

**MEETING MINUTES**  
*PRINCE'S LAKES TOWN COUNCIL*  
**PRINCE'S LAKES TOWN HALL, 14 E LAKEVIEW DR, NINEVEH, IN 46164**  
**June 20, 2022**

COUNCILORS PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT GREG NELSON  
VICE PRESIDENT MIKE GALLAMORE  
COUNCILOR KAREN HARRISON  
COUNCILOR PHILIP MONTARSI  
COUNCILOR BRYAN TEARMAN

CLERK-TREASURER PRESENT: ERICA LYDEN-GIGER

TOWN ATTORNEY PRESENT: LEE ROBBINS

STAFF PRESENT: MARSHAL GREG SOUTHERS  
UTILITES SUPT SCOTT BLACKWELL  
PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR MIKE MILLER  
BUILDING INSPECTOR TOM THOMPSON

PUBLIC PRESENT: PEGGY HITTLE

Council President Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Peggy Hittle spoke and said she had to have her power pole moved to her neighbor's yard by the power company. In doing so, the water utility could no longer use that pole for the power to her grinder pump. Ms. Hittle stated she was not home until a week later and when she went to use her washer, it backed up and had to call a plumber. The plumber stated the power was not on to her grinder pump and recommended her trying to get the \$85.00 service call back from the Town. Ms. Hittle is asking to be reimburse her for the service call.

After discussion,

- Council Vice Mike President Gallamore made a motion to reimburse Ms. Hittle in the amount of \$85.00 as a form of credit on her next bill. Councilor Phil Montarsi seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Building Inspector Tom Thompson would like a better way to track residents that are using their properties as Air B&Bs and to enforce ordinance 400. After discussion, Marshal Greg Southers stated he could drive Mr. Thompson around and show him known violators. Town Attorney Lee Robbins stated that once Mr. Thompson gets a list together of residents that are violating the ordinance, he will file suit against the home owners.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Council President Greg Nelson made a motion to approve the May 16, 2022 regular meeting minutes and May 26, 2022 planning session minutes. Councilor Bryan Tearman seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

### **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:**

Marshal Greg Southers spoke about Melissa Weathers doing a great job and has now helped the Police Department get their reports done correctly and entered into NIBORS. Marshal Southers stated the federal government wants all agencies to use this system. He would like to give Mrs. Weathers a \$5.00 an hour raise to \$30.00 an hour. Mr. Tearman asked if this is system where eventually Marshal Southers would be able to enter his reports, Marshal Southers stated no, he has tried and can't do it. He also stated that eventually Mrs. Weathers would like to go full time. Marshal Southers would also like to purchase 1000 rounds of new duty ammo in the amount of \$750.00

After discussion,

- Council President Nelson made a motion to approve a pay raise for Melissa Weathers in the amount of \$5.00 an hour, \$25.00 to \$30.00 with no more than 15 hours per week. Councilor Montarsi seconded the motion and passed unanimously.
- Councilor Montarsi made a motion to allow Marshal Southers to purchase 1000 rounds of duty ammo for \$750.00 Council President Nelson seconded the motion and passed unanimously

Mr. Gallamore asked Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger what fund golf cart permits goes into. Mrs. Lyden-Giger stated it goes into the General fund. Mr. Gallamore asked how many people have renewed the permit, Mrs. Lyden-Giger stated she didn't know the exact number, maybe 10. She also stated a lot of people have not renewed their permit and letters have been sent out to residents informing them that their permit is now expired and due to renew. Mr. Gallamore stated that the Council changed the renewal period for golf cart permits and they are now valid from January 1 – December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### **WATER/WASTEWATER REPORT:**

Superintendent Scott Blackwell presented the Council with his report. He stated during the storm a few weeks ago they were able to run on generators with no problems. The Sanitary Survey is done

every three years and is due this year. He and Jason Sneed will be working on that. HWC is going to help with the water loss audit. The 2021 CCR is now available on our website and in Town Hall and a notice was included on the bills.

