

Regular Meeting Minutes
Ellendale Fire Company
LOCATION CHANGE: Zoom Meeting
May 5th, 2021

7:00pm – Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order

At 7:00pm, the regular Town Hall meeting for May 5th, 2021, was called to order by President Kimberly Hughes

2. Moment of Silence/ Pledge of Allegiance

The decision was made to not hold this as this was a Zoom call.

3. Roll Call

Kim Hughes, President – Absent; Virginia Weller, Vice President – Present; Tamara Skis, Secretary – Present; Aaron Moore, Treasurer – Present.

In Attendance: Craig Eliassen, Gail Vincent, Bruce Von Goerres

4. Citizen Service Recognition

No Citizens to recognize this month.

5. Approval of Agenda

Kim Hughes advised that item 9.14 could be handled under 9.9, so it could be removed from the agenda. Motion to accept the agenda with corrections– Aaron Moore. Second – Virginia. Voting in favor of the motion: Kimberly Hughes Virginia Weller, Deborah Short, Aaron Moore and Tamara Skis. Motion carried by majority vote.

6. Reading & Approval of Minutes

The minutes were not submitted on time for the Council to review. Motion to hold the minutes until June meeting– Aaron Moore. Second – Virginia Weller. Voting in favor of the motion: Kimberly Hughes Virginia Weller, Deborah Short, Aaron Moore and Tamara Skis. Motion carried by majority vote.

7. Treasurer's Report

Reviewed the April's Treasurer's report. Motion to accept the April Treasurer's Report – Aaron Moore. Second – Tamara Skis. Voting in favor of the motion: Virginia Weller, Deborah Short, Aaron Moore and Tamara Skis. Motion carried by majority vote.

8. Police Chief's Report

Chief Von Goerres read the police report. Motion to accept the submitted police report – Virginia Weller. Second – Tamara Skis. Voting in favor of the motion: Kimberly Hughes Virginia Weller, Deborah Short, Aaron Moore and Tamara Skis. Motion carried by majority vote.

9. Old Business

- 9.1 Ingram Village Update – Kim Hughes has reached out to Beaver Properties to request assurance that the sidewalks will be completed for the lots that have not been developed. She also informed them of their responsibilities regarding the streetlights. She also informed them of the residence on Sylvia Ave that has the pebbles in the right of way. Beaver Properties has not provided any answers regarding the lots with the 80-foot easement from the tax ditch. She also wanted to talk

about the pond and the fish with Stormwater. The entrance on Old State Rd was not started as of the meeting.

Aaron Moore received a few complaints from residents about an increased amount of people who are driving down the ditch to get to the pond. This activity is also happening after dark. Aaron Moore recommended that the Council may want to speak to the owners of the tax ditch and see what can be done to prevent people from driving down the tax ditch to the pond.

Another complaint that has been raised about Ingram Village is that on the cul de sac at the end of South Lee St is being completely blocked off by vehicles intentionally so that they can go out and play basketball and cornhole. They are setting up basketball hoops and cornhole boards in the street and then using their vehicles to block the roadway, which is then causing vehicles to have to turn around in people's driveways because they can't use the cul de sac. Chief Von Goerres requested that if these types of complaints are being lodged that either the residents call him directly to let him know or to call 911 or the non-emergency number. This way there is a record of the complaint.

- 9.2 Comprehensive Plan Review Update – The update has been sent to PLUS for review and any feedback they may have.
- 9.3 Committee Updates – Aaron Moore once again brought up the idea of needing to reassess the members of various committees because of lack of action of those who are currently serving. The example that he gave was that of the Planning Commission. They had been asked for feedback a few times recently due to all the changes that have been made in the zoning.

Kim Hughes advised that she would like to set up a meeting with the members and ask about their interest. Kim Hughes would reach out to the members and facilitate the discussion.

Kim Hughes also wanted to ensure that it was understood that no Town money went into the Easter Candy drive thru. The candy and supplies were donate by Virginia Weller, Kim Hughes, and Jamie Webb.

