

Town of Diana Regular Board Meeting - July 12, 2022 - 7pm

Date: 7/12/2022

Supervisor Smith called meeting to order at: 7:00pm

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Ritz: here

Supervisor Smith: here

Councilman Taylor: here

Councilman Bango: here

Councilman Malbeuf: here

Motion to accept or amend minutes from the previous meeting

Motion to accept by: Councilman Bango Seconded by: Councilman Malbeuf

All in favor.

Supervisor's report & motion to accept

Motion to accept by: Councilman Bango Seconded by: Councilman Taylor

All in favor.

Town Clerk's report & motion to accept

Motion to accept by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in favor.

Water Report & motion to accept

Motion to accept by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilwoman Ritz

All in favor.

Audit Bills & motion to pay

General:

Motion to accept by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilwoman Ritz

All in favor.

Highway:

Motion to accept by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilman Malbeuf

All in favor.

Reports of invited guests:

Candy Akin - Lewis County real property - Review Lewis County Town and County installment payment options

- Candy reviewed the success of the installment payment option for 13 towns within Lewis County.
- With this option, taxpayers could pay their first payment in January and a second payment by May 31.
- The town would have to use the same software as the county, which is web-based. Can be accessed anywhere where this is internet.
- Free to the towns currently. Last year, the Lewis County Legislators elected to continue paying the cost of the software as a shared service.
- However, if they were ever to choose not to, currently it would be only \$200/year to run the service out of the Town's Budget.

Marcel Ciascai - Road Rally-Roads-Ball field Weekend of August 20th

- Traffic will be diverted from the main road
- Pictures etc for kids with the drivers
- Marcel is coming back up on August 4th to make concrete plans, possibly July 23rd
- Supervisor Smith wants to get NYPA up to meet with Marcel and Zach
- The ground will be tarped so that spills will not be on ground
- The cars will be on jacks on 2x4s so that the ground won't get torn up
- Councilman Taylor voiced concerns over using the ball field as a parking lot, Marcel stated Diane said he could use the ball field. The Town only voted on dates, not parking in the ball field, said Councilman Taylor.
- Road rally will be in Harrisville, Pitcairn and Edwards
- Marcel is requesting that the driver's make a donation and canned goods for the food pantry.
- Discussion followed Marcel's exit
- Councilman Taylor would like to see Road Rally to pay for any damages to the ball field

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- Cars will bring up the rear of the parade, to the fire hall for pictures with kids, etc.

The privilege of the floor to the public: (A motion to limit debate could be in order)

- Denise Avallone
 - asked about the destruction at the playground. Supervisor Smith stated that the sheriff has the video and the Board is sure that it's the same 4 kids. New security should help to decrease the destruction at the playground.
 - Road Rally; if anyone is willing to rent to the drivers, is there a central person to send that information to? Julie from WDT said she could help with coordinating that. Maybe post in the Bargain Hunter for rentals?
- Becky Gibson: Any place to get rid of chunks of cement? Hwy Supervisor Chuck Langs said that there is a place at the green waste site to put cement. It's on the right if you drive in. Also would like to reconsider the black fly program—talk to the guy from DuFlo; didn't harm humans, birds, etc.

Capital Water Project:

- Supervisor Smith stated that future water rates need to be talked about.
- There will be a public meeting
- Water rate will stay the same to \$188, \$100 added for the loan repayment and then there will be a tier for metered water past a certain amount of usage.
- Councilman Taylor thinks we should re-do the water law; he has a copy of Star Lake's water law. Supervisor Smith said the Board could begin to look at re-writing the water law in Fall 2022.

Medical Center Updates:

- Interior Doors updates- Supervisor Smith called the door company and has not received a call back from them prior to the meeting.
- Septic is all done; Hwy Supervisor Langs to talk to Soil and Water to see if they will come up to grass seed the overturned dirt. He will also get quote for seal-coating the driveway.
- The student workers can pressure-wash the medical center.
- RFP Update for medical providers
 - No responses from RFP.
 - All of the local providers (Lewis County, St. Lawrence Health, Carthage, Star Lake and Claxton) all have internal issues that are being sorted out at this time that does not allow for them to provide a provider for the building.

Old Business

- Townofdiana.com launched on 6/24/22 - the website is still being worked on. Final Tax roll published on 6/24/22
- Hometown hero flag updates - 45 flags were ordered
 - Hardware is in today, flags should be in next week. Goal is to have them up for community fest. National grid is giving supervisor a hard time about the weight of the hardware.
- Playground bumpers and Refrigerator update
 - Playground bumpers were ordered.
 - Currently there is no summer rec program. Supervisor Smith is removing Pat Fraser from the account. Jill said she wasn't approached, but Supervisor Smith had approached her multiple times.
- IT quote / Northern Computers
- Security camera quotes for Town Hall, Playground, scenic view, grand view park
 - Only purchased for playground so far as this site is the number one priority for security.
- Walkability program
 - Councilman Bango talked to Chuck Fowler; in agreement to put the project on the backburner for now. There is a lot of work that needs to be done and a lot of money. Supervisor Smith will continue working on it as he can. He has talked to Fortis about the walkaway by the railroad track as it's falling down.
- Capital / Financial Plan update

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- Trying to put together a 5 year capital plan and where we want to be as a town.
- Tree City Grant
 - Supervisor Smith put in the application for the Tree City grant
- Celia Bango asked how we were going to have properties cleaned up in the Hamlet.
 - Input from the Board and public. One of the properties has done a lot of cleaning up around their yard and house.

