

Waterloo Town Council Meeting  
October 11, 2022

A meeting of the Waterloo Town council was held October 11, 2022, at 6:00p.m. at the Waterloo Historic Train Depot present were:

Jess Jessup	Greg Iddings
Josh Caudill	Katherine Hobbs
Ken Surber	Pam Howard / Town Manager
Andrew Kruse / Town Attorney	Renee Duszynski/Clerk Treasurer
Jennifer Ball / Deputy Clerk	

The following business was discussed, and action taken: Unless specified all votes were unanimous.

**Public Hearing:**

**1. Budget:**

Hearing opened at 6:00 p.m.

Duszynski presented the 2023 budget. Duszynski first met with all the department heads to discuss needs. Then there were work sessions with the town council to fine tune the budget. This hearing is the first of two hearings to pass the budget. Duszynski discussed all funds explaining what they are used for and how they receive revenue. It was budgeted for a 3% wage increase across the board, with the exception of the Depot employees increased from \$8.69 to \$11.50 and the cemetery mowers from \$11.58 to \$12.50. The council also looked at the duties of the Sergeant and increased the salary by roughly \$2,000.00 to provide more of a gap between that position and their subordinates.

Jessup clarified that the final budget numbers are separate from the Water and Wastewater budget. Those departments have separate budget because they are considered enterprise business and make their own money. They do not use tax-based revenue.

That Town Council will start to set reserves aside to pay for capital projects when needed. Duszynski explained that reserves for each department can be moved at the end of the year to a Rainy Day Fund. It is recommended each department has 50% of its operating budget. That means if all income were to cease there would be enough money for the next six months. After that reserve is met money can be ear marked for future planning.

Duszynski also presented graphs showing each funds operating reserve balance and graphs how the property tax revenues and local income tax revenues are split among the different departments in the Town. Surber commented that working on the budget has gone better this year than in years past. Dusty Bock from the floor also stated that he likes the idea of the Town Council setting reserves aside to pay for future capital projects. Duszynski presented the budget ordinance. This will be document Town Council will adopt and turn into the DLGF for approval. It shows the Adopted Budget and Tax Levy for each applicable fund and also the total adopted tax rate of 2.3023. Duszynski explained this number is a “worst case scenario maximum” that can be established. She stated the 2022 advertised rate was 2.0783 but was actually certified at 1.8059 to show a comparison. Motion to approve first reading of budget as advertised on Gateway made by Hobbs (Surber) passed.

Hearing adjourned at 6:22 pm.

**Regular Meeting 6:22 p.m.**

## **Jessup did roll call and the pledge was recited**

**Communication from the President:** Jessup asked how many times Carper sprayed for mosquitos. Howard will verify.

Jessup would like to state there are a lot of things that happen in the town that go unnoticed. There are people working to make things better for the town that may not be obvious. Jessup adds there is an ease for negativity especially online, but there are people who go above and beyond and he is grateful.

**Communication from The Town Manager:** Howard stated Main Street will be having a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on October 28, 2022, from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm to raise money for the Holiday Train. There are conflicting dates for when the Holiday Train will be through Waterloo, hopefully this will be confirmed in the next week.

The tree lighting is December 3, 2022, Pastor Rowe from Fire Life Church will hold a small sermon, there will be a choir, and Santa with cookies and coca. Main Street will also be using funds from the Spaghetti dinner to help fund this.

Treats before dark is October 29, 2022, at the Francis Thomson Memorial Park from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Nucor, Warm a Heart and the Waterloo Library will be there. Teachers will do trunk or treat in the Depot parking lot. Town wide trick or treating is 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

The bridge on the old inner urban railroad behind the cemetery has burned. Howard passed out photos. Howard will need to do research on what can be done.

John Bry, a local historian, has applied for a historical marker. The historical marker will go in front of the Waterloo Library, for an author from Sedan named Jane Brook Hines. She wrote books on birds. There is a form to allow it to be put in the right of way. There are no utility obstructions in this area of right of way. Discussion was held. Jessup would like to confirm the Waterloo Library approved the placement as well.

DeKalb County Council of Aging sent a letter asking for support. The new director is Tracy Bell. Howard will provide the letter and contact information for Council to reach out. They did not ask for a specific amount. Jessup would like them to come present at a council meeting.

