

Town of Diana Board Meeting, January 9, 2024 - 6:21 PM

Supervisor Smith called the Town of Diana Board Meeting to order at 6:21 pm

Roll Call:

Supervisor Smith Here
Councilman Bango Here
Councilman Pierce Here
Councilwoman Ritz Here
Councilman Phipps Here
All present. None excused.

Reports of Invited Guests: No Guests

Supervisor Smith asked for a motion to accept minutes from the December Meeting.

Motion to accept or amend minutes from the December meeting

Motion to Accept by: Councilman Bango **Seconded by:** Councilman Pierce
All in favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Smith asked for a motion to approve the Supervisor's Report.

Supervisor's Report & Motion to Accept:

Motion to Accept by: Councilman Pierce **Seconded by:** Councilwoman Ritz
All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Smith asked for a motion to approve the Town Clerk's Report.

Town Clerk's Report & Motion to Accept:

Motion to Accept by: Councilman Bango **Seconded by:** Councilwoman Ritz
All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to accept the Water Report.

Water Report & Motion to Accept:

Motion to Accept by: Councilman Pierce **Seconded by:** Councilman Bango
All in favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Smith stated they would move on to auditing the bills.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to approve payment of the General Funds Bills.

Audit Bills & Motion to Pay:

General:

Motion to Pay by: Councilman Pierce **Seconded by:** Councilman Bango
All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to approve payment of the Water Funds Bills.

Audit Bills & Motion to Pay:

Water:

Motion to Pay by: Councilman Bango **Seconded by:** Councilwoman Ritz
All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to approve payment of the SL-1 & SL-2 Funds Bills.

Audit Bills & Motion to Pay:

SL-1 & SL-2:

Motion to Pay by: Councilman Phipps **Seconded by:** Councilman Bango
All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to approve payment of the Highway Fund Bills, after the clerk adds the Cintas Bill totalling \$56.00, to the abstract, It was stuck to the back of the voucher in front of it and was missed.

Audit Bills & Motion to Pay:

Town of Diana Board Meeting, January 9, 2024 - 6:21 PM

Highway:

Motion to Pay by: Councilman Bango

Seconded by: Councilman Phipps

All in favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Smith explained that Abstract 13 bills closes out the 2023 year. Abstract 1 is the first abstract paying for town bills from the 2024 budget. There are only vouchers to be paid from General Funds on this abstract.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to approve payment of Abstract 1 General Fund Bills from the 2024 budget:

Audit Bills & Motion to Pay:

General:

Motion to Pay by: Councilman Pierce

Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to enter into executive session.

Motion to enter into Executive Session:

Motioned by: Councilwoman Ritz

Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Supervisor Smith and all Board Members entered into executive session at 6:40 PM

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to adjourn from executive session and continue with the regular board meeting.

Motion to adjourn from Executive Session:

Motioned by: Councilmen Bango

Seconded by: Councilman Pierce

All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Executive Session adjourned at 7:08 PM, and the regular board meeting continued.

The Privilege of the Floor: No one called to request privilege of the floor.

Capital Water Project: There will be a pre-bid walk through on February 8, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the Town Hall. The Bid date is February 2, 2024 at 11:00 AM at the Town Hall.

Land Easements: Hadfield/Kiggins & Justin Mouser, there were new letters sent out to all.

Water Meter Easements: Updated letters were sent. The town attorney, Lawrence Hassler, is working on a newsletter about the easement that will be going out soon.

There was a review request made by the Harrisville Museum on water rates: They have asked since they are a non-profit organization, the building they use is owned by the town, could they be exempt from paying a water bill for the 6 months of the year they have the water on, \$96.00 a year. Supervisor Smith asked that the board think about this and they can discuss and decide at a future board meeting. The board members stated they would discuss and decide at a later date.

Old Business:

Councilman Pierce asked for a motion to sell the Medical Building to Lewis County for \$1.00 dollar, to be used by Lewis County Hospital. If the Building goes empty without a Doctor or Physicians' Assistant it is to be sold back to the Town of Diana for \$1.00 dollar.

There was no second to Councilman Pierce's motion. Supervisor Smith asked if there was a second to this motion. Councilman Phipps stated he felt that they should talk more about this with the Town Attorney. Councilman Pierce asked Lewis County Representative Herb Frost what his thoughts were. Representative Frost stated the county would like to move forward with negotiations to get the medical building opened again, and felt that this should be a negotiation between the County attorney, Town of Diana attorney, and Lewis County Hospital's attorney and Hospital Representative, the Town Supervisor, and maybe one of the board members and himself. Supervisor Smith asked if all would be comfortable with having the negotiations be between just the attorneys, Lewis County Hospital Representative, Lewis County Representative Frost, himself and one other board member. Councilwoman Ritz, Councilman Bango, and Councilman Phipps agreed. Councilman Pierce agreed and further stated that "No

Town of Diana Board Meeting, January 9, 2024 - 6:21 PM

matter what we do with the building, it isn't bringing in any revenue for the town sitting empty." Councilman Bango asked does it have to be a medical building? Councilman Pierce stated yes, the community needs a medical facility.

Supervisor Smith asked for a motion that the Town of Diana attorney, Supervisor, and one Board member, move forward with negotiations on the medical building with only Lewis County Attorney, and Representative Frost, and Lewis County Hospital Representative and Lewis County Hospitals attorney. No other board members or others persons will be part of these negotiations.

Motion to Move Forward with Negotiations:

Motioned by: Councilwoman Ritz

Seconded by: Councilman Pierce

Roll Call:

Supervisor Smith Aye

Councilman Bango Aye

Councilman Pierce Aye

Councilwoman Ritz Aye

Councilman Phipps Aye

All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Review Resolution #13 - 2023: Supervisor Smith explained to all that this resolution allows him to make the 2023 accounts whole. Once the final reports run, and he has all the figures, Resolution #13-2023 will be typed up and ready for review of the board for the February board meeting.

