

**JANUARY 10, 2024**  
**TOWN OF AVILLA**  
**AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL**  
108 S. Main St. Avilla, IN 46710

**THOSE PRESENT:** Philip Puckett Jr., William Krock Jr., Andy Uhl, Brian Carroll, Rita Grocock, Adam Dunlap, Brandon Bryant, Melissa Bryant, Kierston Wright, Kevin Kelly, Mike Hensinger, Glen Wills, Chris Arnett, Matt Getts, Chad Geiger, Chad Rayle, Seth Tipton, Paul Bowman, Jarrod Ramer, Ryan Koch, Josh Detro, Octavious Harris,

Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Claims in the amount of \$373,116.38 were submitted to the council for approval. William Krock Jr. made a motion to approve the claims for the month. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Approval of the minutes from December 20, 2023, was submitted to the council. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Mangers Report – Adam Dunlap gave his report for the month.

Superintendent's Report – Brian Carroll gave his report for the month.

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, reported to the council that the Wastewater Plants fine screen broke and needs to be replaced soon. The cost of a new screen is \$106,100.00 from Lakeside Equipment. The delivery time for the new one is 30-36 weeks. He also indicated that the cost could change before we receive it, the price cannot be locked in. This is a necessary purchase, and we need to get one ordered now. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the purchase from Lakeside, tentatively, for \$106,100. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Brian Carroll, Superintendent, conveyed to the council that the company he was currently using to order Wastewater Charts, are no longer in business. He received a quote from Gripp for \$4100.00. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the purchase from Gripp. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent, Brian Carroll, informed the council that he will be placing the 2002 Chevy Truck and two locators up for sale.

Town Marshall's Report - was given by Glen Wills.

Town Marshall, Glen Wills, asked the council for reimbursement money for travel for his employee, Shane Hurt's graduation from the police academy. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the reimbursement. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Fire Chiefs Report- was given by Chad Geiger.

Chad Geiger, Fire Chief, reported to the council that on January 29th and 30<sup>th</sup> he will be traveling to Pennsylvania to pick up their new fire truck.

Fire Chief, Chad Geiger, presented the council with quotes to fix the damaged repeater. J & K communications quoted \$8809.74 for the repeater, and an additional \$4939.41 for the control box, for a total cost of \$13,749.15. He also indicated that the Town's Insurance would not cover this damage. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the expense. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Park Board Report – they did not have anything to report at this time.

Clerk Treasurer Report – Rita Grocock, reported she did not have anything at this time.

#### New Business:

The first item on the agenda was the election of 2024 Town Council Officers. Philip Puckett, Jr. said he would take the president's position again if the other two council members agreed. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to appoint Philip Puckett, Jr. to another term as president of the council. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Next item on the agenda was the appointments to the Redevelopment Commission. Town council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. made the appointment of Brandon Bryant, Randy Krock and Coltyn Fish. The Town Council made the appointment of Joshua Lash and Mike Hensinger to the Redevelopment Commission. Andrew Uhl made the motion to approve the appointment of all the board members. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. recommended the appointment of Joshua Lash to the Board of Zoning Appeals. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the appointment to the board. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Philip Puckett, Jr. Town Council President, reported that the Plan Commission is a nine-member board, with the new incoming members of the board, they would only have eight on the board. Former Town Councilman, Paul Shepherd, was previously on the board. He tried to contact Paul to see if he wanted to remain on the board and did not have contact with him. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to appoint Paul Shepherd to another term, Philip Puckett, Jr. seconded the motion, Andrew Uhl also seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Next item on the agenda was the appointment from Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. to retain Paul Shepherd on the Region 3-A Committee. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the appointment. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

The Town of Avilla's insurance was up for renewal. Jarrod Ramer, with Black & Ramer was present to give a brief explanation of the new policy for 2024. The insurance rates went up \$12,255.00 per year. The cost is \$111,364.00 for the year 2024. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the new renewal with Black & Ramer Insurance for \$111,364.00. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

A reduction in allowable department spending was on the agenda. The current rate an employee can spend without approval from the council first is \$1200.00 currently. They want to lower it to \$500.00. After a lengthy discussion Andrew Uhl made a motion to table this at next month's meeting. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Ordinance 1668-1-24 an amendment to Ordinance 1578-1-17 requiring prior approval from the council before any money can be spent out of this fund, LIT Public Safety Funds 2240. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to suspend the rules. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Ordinance 1668-1-24, an amendment to Ordinance 1578-1-17 requiring prior approval from the council before any money can be spent out of this fund, LIT Public Safety Funds 2240. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the ordinance on the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.  
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Ordinance 1668-1-24, an amendment to Ordinance 1578-1-17 requiring prior approval from the council before any money can be spent out of this fund, LIT Public Safety Funds 2240. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the ordinance on the 2nd reading. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.  
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

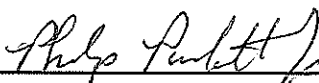
The last item on the agenda was to hire a new town employee. Craig Brennen will start working for the town on January 22, 2024. His salary will be \$44,720.00 per year, \$21.50/hr. He is also granted one week vacation (5 days) in July 2024. The second week of vacation (5 days) will be 1/1/2025. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the hiring of Craig and the vacation listed above. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.  
Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0


Open Discussion:

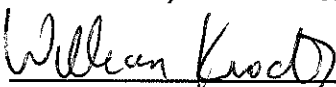
Town Resident Octavious Harris inquired with the council why he had not been put on any of the Town's Boards when he had previously asked to be included on one. Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. explained to him that at this time there were not any vacancies on any of the boards. He indicated that he would keep him in mind for any future openings on the boards.

With no further business to discuss for the evening Andrew Uhl made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 P.M. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL

  
Philip Puckett, Jr., Council President

  
Andrew Uhl, Council Member

  
William Krock, Jr., Council Member

ATTEST:

  
Rita Grocock Clerk -Treasurer