New Business:

- Supervisor request to move board meeting to 6 PM instead of 7 PM

Motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Ritz to move Board Meeting to 6pm from 7pm

- Roll call:
 - Councilwoman Ritz: yes
 - Supervisor Smith: yes
 - Councilman Taylor: yes
 - Councilman Bango: yes
 - Councilman Malbeuf: yes
- Review 2023 Budget Calendar
- New town logo Review - The website will have a new logo on it
 - Karie is working on putting them on a google sheet to have available for the public to vote on the website
- Review information for the county's rails to trails program
- Review upcoming grant information from Lewis County
 - Didn't see much information that applied to Diana. Keith Young will be starting to paint the front of his shop (Keith Young Knives and Engraving) soon. Roger Fuller (Village Inn) and the Library will be reapplying for the grant in Fall 2022.
- Harrisville Rescue squad quarterly reports
 - 3 more EMTs added to the squad
- Review notes from Lewis county supervisors' meeting
 - Worried about estimating fuel for the highway budget
 - Some are doubling their fuel budget for next year
- Lewis County Real property requests new laptops for the assessor's office
 - Current computers won't work with Windows 11
 - County is getting pricing on the computer; would like every assessor for each Town to be on the same computer. It will be about \$1000. Can purchase it and pay it out of the 2023 budget.

Motion by Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Malbeuf to purchase Assesor's new computer through Lewis County Procurement policies

- Roll Call:
 - Councilwoman Ritz: yes
 - Supervisor Smith: yes
 - Councilman Taylor: yes
 - Councilman Bango: yes
 - Councilman Malbeuf: yes
- Councilman Bango asked Chuck about the plow—can we paint the plow? Sandblasted and primed to help? It was discussed that Lowville's plow is vinyl wrapped.

Communication:

Highway update: pavement delivered next week, route 3 down north shore ext. Jeb's store back towards harrisville. Wood road and a section of Jerden Falls Road. Next year the rest of North Shore is slated to be paved.

Reports of Committees:

Councilman /Town Clerk / Bookkeeper time:

Councilwoman Ritz

- Would like to review the black fly program
 - There is a lot of town interest to bring the program back. Kelly and Karen Pierce got signatures, but the Board didn't do anything back a few years ago. Kelly would like the Board to do the study to get the cost for the black fly program for 2023. Andrea Malik in Colton is the contact, she worked with the Towns of Diana and Pitcairn previously. Councilman Taylor stated the prices were crazy for

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this—but it was for a company, not in-house like when Bob LaDuc provided the service.

- Discussion followed.
- Would offer to become a notary for the town

Motion to have Councilwoman Ritz to take notary class by Sup Smith, seconded by Councilman Bango

- Roll Call:
- Councilman Ritz: abstain
- Supervisor Smith: yes
- Councilman Taylor: yes
- Councilman Bango: yes
- Councilman Malbeuf: yes

Councilman Bango

- Would like to discuss a public referendum for the clerk's office to be an appointed position

Motion by Councilman Bango for executive session at 8:55pm, seconded by Councilman Ritz, all in favor.

Motion to exit executive session by Councilman Bango Seconded by: Councilwoman Ritz at 9:14pm, all in favor.

- Discussed public referendum for clerk's office to be appointment

Motion by Councilman Bango, seconded by Councilman Ritz to have Town Clerk's office up for public referendum on November 2022 ballot.

- Roll call:
- Councilwoman Ritz: yes
- Supervisor Smith: yes
- Councilman Taylor: no
- Councilman Bango: yes
- Councilman Malbeuf: no

- Councilman Taylor said they haven't been to the islands on Lake Bonaparte to assess the properties that are there. When he asked former assessor Erin Gratch at one point, she stated that she doesn't have a boat. There are a bunch of houses on Round Island and a few others have not been assessed in at least 3 years. Board suggested renting a boat to get the assessors over to the islands to complete an assessment on those properties.
- The Association of Towns suggested the Board create a job description for the Assessor position.
- Councilman Malbeuf is not happy with how the windows look in the medical center.
 - Discussion followed
- School Resource Officer Eric Schmitt will be starting to patrol around the playground, around the lake, etc.
- Supervisor Smith will talk to Jesse from Chimera to see how long until the new security cameras are up. , Supervisor Smith will give Eric Schmidt a key to the bathrooms/storage at the playground.

Motion to pay incoming bills by Councilman Malbeuf, seconded by Supervisor Smith. All in favor.

Town Clerk Wake

- has requested registration for an eGrants user account. This allows me to apply for Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund Grants. The next application portal will open in late fall 2022 with an application deadline in early 2023. This program provides grants to assist local governments in establishing records management programs and/or developing new program components. Project categories could include disaster management, document conversion, and access, files management, and historical and inactive records.

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- Credit Card machine is in, Clerk Wake would like Supervisor Smith's help in setting the machine up.
- Sat for notary exam, should know results in 3 weeks or so. Then the application to be a notary will be sent to the Secretary of State if Clerk Wake passed the exam.

Councilman Bango asked about Abandoned Roads. Call County highway to get a list of abandoned roads. Discussion followed

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Bango, all in favor at 9:43pm.

Submitted by

Karley Wake
Diana Town Clerk