

CITY OF INDIAN HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
April 19, 2023 Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Louisville Boat Club  
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

ABSENT

Mayor: Chip Hancock

Council: Bob Astorino, Sr.  
Ann Dreisbach  
Laura Dunbar  
David Ferguson  
Lee Garlove  
John Harralson, III  
Chip Hayward, Jr.  
Lee Maddox  
Kay Matton

Attorney: Finn Cato

Public Works: Jim Graven

Police Chief: Kelly Spratt

City Clerk: Donna M. Sinkhorn

Visitors: Susan Masri

1) Call to Order – Mayor Hancock called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and thanked Councilor Dunbar for conducting last month’s council meeting in his absence.

2) Recognize any visitors – Mayor Hancock recognized visitor, Susan Masri who was present to observe.

3) Minutes – March – Emailed - Councilor Matton moved to approve the March minutes as emailed, seconded by Councilor Ferguson; none opposed.

4) Committee Reports – Emailed  
(a) Finance (Dunbar)

1. Report – March – Councilor Dunbar presented March’s financial report to Council.
2. City & Police Disbursements – Approval – March

Councilor Matton moved to accept the March financial report as presented and to approve March city and police checks disbursed; seconded by Councilor Astorino; none opposed.

(b) Public Safety Report – Spratt & Garlove & Harralson

1. Police Report – Chief Spratt’s report included multiple criminal reports; two traffic collision reports; three arrests/criminal citations; and year-to-date stats.

Due to the number of speeding vehicles, Councilor Hayward said residents are requesting more radar on Blankenbaker Lane. Following discussion, Mr. Graven asked for council approval to purchase an additional four radar signs. One would be placed somewhere from US 42 to the first curve on Blankenbaker Lane as requested by Councilor Hayward. Councilor Matton moved to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$15,000 of CARES Act funds for the purchase of four radar signs; seconded by Councilor Hayward; motion passed unanimously.

(c) Public Works & Building – Graven – Mr. Graven’s report included the following:

Storm damage – Update

Rio Vista Gate – Mr. Graven proposed installing an automated gate that would lift when a vehicle drove up to it. The estimated cost is \$8000, but he will have more information next month. Councilor Harralson believes the gate should be left open due to safety reasons, such as if a tree or a powerline was to come down across the road on either side, the residents would not have a back way out; and it is confusing for deliverers to use their GPS because it does not indicate there is a locked gate there. Mayor Hancock added that the LOJIC map shows that the road is open. Councilor Dunbar feels the decision should be left to the Rio Vista residents who are most affected by opening the gate. Councilor Garlove is not for spending money for an automated gate, but possibly placing a speed hump there if the gate is opened. Discussion.

Stonebridge – update – Project is near completion, only the paving needs to be done.

Trees – Mr. Graven and Mayor Hancock agree that the trees that were lost during the storms should not be replaced this summer due to the watering issue, but possibly replacing them in the fall. The city’s landscaping manual will be utilized for ideas.

Derby – There has been a delay with the planting due to the cold weather, but Mr. Graven will have the city looking nice for Derby.

5) Other Reports

(a) Waste Management Report – Graven/Hancock – No report.

(b) Environment Committee – Maddox

1. Councilor Maddox’s Report follows:

Tree Program – Councilor Astorino mentioned to Councilor Maddox how well the tree program is working and suggested having a drawing in the spring as well as the fall. Councilor Maddox spoke with Vance Borries who heads the tree program and with Mayor Hancock about this. Since it is working so well, they agreed to continue the program and expand it. Instead of having another drawing in the spring since it is not a good planting season for trees, they will try to get more sign ups year-round and continue having the drawing in the fall. Mayor Hancock will try to increase the amount the city provides to the program in the upcoming budget.

Dying Bushes – Councilor Maddox was made aware of some dying bushes that did not make it through the winter on the lot at River Road and Indian Hills Trail by Councilor Astorino, so he mentioned it to Mr. Graven who has already taken care of Step #1 of the plan as provided in the landscaping manual. Councilor Maddox thanked Mr. Graven; it looks much better.

Meeting Space – The Environment Committee needs more of a public venue for their meetings, so Councilor Maddox is talking with someone who is with the botanical gardens on the waterfront. If anyone knows somebody who can help with this, please let him know. It does not have to be a large room. Councilor Dunbar and Councilor Maddox will discuss after the meeting.

Landscaping Manual – Councilor Maddox has reviewed the manual for what types of trees for Indian Hills Trail. There is much to learn, so if anyone is interested, he will send an email with the recommendations.

Butterfly Garden – Councilor Maddox offered to help with the butterfly garden any way he can.

Councilor Garlove drove around the city after the big storm. He complimented Mr. Graven and Chief Spratt for doing a great job. He also thanked the Environment Committee for their program that encouraged residents to chop down dead trees once the city identified them. It had to have helped with regard to the storm.

6) Council Members Comments

Councilor Dreisbach has been informed by a resident that there is a property owner who wants to rent out his house fully furnished on a month-to-month basis. Discussion.

7) Old Business

The following from Councilor Matton:

- There is a huge chunk of pavement out of the road on Arrowhead Road. Mr. Graven said paving will begin once school is out and once the city receives bids.
- When will the speed humps on Arrowhead get painted? Mr. Graven said they have been very busy the last two weeks cleaning up storm debris, but it will get done.
- There is a raised grate on Arrowhead. Councilor Dunbar said she should call and report it to MSD.
- The Country Club has sodded the top of Calumet Road. It is all finished.

8) New Business

Following discussion re last week's shooting at Old National Bank where one of the fallen victims was a resident of Indian Hills, Councilor Matton moved to approve up to \$800 for a plaque and a tree to be planted in the area of the city where the resident lived; seconded by Councilor Hayward; none opposed.

9) Legal – Cato

(a) Municipal Order No. 4, Series 2023 – Re-appointment of C. Laurence Woods III - Ethics Board  
Councilor Dunbar introduced, Attorney Cato read, and Councilor Astorino moved to approve Municipal Order No. 4, Series 2023; seconded by Councilor Ferguson. Mayor Hancock proceeded with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Astorino	Yea	Mr. Harralson	Yea
Ms. Dreisbach	Yea	Mr. Hayward	Yea
Ms. Dunbar	Yea	Mr. Maddox	Yea
Mr. Ferguson	Yea	Ms. Matton	Yea
Mr. Garlove	Yea		

Motion passed unanimously. (Municipal Order No. 4, Series 2023)

10) Mayor's Comments – Mayor Hancock thanked Councilor Dunbar for conducting last month's council meeting due to his absence.

11) Adjournment – Councilor Garlove moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Matton; none opposed.

Next Meeting:  
Wednesday – May 17, 2023  
6:00 p.m.

/S/  
Donna M. Sinkhorn, City Clerk

/S/  
Chip Hancock, Mayor