

**TOWN OF ARGOS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20TH, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President George Null called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

Minutes from the March 6TH Regular Council Meeting were submitted for approval. Council Member VanDerWeele moved to accept the minutes as presented and Council Member Jones seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MARSHALL COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. UPDATE

MCEDC Board Member Don Mahoney gave an annual update for 2012 and what the outlook moving forward is for 2013. The MCEDC is currently interviewing for a director and hopes to have one hired very soon. Mr. Mahoney also discussed "shovel ready" certification and what businesses want already in place when searching for a location. The Council thanked Mr. Mahoney for coming to the meeting.

CITIZEN INPUT

Susie Denney talked about her frustration with people throwing beer bottles and cans on her property.

OLD BUSINESS

Attorney Report:

Attorney Jones discussed Ordinance 2013-5 which establishes the TIF Fund. Derek had sent it to Todd Samuelson for review but had not heard back from him. Council Member Rowe moved to accept Ordinance 2013-5 on the first reading and Vice President Walker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Also, Derek reviewed the contracts the town has with Mediacom and found the lease in the amount of \$650 for a building Mediacom utilizes on town property. The Council debated their options and decided to table the issue until Derek has a chance to speak with the Mediacom representative.

Council Member VanDerWeele moved to accept the Attorney Report and Council Member Rowe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2013-3/ Donating Property:

Attorney Jones had prepared the documents needed to donate the 313 North Grove Street property to Habitat for Humanity if the Council chooses to do so. The Council talked about the best use for the property and the benefits from making a donation to Habitat for Humanity. Council Member VanDerWeele moved to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2013-3, which allows the donation of property located at 313 North Grove Street, on all three readings and Council Member Rowe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Vacation of Alley:

Attorney Jones said that Clerk-Treasurer Jones received the petitions requesting the vacation of an alley and that, after review, the proper information and was included and we can proceed with the public hearing at the next meeting. Derek will send the notice to the paper. Council Member Jones moved to set the public hearing for April 17TH at 7:15 pm and Council Member VanDerWeele seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

4TH A Bration Request:

July 4TH celebration committeeman Andy Stone gave the Council a revised list of activities which included a slight decrease in the amount of money previously requested at the last meeting. After a few questions, Council Member Rowe moved to allow \$4,720 from the promotional fund to be used for the 4TH A Bration expenses and Council Member VanDerWeele seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Flashing Lights:

President Null talked about needing flashers at 1ST and Walnut. It took over a year for the flasher to be placed at Michigan and Plum. The school also put in a request for the flasher and now the state will do a sight plan to see if it is needed and feasible.

NEW BUSINESS**Ordinance 2013-4/ Argos Redevelopment Commission Reorganization:**

Terms for previous members of the Argos Redevelopment Commission had been expired for several years so there is a need to reorganize. Council Member VanDerWeele moved to suspend and pass Ordinance 2013-4 on all three readings and Vice President Walker seconded. The motion carried unanimously. President Null appointed Ginger Calhoun, Julie Campbell and Jerry Gates for the executive appointments. Council Member VanDerWeele moved to appoint Jeff Gonce and Todd VanderWeele for the Council appointments and Council Member Jones seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Pest Control Quotes:

At the time of this meeting, Husband Pest Control had not submitted their quote. The decision was tabled until next meeting.

Wastewater Part Time Help:

Wastewater Operator Kim Smock talked with the Council about the need to have a part time person help out at the treatment plant 2 to 3 days a week. Clerk-Treasurer Jones said that there was enough money in the utility operating fund to support a part time person. Kim would use the current part time worker as her helper rather than hire a new person. After discussion and several questions, the Council felt that the decision was up to the supervisor.

Land Purchasing:

The Council deliberated about how to go about purchasing 33 acres of farm land south of town that will be auctioned off on April 8TH. The land could be used for economic development and be a nice addition to the current industrial park. Attorney Jones reviewed the statute pertaining to the purchase of land and said that the price the town could pay would be the average of two appraisals. Vice President Walker moved to get the two appraisals and Council Member VanDerWeele seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Bottled Water/ Community Building:

Clerk-Treasurer Jones informed the Council that over many years we have paid out around \$5,800 to supply water in the water cooler at the B&R. Clerk Jones suggested an RO (reverse osmosis) system

to replace the bottled water. After deliberation and several questions, the issue was tabled.

Department Head Reports:

Utilities- There were no questions for Superintendent John Archambeault this meeting.

Police- There were no questions for Chief Rudd this meeting.

Fire- There was a Thank You card from Triton Schools for the AFD's participation in welcoming back the Triton boys basketball team after their win.

EMS- EMS Director Rich Miller said that the new ambulance was being stocked and prepared for service.

CLAIMS

Clerk-Treasurer Patty Jones read the top five claims totaling \$76,957.84 which represented 87% of the total docket. The claim docket totaled \$87,612.36. Council Member VanDerWeele moved to accept claims 268 through 318 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 VanDerWeele seconded. The motion carried unanimously. President Null thanked everyone for coming. The meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.

George Null, President

ATTEST:

Patty Jones, Clerk-Treasurer