Mr. Blackwell stated they are having more leaks lately due to the pressure not being at the correct level. The altitude valve for the water tower at Town Hall came unthreaded which caused the issue. It has since been fixed. The Department of Defense grant is finished and Mr. Blackwell has submitted it to Karen Safer to give to her boss to review before officially submitted the application. Mr. Gallamore stated the grant will be for \$530,000 and have a 10% match, but that 10% can be reimbursed back to the Town if we have "sweat equity" involved in the grant process. Mr. Blackwell has been able to use his salary, Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger's salary, and Layman Boyd's salary to get the 10% back.

Discussion was made about how the utility would be able to run if rolling blackouts happen or if the power went out for an extended amount of time. Mr. Blackwell stated they will be able to run generators as long as they have enough fuel. Currently they keep 1000 gallons of fuel in their tanks.

### **STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

Public Works Supervisor Mike Miller thanked the Council, Mrs. Lyden-Giger, Marshal Southers, the police officers and the Youth Group for their help during the Town Clean-Up Day. Mr. Tearman stated he had a lot of residents thank him for the event. Mr. Gallamore stated the Clean-Up went really well and had a lot of good feedback from the community.

Mr. Miller presented the Council with bids for road striping. After discussion, the Council wants to wait until after the next Community Crossings Matching Grant to stripe the roads.

Mr. Miller also stated the salt barn is very humid and it effecting the quality of the salt and presented the Council with bids to add fans and louvre doors. Mr. Miller also stated the barn is not ventilated and it should have been, the vents were sealed up at one point. Mr. Tearman asked if the vendor does this type of work often for salt barns. Mr. Blackmore stated the utility uses Barry Electric for all of their work and they do a lot of work for other municipalities.

Mr. Miller also stated he spoke with two contractors about the bids on the old concession stand building and he is waiting on their bids.

After discussion,

- Council President Nelson made a motion to approve the work on the salt barn for \$5,250.00 Councilor Tearman seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

### **CLERK-TREASURER REPORT:**

Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger presented Town, Water & Wastewater claims and ask the Council for approval in the amount of \$135,661.48 & \$644,978.29

- Council President Nelson made a motion to approve claims for Town, Water, & Wastewater as presented in the amount of \$135,661.48 & \$644,978.29 Councilor Tearman seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Lyden-Giger presented the May 26, 2022, allowance docket and asked the Council for approval in the amount of \$33,920.89 & the June 9, 2022 allowance docket in the amount of \$35,760.06.

- Council President Nelson made a motion to approve the May 26, 2022, allowance docket in the amount of \$33,920.89 & the June 9, 2022 allowance docket in the amount of \$35,760.06. Council Vice President Gallamore seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Lyden-Giger stated she and Councilor Montarsi discussed upgrading the parks and discovered the water fountain was no longer in proper working order. She and Mr. Montarsi would like to replace the broken fountain as well as add 2 additional fountains. One would be at the ball diamond where currently there is not one and the other would be at the Town Hall Park by the pavilion. The last fountain would be in the same place where the current one is and would have a dog bowl attached. The dog bowl fountain would be \$5,456.83 and the regular fountains are \$4,129.03 each. Mr. Montarsi spoke and stated he and Mrs. Lyden-Giger would also like to add some picnic tables in the tree line and the wooded area on Dyson, and would also like to add some grills for our residents to be able to use. Mr. Gallamore stated he loves the idea for community to have more access to our parks.

