



MEETING MINUTES

PRINCE'S LAKES TOWN COUNCIL

PRINCE'S LAKES TOWN HALL, 14 E LAKEVIEW DR, NINEVEH, IN 46164

November 20, 2023

COUNCILORS PRESENT:

VICE PRESIDENT BRYAN TEARMAN
COUNCILOR MIKE GALLAMORE
COUNCILOR KAREN HARRISON
COUNCILOR LINDSEY KELLY

COUNCILOR ABSENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT GREG NELSON

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

PUBLIC PRESENT:

JASON RIGGS
RYAN WHITLEY
PHIL MONTARSI
KEVIN HARRISON
ANTHONY GIGER

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

Ryan Whitley, representative for AT&T spoke to Council about installing a 196 foot cell phone tower behind Town Hall. Mr. Whitley presented Council with a current coverage map and what the projected coverage could be if the tower were to be installed. Mr. Whitley also presented a map showing what coverage could be if the location were just outside of town. Mr. Whitley stated this is for a 90 year lease and they try to keep the towers away from residential areas as much as

they can. Zoning ordinances prevent most of that. Mr. Whitley asked if Council was interested in moving forward. Councilor Mike Gallamore stated according to the survey that residents took it was overwhelming in favor of the tower and he feels they should move forward. Anthony Giger spoke and said the survey didn't include enough people, most people didn't know about the survey because they don't get on our website or Facebook page. It was a very small percentage of the population that voted. Mr. Giger also stated most people don't even know about the tower, how it will affect their health or property values and that a tower should not be installed less than 1500 feet of a residence. Mr. Giger stated that studies have shown there is not even evidence that show these towers are safe and have been banned in Europe. Council Vice President Bryan Tearman stated that he has worked around EMF's all his life and does not believe the health risks or the studies.

Mr. Whitley stated the federal government has made it illegal to deny a tower being built from a zoning perspective for health reasons because of how many studies have been done. Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger asked if they have those studies with them. Mr. Whitley said he believes he gave them to us last time he was here and can email it. Mrs. Lyden-Giger stated in the literature she was provided by them last time stated more studies need to be done to determine health risks. Jason Riggs stated cell phone towers give off the same frequency as cell phones and they are non-ionizing radiation which means it does not affect DNA. Mr. Riggs said they provided reports. Police and fire fighter radio frequencies are much higher and wants to know if the Town wants to move forward. They were told it was an overwhelming amount of residents that want the tower. Engineers have said they can put a tower here and have better service. Phil Montarsi asked if there was a better location, Mr. Whitley stated you run into a topography issue, the trees will block the site. They did not ask AT&T to run any studies of the south side of town, but they can. Mr. Montarsi asked how far from the tower is the dead spot? He lived a .25 mile away from a tower in Noblesville and couldn't get coverage. Mr. Riggs said there is a little bit a zone that it does not provide coverage. Mr. Whitley said if you are at the top of the hill because it's flat you will get a better shot, but if you're at the bottom of the hill by the lake the signal, the signal does not go as far with obstacles in your way.

Mr. Tearman asked what the difference between 3G, 4G and 5G. Mr. Tearman stated what he was told that 5G is a weaker signal and that's why you need more towers. Mr. Riggs stated 5G runs off fiber and runs through the fiber faster. Mr. Whitley stated it's frequency. 5G runs off different frequency's than 3G & 4G and when it hits obstacles it can't travel nearly as far, which is why in cities where they cannot put a tower due to zoning or highly populated areas they will put a small cell on top of telephone poles. Mrs. Lyden-Giger ask what's the danger to animals. Mr. Whitley said where the radiation coming off the antennas is the most intense, is right in front of the antennas. That is why when people work on them they have to be turned off, in order to work on them because the radiation shoots out. If birds are sitting on the antenna or sitting on a wire in front of the antennas there is absolutely a higher volume level of radiation right there, and it disperses as it travels. If they are behind the antenna there is very minimal radiation. Mr. Gallamore asked how close to the water tower would the site be. Mr. Whitley said he does know where the garage is, but it would be about 40 or 50 into the field where would the compound would start. Then a 75'x75' compound and then the tower will go in the middle. Mr. Tearman asked how soon do the other carriers lease off the other towers and Verizon will probably want to lease quickly. Mr. Whitley stated typically AT&T builds the tower and a lot of times they will sell their tower to a tower owner and then that owner will try to market the tower to get other carriers to come on to it. Mr. Giger stated he has Verizon and he works all over town, and Brown County

and he gets service almost everywhere he goes and AT&T can lease space of the Verizon tower. Mr. Tearman said they one of Sweetwater is the one that is not feeding us right now and he is not doing this for him, they sent out a survey and they are going with the survey. Mrs. Lyden-Giger stated a lot of other products were thought to be safe like asbestos, and people got cancer that worked around it, thalidomide was a pill given to pregnant women in the 1950's and their babies were born without limbs. Not enough time has gone by to know the long-term health effects. Mr. Whitley stated EMF has been around since the 1800's. Mr. Tearman said he agrees about the safety of EMF's. His company will test EMF readings and there are more inside your house than outside. Mr. Whitley stated he can show a report showing property values continued to go up after cell towers were built. Mr. Gallamore said the people who were interested enough in filling out the survey told him and other people he has spoken to would like them to pursue the tower. He is leaning heavily on the survey. He said his community that elected him wants it. Mrs. Lyden-Giger stated they also have people that elected them that don't want the tower. More discussion was made about property values. Mr. Riggs stated they will send out notifications to property owners who will be around the tower. Kevin Harrison stated the Council has an obligation to the voters of this town to do what they think is best. Mr. Harrison asked if you are going to help more people or harm people with a tower. Mr. Harrison said he had AT&T and he hated it, he switched to Tmobile and he has a signal now, he is not sure if a tower will help the rest of the community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Council Vice President Tearman motioned to approve the September 28, 2023 Special Meeting, 2024 Budget Adoption, October 24, 2023 Regular Meeting and November 2, 2023 Executive session minutes. Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:

Marshal Greg Southers gave his report. Marshal Southers stated his computers were failing and need to replace them. He is still waiting on a quote for the police department remodel. Discussion was made about the total solar eclipse happening April of 2024. Marshal Southers stated they have already begun to prepare for the event and all of the spectators that are expected to be in our area.

