:**

Superintendent Lindstrom presented bids for the new backhoe for the town. After reviewing the bids Member Snead made a motion to purchase the backhoe from Westside Tractor. Vice President Null seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **Other Old Business:**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Council Meeting Times:**

Member Snead moved to keep the council meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:30pm and Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Appointment of Utility Clerk:**

Vice President Johnson motioned to appoint Lisa Mullaney as Utility Clerk for 2018. Member Snead seconded, motion passed unanimously.

### **Department Liaisons:**

Newly Elected President Null assigned board members as liaisons to the following departments:

Police- Dustin Johnson

Fire- George Null

EMS- Charles R. Snead

Park- Suzanne Umbaugh

Utilities- Suzanne Umbaugh

Redevelopment – George Null

### **Other New Business:**

None

## **CLAIMS**

Clerk-Treasurer Mullaney presented claims 1537 – 1550 and 1-65 totaling \$327,509.24. Council Member Umbaugh moved to accept claims 1537 – 1550 and 1-65. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business brought before the board, Member Snead moved to adjourn the meeting and Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

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George Null, President

ATTEST:

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Lisa Mullaney, Clerk-Treasurer