

**TOWN OF ARGOS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 2ND, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President George Null called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

Minutes from the June 18TH Regular Council Meeting were submitted for approval. Council Member VanDerWeele moved to accept the minutes as presented and Council Member Rowe seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Dave Walker and Linda Jones abstained as they were not at the previous meeting.

ALLIED WASTE CONTRACT

Bob Stone of Allied Waste Services presented an agreement to extend the current contract with the town for garbage removal and recycling. The agreement would be for an additional 60 months with 2015 remaining at the same rate and a 1.5% increase on years 2 through 5.

Council Member VanDerWeele moved to accept the agreement to extend the current contract and Vice President Walker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN INPUT

Resident Ed Barcus asked the Council if they have ever given a "State of the Town Address" and President Null responded no. Mr. Barcus also expressed his concern about filling vacant board positions when the Council President attends those meetings and attacks the board members. Mr. Barcus asked if the Council has considered changing its stance on the take home vehicle for the police chief and Vice President Walker replied no.

Business owner Todd VanDerWeele expressed his concerns about his dumpster being filled up by other residents and non-residents causing him to run out of room for his own trash. Bob Stone from Allied Waste Services suggested a dumpster with a locking lid.

Resident Jerry Becker asked the Council about rate increases for water and wastewater. There are no plans at this time to increase rates.

Ed Scherer-Berry, writer for The Pilot News, gave a nice complement to the town for the collaboration on the downtown planters and how nice they turned out. Clerk-Treasurer Jones thanked him.

OLD BUSINESS

Attorney Report:

Attorney Jones said that the judgment for an ordinance violation discussed at the prior meeting had been paid and will be released.

Also, Derek discussed the complaint Barney Beers filed with the Public Access Counselor concerning alleged violation of the open door laws in which the Public Access Counselor agreed that there were no violations. Mr. Jones also received additional complaints from the Public Access Counselor from Mr. and Mrs. Beers to which Derek responded on behalf of the board members and is awaiting their response.

Council Member Jones moved to accept the attorney report and Vice President Walker seconded. The

motion carried unanimously.

BZA, Plan Commission & Cemetery Board Openings:

There were no letters of interest at this meeting.

Ordinance 2014-6/ Parking & Traffic Amendment:

After much debate, Council Member VanDerWeele moved to pass Ordinance 2014-6 on the second reading with the changes discussed at the workshop and no parking 25 feet within an intersection and keeping the street parking widths at 30 and 20 feet. Council Member Rowe seconded. The motion failed with President Null, Vice President Walker and Council Member Jones opposing.

Vice President Walker moved to pass Ordinance 2014-6 on the second reading with the corrected changes but allowing parking on one side of the street if the street width is 19 feet or wider and Council Member Jones seconded. The motion carried three to two with Council Members VanDerWeele and Rowe opposing.

2015 Budget Workshops:

The Council set budget workshops for July 21ST and 22ND at 6:30pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Argos Wesleyan Church Request:

The church is requesting to have East Plum Street between Michigan Street and Maple Street blocked off for their annual carnival held on August 17TH from 9am to 3pm. Vice President Walker moved to allow the request and Council Member Jones seconded. The motion carried unanimously

CLAIMS

Clerk-Treasurer Jones read the top five claims totaling \$167,825.05 which represented 76% of the total docket and the claim docket totaled \$218,163.14. Council Member Jones moved to accept claims 608 through 659 and Council Member VanDerWeele 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 8:18 PM.

George Null, President

ATTEST:

Patty Jones, Clerk-Treasurer