YTD Cost - Harrisville Fire Department/Harrisville Rescue Squad: This will give Supervisor Smith what is needed to close out the books on the drive.

YTD Cost - Town of Diana: This will give Supervisor Smith what is needed to close out the books on the drive.

Grant update on zoning: Representatives from the Lewis County Planning Department want to come to the February board meeting to discuss this if the board is ok with that. The board members agreed that would be fine.

New Business:

Lewis County Planning - February Meeting: Members from Lewis County Planning will attend and speak at the February Town board meeting.

Review Correspondence from NYMIR-Insurance: The Insurance Representative sent a letter to Supervisor Smith, which is on the share drive, there is a lot of information in the letter. He recommended the board members read the letter. In the letter it stated they did an inspection of Town of Diana properties, gave Supervisor Smith advice and gave 60 days for the town to reply. Supervisor Smith stated he did reply to the letter. He stated the biggest thing they had issue with was that there is no fire alarm system. Supervisor Smith stated he has reached out to a few companies for pricing because the installation cost for the Town's Municipal Building fire alarm system was \$9000.00. Supervisor Smith let all know that the ballfield bleachers didn't meet required standards, per the insurance inspection. There was some general discussion about the bleachers, and a decision of what to do will be discussed at a later time. Supervisor Smith also stated that the insurance report also said there would need to be some excavating operator training for town workers. Superintendent Langs stated there was some free training online, Dig Safely also has courses too. Supervisor Smith stated that the playground needed new signage, and that the report also gave outlines of policies and procedures to update and adopt with local laws. He again asked for all to check the drive and read the letter from the Insurance walkthrough. Supervisor Smith stated there are forms on the drive that he would like to talk to the clerk about updating with the town's logo.

Road Rally 2024: Marcel has requested September 21st and 22nd, 2024 for the road rally race. Supervisor Smith asked the board members about their thoughts on this. There was general discussion about the fact that the Fire Department didn't want to do the rally anymore, and the

Town of Diana Board Meeting, January 9, 2024 - 6:21 PM

fact that it has been canceled by Marcell two years in a row. The board members all agreed. Supervisor Smith called for a motion to disapprove having the Road Rally in the Town of Diana in 2024.

Motion to disapprove Road Rally in 2024:

Motioned by: Councilman Pierce

Seconded by: Councilman Phipps

Roll Call:

Supervisor Smith	Aye
Councilman Bango	Aye
Councilman Pierce	Aye
Councilwoman Ritz	Aye
Councilman Phipps	Aye

All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Communication:

Museum Letter Update: Supervisor Smith let all know the letter was on the shared drive.

Highway Update:

Truck Quotes: Supervisor Smith asked Highway Superintendent Langs about the status on the quotes for a new town pickup truck. Superintendent Langs stated Castanet quoted \$57,500.00, Blevins quoted \$58,715.00 and the other quote was for \$59,630.00. Superintendent Langs stated he recommended we go with the Castanet quote of \$57,500.00. He stated the most expensive quote included the FX package, and he felt we did not need that on the F350 for the town. Councilman Bango asked what would be done with the other trucks, would the current White F350 the Superintendent drives go to the highway employees and the Red one they currently use go to auction? Superintendent Langs said yes, the white one would go to the guys and the red one could be sold at auction. Councilman Pierce asked if the town could afford to buy this truck. Supervisor Smith stated the town doesn't have the full amount to cover the purchase right now. He stated there is about \$40,000.00 in the reserve fund in the budget sitting there, but they would need \$17,000.00 to \$18,000.00 extra for the plow, so more like \$25,000.00 to \$26,000.00 more with installation costs to have the plow put on the new truck. Councilman Bango asked what did Superintendent Langs think we could get at auction for the red truck? Superintendent Langs stated approximately \$20,000.00. Supervisor Smith asked if they could table this discussion until after the close out of the year, to the February board meeting. Superintendent Langs stated yes they could. He just wanted all to know he recommends we go with the cheapest bid of \$57,500.00. Supervisor Smith asked Superintendent Langs if he could get plow pricing quotes for the February Meeting. Superintendent Langs said yes.

Reports of Committees:

Councilman /Town Clerk / Bookkeeper time:

Board Members: Nothing to report

Town Clerk: Association of Towns Training School/Annual Meeting is coming up in New York City. She asked the board members and supervisor if any of them were planning to attend. All said no. She asked the Supervisor if he was going to appoint a delegate to represent the town, and he stated no. The town clerk reminded anyone who has not yet signed their oath of office with her to please stop in and see her to get them signed as soon as possible.

Town Bookkeeper: Nothing to report.

Lewis County Representative Herb Frost stated there is a Business Leaders Breakfast for Lewis County being held at the Station in Harrisville on February 9, 2024. He let Supervisor Smith know that it would be great to have some representatives from the Town of Diana at this breakfast. Supervisor Smith asked if any of the board members, the Town Clerk or Town Bookkeeper council attend. Councilwoman Ritz, Councilman Pierce and Town Clerk Andrea Paterson stated they would attend. Representative Frost stated he would email the clerk with the time and information about the breakfast.

Supervisor Smith asked if anyone had anything else to report or if there were any questions. There were none. Supervisor Smith called for a motion to adjourn the board meeting.

Town of Diana Board Meeting, January 9, 2024 - 6:21 PM

Motion to adjourn:

Motioned by: Councilwoman Ritz

All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

Board Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM

Seconded by: Councilman Bango

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea M. Paterson".

Andrea M. Paterson
Town of Diana Clerk