After discussion,

- Councilor Montarsi made a motion to approve the purchase of three new water fountains in the amount of \$13,714.89. Council Vice President seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Town Attorney Lee Robbins informed the Council that the state legislation passed HB 1002 eliminating tax on utility receipts tax effective July 1, 2022. Rate Consultant Steve Brock did a calculation in the reducing the rates, and on the minimum monthly charge a rate reduction of .32. Mr. Robbins presented the Council with **ORDINANCE 2022-3 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE PRINCE'S LAKES WATER UTILITY**

After discussion,

- Council President Nelson made a motion to approve **ORDINANCE 2022-3 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE PRINCE'S LAKES WATER UTILITY** on first reading. Councilor Montarsi seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

- Council President Nelson made a motion to approve **ORDINANCE 2022-3 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE PRINCE'S LAKES WATER UTILITY** on second and final reading. Councilor Montarsi seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Mr. Robbins also spoke about 876 Lakeview Dr. He has filed a motion for default judgement on June 10, 2022 and is just awaiting the judge to sign it. Mr. Robbins is hoping before the next Council meeting the judge will sign the order and have bids to demolish the house and clear and property.

Mr. Robbins stated the cell tower project is still in negotiations. Mr. Gallamore asked if there was an opportunity to get more money. Mr. Nelson stated no, they will only pay the Town \$1000.00 per month. Mr. Montarsi stated he feels that amount of money is too low and wants community input. He does not like the idea of having a cell tower in Prince's Lakes. Mr. Tearman stated AT&T will make more than \$1000.00 per month and they will rent out their towers for other providers to use. He asked if we can negotiate a higher price for those extra leases. Mr. Nelson said AT&T contacted him and he thought \$12,000 a year is a good idea. Mr. Montarsi stated it is but it isn't, those towers are an eye sore and lot of communities try to disguise them.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Gallamore gave an update on the sign project. He and Mrs. Lyden-Giger have been getting bids and will review all bids and specs and make a recommendation to the Council soon. He also stated Mr. Miller and Mr. Thompson have contacted contractors to get bids for the old concession stand building.

Mr. Tearman stated he had one electrician give him a quote for the lights for the new basketball court and to run power to the sign. The power for the sign is \$9,409.00. One quote is for lower grade lights with a 5-year warranty for \$22,314.00 the other quote is for higher grade lights with a 10-year warranty for \$27,593.00. Mr. Tearman also stated the lights will be on a push button timer that will shut off at a set amount of time and the player would have to push a button to be able to turn the lights back on. The lights would also have a set time to turn off and not be able to be turned back on.

Mr. Montarsi stated he and Mrs. Lyden-Giger spent a lot of time looking at playground equipment and would like to get a representative to present certain items and help plan the playground. Mr. Montarsi also stated he would like to expand on the idea of a carport and make it an actual shelter to be able to use during Town events.

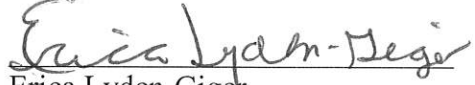
Mr. Gallamore stated he had someone approach him about purchasing the old Tara Treatment Center for the new Town Hall. He believes the price is around \$180,000.00. He has not done any research on the idea, just wanted the Council to start thinking about it. The current Town Hall would be the Police Department.

Mr. Gallamore informed the Council that the Clerk-Treasurers department has put together a community survey. He and Mr. Montarsi are going to add to it and would like additional Council input.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

With no further business before the Prince's Lakes Town Council, Council President Nelson made a motion to adjourn at 8:48 P.M. Councilor Montarsi seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Erica Lyden-Giger  
Clerk-Treasurer

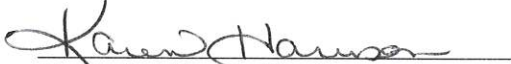
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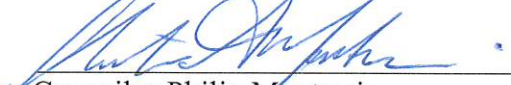
Council President Greg Nelson



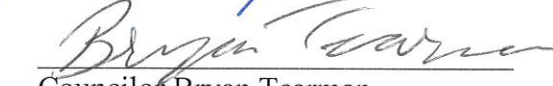
Council Vice President Mike Gallamore



Councilor Karen Harrison



Councilor Philip Montarsi



Councilor Bryan Tearman