

**TOWN OF ARGOS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President George Null called the meeting to order at 8:58 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present for the meeting: President George Null, Vice President Dave Walker, Members Casie Rowe, Mark VanDerWeele and Suzanne Umbaugh, Clerk-Treasurer Patty Jones and Town Attorney Derek Jones.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

George Null said that he was stepping down as Council President citing that his job has been keeping him busy and that he had served as president 7 out of the last 8 years and has enjoyed the position. The selection of town board officers opened with Mark VanDerWeele nominating Dave Walker as President and Casie Rowe nominating Mark VanDerWeele as President. Mark VanDerWeele secured the position of President by receiving votes from Casie, Suzanne and himself while George and Dave voted for Dave. George then nominated Dave for Vice President which was accepted by unanimous vote.

MCEDC UPDATE

Jerry Chavez, Marshall County Economic Development Corporation Director, gave a recap of the progress and developments in 2014 as well as things to come in 2015. The Council thanked him for the presentation.

MINUTES

Minutes from the December 17TH Regular Session were submitted for approval. Council Member Null moved to accept the minutes with the addition of the words "outdated website" to the citizen input from Suzanne Umbaugh. Council Member Rowe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN INPUT

No citizen input this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Attorney Report:

Attorney Jones touched on the issue of a possible annexation of the farm land by the sewer plant should IMPA want to use that site as a solar field. Dan Worl from IMPA will discuss the solar field with the Council at 6:30pm on January 21ST.

Vice President Walker moved to accept the Attorney Report and Council Member Umbaugh seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Plan Commission Opening:

No letters of interest this meeting.

Other Old Business:

Utilities Superintendent Jim Burroughs talked about issues he is having with W.A. Jones pushing back the delivery date of the plow that was ordered last September. Mr. Burroughs has received conflicting information between W.A. Jones and the plow manufacturer and feels that he has been lied to. More than likely, if another order for a plow were to be placed with a different vendor it would not save time. The Council agreed to wait on W.A. Jones and to rethink further purchases with the company.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2015-1/ Zoning Text Amendment:

Attorney Jones noted for the record that all notices and publication requirements were met in accordance with Indiana law. After a brief discussion Vice President Walker moved to pass Ordinance 2015-1 on the first reading and Council Member Rowe seconded. The motion carried four to one with Council Member Null opposing.

Town Attorney Appointment:

Council Member Null moved to re-appoint Derek Jones from the law office of Jones Huff and Jones as the town attorney for 2015 and Vice President Walker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Meeting Times:

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

Department Liaisons:

President VanDerWeele assigned board members as liaisons to the following departments:

Police- Dave Walker

Fire- George Null

EMS- Casie Rowe

Park- Suzanne Umbaugh

Utilities- Mark VanDerWeele

Other New Business:

Investor Chris VanDuyne talked to the Council about his family ties to the Argos community and what he has been doing to generate business growth. Chris then presented several ideas for updating the downtown area and asked if there was a fund that the town could use to invest in development projects. The town does have an economic development line item in the General Fund and each of the utilities have an improvement fund. Mr. VanDuyne presented a way to bring a carousel to the town of Argos but there is no current way of housing it. It was suggested that he speak with the Park Board. Mr. VanDuyne also discussed his idea of placing murals on a couple of buildings and that university students would do the artwork if the town committed money towards their scholarships. After discussion the Council was open to the ideas but took no action.

CLAIMS

Clerk-Treasurer Jones read the top five claims totaling \$82,364.11 which represented 66% of the total docket and the claim docket totaled \$123,509.77. Council Member Null moved to accept claims 1 through 47 on the January Docket and claims 1212 through 1222 for the End of December Docket and Council Member Rowe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business brought before the board, Council Member Rowe moved to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Null seconded. The motion carried unanimously. President VanDerWeele thanked everyone for coming. The meeting adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Mark VanDerWeele, President

ATTEST:

Patty Jones, Clerk-Treasurer