

**Town of Pierceton**  
Special Council Meeting Minutes  
Pierceton Community Building  
April 27, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

**Purpose of Meeting**

To discuss and vote on the how to proceed with the ARPA/SLFRF reporting and to address a few other town issues.

**Present**

Council members Armando Espinoza and Matthew Brubaker. Clerk-Treasurer Myra Mast. Town Attorney Tammy Keirn.

**Town Business**

- Resolution 22-4-1 was presented by Town Attorney Tammy Keirn. The resolution was approved with a 2-0 vote to elect to use the Standard Allowance in the reporting for the American Rescue Plan Act Grant. The US Treasury allows entities who receive less than \$10 million as revenue loss. The town will continue working with the HELP committee is determining the use of the grant and how best to use it as matching funds for other grants.
- Property issued were discussed:
  - Jeff Parker, owner of Hummingbird Hill Nursery and the property on the east side of S First Street had received permits to set up greenhouses on the property at 20 feet each. He has gone back to Area Plan to get additional permits to extend the greenhouses to 25 feet. Council did not have issue with where it is sitting in relation to Ash Street.
  - A meeting has been scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 with property owner Brad Stahl, Tammy Keirn and Mandy Espinoza to discuss his unsafe property in the town. Matt volunteered to get pictures with his drowm for the meeting. Mandy has taken pictures with his phone of the exterior of the property. Mandy would like a fund established for funds to be allocated for the demolition of blighted property if need be.
- Alan Tio has requested that Tammy work with the Welch Packaging attorney regarding a possible agreement for the road that the town has been using to access the wastewater plant that is currently owned by TLC Holdings. Since TLC Holdings is the owner and not Welch itself, Tammy will contact the attorney to see if they can come to an agreement.
- Matt Brubaker presented an issue regarding the invoice from Baker Tilly that was sent to Monroe Township for the fire territory study. Monroe Township Trustee,

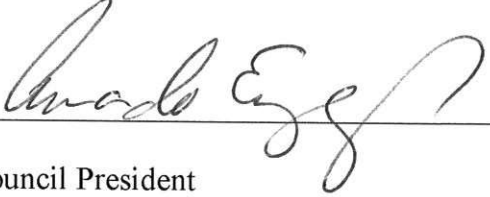
Stephanie Cloud, has sent a copy of an invoice for the study requesting that the invoice be split three ways between them, the town and Washington Township. Mandy explained that we did not agree in advance to take on that responsibility and that we have to allocate funds at time of the budget for such expenses. Matt asked if we could allocate a fund for consulting fees in future budgets. Town Clerk, Myra Mast, advised that the best solution would be to create an appropriation in the CEDIT fund for such expenses and will verify that this can be expended from that fund.

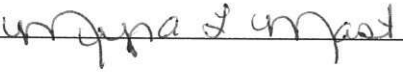
- The Clerk had previously questioned the council conversations outside of public or executive sessions. Tammy Keirn reviewed statutes and stated some communication needs to be done outside the meetings. No decisions are to be made outside of public meetings. Myra stated she was told at her first training after taking office that council should not discuss any town business outside of meetings and her concern is for transparency with residents. Tammy advised that council needs to be aware of these conversations and know that official action such as receiving information, deliberating and making a final decision needs to be within a public meeting.
- Complaints against the Clerk-Treasurer were presented by council which was referenced as the treatment of the Pierceton Police Department. Myra verified that she has no issue with the PPD but rather the Town Marshal, Tim Sammons, which the council has been aware. The complaint was in regards to the JAG grant that was applied for by the PPD and received. Myra received the DocuSign email on April 11 printed and gave to Tammy for review. Matt stated that it is a standard federal grant and should be signed. Myra stated maybe she is not the right person for the position then. Tammy was asked if she needs to see these contracts. She advised that she would like to see the contract to prevent issues that may come up later due to the contents of the contract. If there is a deadline, she advised to sign the contract then give her a copy and she will review as she had time. Matt had been told that the town was not going to receive the grant because that contract had not been signed. Tammy took responsibility for the delay but Myra advised that she was in constant communication with the program manager with the Indiana Criminal Justice institute who sent the contract. He did not mention a deadline for the signature or that the town was in threat of not receiving the funds. Tammy said that we need more communication between the PPD and Clerk's office. Myra advised that, due to past false representations by the Town Marshal in regards to things said to her or by her in conversations with the Town Marshal, she would only carry-on conversations via email in order to avoid the false accusations in the future. Tammy stated that having the conversations via email may be best and the emails should be include Matt or Mandy.

- Council asked that office supplies be purchased by the clerk in bulk and distributed as needed to the departments.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, by a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

  
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Council President

  
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Clerk-Treasurer