WATER/WASTEWATER REPORT:

Superintendent Scott Blackwell presented the Council with his report and informed Council that Lori Lollar and Jason Sneed have completed and submitted the water loss audit. Mr. Blackwell said the \$95,000.00 grant they were approved for is going to purchase a new sewer vac. Mr. Blackwell stated in the last two years, they've been able to capture \$634,000.00 worth of grants. Mr. Blackwell stated a lot of work has gone into these grants and our Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger has put in a lot of work as well. Mr. Blackwell gave an update on the progress of the new building. Atterbury got approval for the drawings by the engineers for the new SCADA system. He believes it will be spring before the project is completed. The hydrant flushing program for the year is complete and they are at 81% average water efficiency for the year. They have received the new computer boards for the sampler at the wastewater plant and will be calibrated next month.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Public Works Supervisor Mike Miller informed the Council that he has enough salt as of right now and will need to try and find another snow plow driver for the winter. Mr. Gallamore stated that Mr. Miller along with some help submitted the AMP to LTAP and we are now able to apply for the 2024 Community Crossings Matching Grant.

CLERK-TREASURER REPORT:

Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger presented invoice #6 from HWC for \$1,125.00 This is for the Rural Development project for study and report phase. Mrs. Lyden-Giger also presented Utility Supply Company invoice for \$854.48.

- Council Vice President Tearman motioned to approve HWC invoice #6 in the amount of \$1,125.00 Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and passed unanimously.
- Council Vice President Tearman motioned to approve Utility Supply Company invoice for \$854.48. Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and passed unanimously

Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger presented Town, Utilities, October 26, 2023 & November 9, 2023, allowance docket claims and ask the Council for approval in the amounts of \$174,324.19, \$292,990.81, \$38,519.03, \$42,557.61

- Council Vice President Tearman motioned to approve all claims as presented. Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Lyden-Giger stated Council needs to approve Ordinance 2023-08, 4th Amended 2023-08 Salary Ordinance due to the increase in salary for the building inspector.

- Council Vice President Tearman motioned to approve Ordinance 2023-08, 4th Amended 2023-08 Salary Ordinance. Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Town Attorney Lee Robbins presented Council with options for employees that turn 65 during their employment in regards to a 105 plan. Mr. Robbins stated the Town is wanting to pay 100% of an employee's Medicare which is the same as other employee's health coverage and implement a 105 plan to reimburse eligible health expenses up to \$1000.00 each year of employment. The Town is also offering to pay a supplemental or Advantage plan as well, After discussion;

- Council Vice President Tearman motioned to authorize and adopt 105-HRA Plan Adoption Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan Agreement and Description for One Eligible

Employee and authorize Greg Nelson to sign on behalf of the Town Council. Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Mr. Robbins present Council with Ordinance 2023-09, Amended and Restated Ordinance No-113 An Ordinance to Amend and Restate Ordinance No-133 to Authorize the Placement of Additional Stop Signs (Bergman & Providence)

- Council Vice President Tearman motioned to adopt Ordinance 2023-09 Amended and Restated Ordinance No-113 An Ordinance to Amend and Restate Ordinance No-133 to Authorize the Placement of Additional Stop Signs (Bergman & Providence). Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Gallamore has the comparison of the signs and will meet with Mrs. Lyden-Giger to review. Mr. Gallamore stated a letter has been delivered to residents living close to the new basketball court at Town Hall Park letting them know about the lights that will be on at night and when they will automatically shut off.

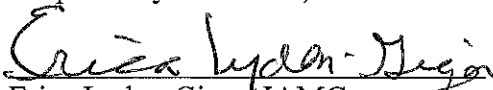
Mr. Gallamore stated Council needs to do performance reviews for the department heads and come up with salary ranges to be competitive with other towns similar to ours.

NEW BUSINESS:

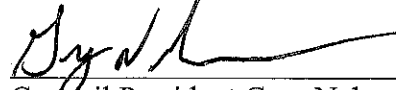
Mr. Gallamore stated that he feels the need for the Town to have a consultant or manager and would like the position once he is no longer on the Council and stated they need to define what the role will be. Mr. Tearman said he feels the position is valuable, Mr. Blackwell also stated that our utility is the same size as Franklin, IN and sees it will be a benefit because Mr. Gallamore puts a lot of work into helping the utility. Mrs. Lyden-Giger said a lot of the trainings she goes to they really encourage Towns to have a manager no matter the size. Towns with managers are more successful and she feels what Mr. Gallamore does for Town is incredibly valuable and one of the reasons why we've been successful these last few years.

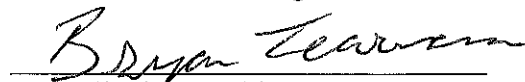
With no further business before the Prince's Lakes Town Council, Council Vice President Tearman motioned to adjourn at 8:41 pm Councilor Kelly seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Erica Lyden-Giger, IAMC
Clerk-Treasurer

Council:


Council President Greg Nelson


Council Vice President Bryan Tearman


Councilor Mike Gallamore

Karen Harrison
Councilor Karen Harrison

Lindsey Henson
Councilor Lindsey Henson (Kelly)