

Glenwood Special Meeting - April 27, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

With all three council members present, Jon Lykins, Council President, declared a quorum and called the special meeting to order. Other officers present were Dennis Richardson, Council Vice President, Jo Temple, Council Member; and Mary M. Richardson, Clerk-Treasurer.

Mary Richardson confirmed that the Rushville Republican and Connersville News Examiner had been properly notified of the special meeting. Mary also posted a notice on the town's bulletin board. The public was invited to attend the meeting.

Mary presented the Council with information regarding the status of the sidewalk project based on her meeting yesterday with Mark Blake and Kim Bodwell from INDOT. She was told that Kim was able to obtain additional funds for the right of way project. We will not be approved for the additional funds until the next year. But the new year begins on 7/1/2021. Because we had to have the request for the original \$93,360 in ASAP, Mary submitted the request to INDOT yesterday.

Mary advised against canceling project. The town could potentially owe Federal Highway back all federal money already spent. FYI – they can absolve it, but it is something we have to present to FHWA and get approval. The Town could be made to pay back \$69,774, plus we have a to-date cost paid of \$13,934.

Mary explained that the right of way costs increased from \$116,700 to \$179,130. This increase is after we reduced the project from 29 to 22 parcels. Part of the increase is \$38,000 which is estimated to be the payment to the property owners. I thought the "buying" line item was that cost. But that is what we pay someone to negotiate and get the right of ways from the property owners. Marc said the land cost was not included in the original budget because INDOT told him not to include it. That was never communicated to us.

Mary stated she questioned Kim as to why we are spending so much money for this process. I said years ago when we had to get right-of-way for a wastewater project, we did not obtain appraisals and pay someone to work with the property owners. The Town Attorney was involved and Council President and Clerk-Treasurer obtained many of the right of way documents. We gave the booklet to the property owners and told them they had a right to request an appraisal and get paid for the right of way. Only one person requested payment. He received \$400. Kim said the process has changed because towns were coercing people to waive their rights.

After reviewing the revised sidewalk budget, a motion was made by Dennis Richardson and seconded by Jo Temple to approve the revised budget as presented which increases the right of way costs from \$116,700 to \$179,130. Approval was unanimous.

Another issue discussed is that the environmental review is pending because the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) would like us to replace the trees that will be removed. There were 12 but the revision reflects 9 trees to be removed. Since INDOT has not reduced the construction budget based on the reduced parcels so the replacement trees may be absorbed in the current budget. A motion was made by Jo Temple and seconded by Dennis Richardson to approve replacing trees designated for replacement by SHPO. Approval was unanimous.

A motion was made by Jo Richardson and seconded by Jon Lykins to adjourn the meeting. Approval was unanimous.

Mary M. Richardson, Clerk-Treasurer