- 9.4 **Tabled** - Charter Change Project
- 9.5 Sidewalk/drainage issue at 311 Main St. – Kim Hughes advised that the homeowners are happy with the results. There was concern about whether kids would play in the ditch, but that has not been the case yet. The water has drained without any problems and there has been no evidence of standing or stagnant water.
- 9.6 Insight Homes Proposed Building Plans – Insight Homes has been in connection with Kim Hughes asking to be allowed to proceed with work. Kim Hughes advised that she told them that Council is waiting until the work is completed as promised, and that the Council cannot issue any permits until the entrance is completed per DeIDOT. Virginia Weller, Tamara Skis, and Craig Eliassen all vocalized their agreement with maintaining the permit restriction until DeIDOT advised it could be resumed. Motion to continue to enforce DeIDOT's restriction on no permits until the entrance has been completed – Tamara Skis. Second – Virginia Weller. Voting in favor of the motion: Kimberly Hughes Virginia Weller, Deborah Short, Aaron Moore and Tamara Skis. Motion carried by majority vote.

- 9.7 Annexation – Aaron Moore discussed the procedures for annexing into the town and voiced his opinion that it is an belabored process that he believes makes it more difficult for those who want to be part of the town.

Kim Hughes also informed the Council that she had been approached by Mr. Bob Gary's attorney. Mr. Gary owns property near town and has expressed interest in annexing into the town. The attorney advised that they would be in touch with the town to discuss annexation and development opportunities. Since the Gary property is near the Mt. Zion AME Church, President Hughes reached out to the pastor to discuss their interest to also annex into the town, but she has not yet received a response.

Councilman Moore also reached out to the owner of Reid Trucking to see if they would also be interested. Aaron Moore advised that he was working on additional zoning to include industrial and agricultural to allow for more options for the surrounding properties.

- 9.8 Town Code Ordinances/Zoning Ordinance Update – Aaron Moore had provided everyone with a copy of what he was proposing as a C2 and C3 zoning. These would allow for more diverse businesses that the current zoning does not allow. Councilman Moore pointed out that one of the items that he included was electric vehicle charging stations as the major car manufacturing companies have stated in the coming years they will no longer have gas-powered engines in their vehicles. Craig Eliassen advised that he had no concerns with what has been proposed. Motion to accept the C2 and C3 zoning proposal and to make it a part of the zoning ordinance – Aaron Moore. Second – Tamara Skis, Virginia Weller. Voting in favor of the motion: Kimberly Hughes Virginia Weller, Deborah Short, Aaron Moore and Tamara Skis. Motion carried by majority vote.
- 9.9 2021 Road Projects Update – Kim Hughes advised that the bid from Jerry's previously discussed in a special meeting does in fact include the tie ins to the driveways of surrounding properties. Senator Wilson, Representative Vanderwende and Representative Shupe were all willing to provide funding such that the project is at no cost to the town.

Senator Wilson advised that he would have been willing to fund the more expensive bid, which was approximately \$12,000 difference and to let him know if there were any other projects for which the town needed funding. Kim Hughes was looking into the possibility of getting the playground equipment in the park updated but was not sure of the Community Transportation Fund would cover that kind of a project. Aaron Moore also suggested getting the hydrants in town repaired so that they have a good pressure behind them. Tamara Skis asked whether there were any other areas within town that could use some water redirection similar to that at 311 Main St. Deborah Short asked if there was a deadline, to which Kim Hughes answered not really. Aaron Moore also suggested painting the crosswalks on Main Street. Tamara Skis suggested that the Council also consider bike paths in the near future, as it was mentioned in the Comprehensive Plan.

- 9.10 Website Management Update – Kim Hughes has advised that she has made the request for other members on Council to get access to update the website, but any response has been delayed due to the State needing to manage and update the COVID website. There was also discussion of Town Council hosting their own website and how easy it would be to manage that and reach out to the public through that. Deborah Short advised that it's easy to manage the sites individually, but to somehow link them may be difficult.