Howard gave an update about IDEM. The town is under an agreed order to resolve issues with the combined sewer system. She explained CSO's and SSO's. The plan is to install a wet weather system. At the meeting the engineer presented the plans for the future system and IDEM was favorable with the design.

**Communication from The Clerk Treasurer:** Jessup asked what the projected revenue for the general fund through the end of the year. Duszynski stated approximately \$35,000 monthly in Local income Tax and \$247,941 in the December property tax settlement. Duszynski will go through the fund report and check the balances to see if any money needs to be moved to different appropriation accounts. She will also check to see if there will be a need for any additional appropriations.

Duszynski meet with a new IT Department that works well with our water department specialty software. She will have them present at the November Council meeting.

Duszynski, Howard and Ball will be attending the AIM Conference in French Lick November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Communication from Committees:** Hobbs discussed painting the water tower. Hobbs suggested painting the tower the same colors as the depot with the same front. This will tie the theme of the town together. Discussion was held. There is a branding brainstorming meeting on October 20, 2022, at 6:00 pm in the Depot and that may be beneficial for the theme of the second tower in the future. Motion to paint the tower in the theme to match the Historic Depot made by Hobbs (Surber) passed.

**Approval of Minutes and Claims:** Claims and adjustments reviewed. Motion to approve claims and adjustments made by Caudill (Hobbs) passed.

September 13, 2022 minutes reviewed. Corrections reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as corrected made by Hobbs (Caudill) passed.

**Old Business:**

1. **Radios** – Jessup gave an update on the radios. The town was under the impression that the current radios would quit working when the new software came out. That is not the case. They are upward compatible so that takes pressure off the timeline. It does need to be done but will be addressed as needed. Howard passed out financing information she received.
2. **Fire Pit:** Jessup explained this will be looked at. Howard has gathered other Ordinances and she will share.
3. **Sycamore Street** – This has not been surveyed yet.
4. **URT** – Duszynski stated the Public Hearing will be October 24, 2022, due to publication deadlines.
5. **Trash Ordinance** – Duszynski stated the Public Hearing will be October 24, 2022, due to publication deadlines.
6. **Alley Vacation:** Howard gave an update. She spoke with A&Z and the easement actually is a platted alley. Jessup explained the Town is not in a place to address it at this time. Discussion was held.

**New Business:**

1. **Carpenter Release of Liens-** Geoff Carpenter came to ask to have these liens released. He purchased this property at tax sale. He bought two properties. One is three lots on Railroad and the other one is two lots on Indiana. Carpenter plans for Storage Unit and Residential. Duszynski explained two lien's were put on after certification but before purchase. One is \$294.22 for the properties on Railroad and the other one is \$322.32 for the properties on Indiana for a total of \$616.54. Motion to release these lien's made by Surber (Caudill) passed. Surber thanks Carpenter for investing in Waterloo.

**Other: NONE**

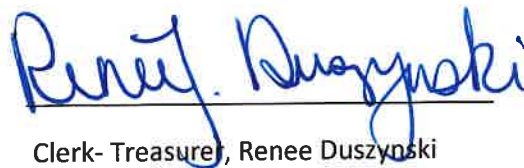
**Floor:** Sandy Rhodes from RP Wakefield has asked for a tax abatement on a saw. Howard had Kruse reviewed the application and it was found the equipment has already been installed. Kruse advised they could not go forward since it was already installed. The last abatement was done in the same manner. Rhodes introduced Dylan Barga who will replace her at RP Wakefield in the near future. Kruse disclosed he does represent RP Wakefield as well. Rhodes discussed business growth. Discussion on the form and application was held. Jessup would like to know the statutory language and how to move forward. Kruse will research. Jessup clarified that after research it will be addressed.

I, Renee Duszynski, the duly qualified Clerk/Treasurer, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and exact excerpt of minutes of the meeting of the Waterloo Town Council, Waterloo, Indiana, at which a quorum was in attendance and acting throughout, and held October 11, 2022, as such appears in the official minutes of said Waterloo Town Council, in my custody.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jess Jessup", written over a horizontal line.

Jess Jessup, Council President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Renee Duszynski", written over a horizontal line.

Clerk- Treasurer, Renee Duszynski