

**TOWN OF  
DARMSTADT, INDIANA**

SETTLED 1822

INCORPORATED 1973

**Minutes of  
May 12th 2020**

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript.

**TOWN COUNCIL**

Paul Freeman, President  
Aaron Kendall, Council Member  
Ken Godeke, Council Member  
Ray Engler, Council Member

**CLERK-TREASURER**

Mallory Lowe  
P. O. Box 20  
Darmstadt, In 47618

Board president, Paul Freeman, called the town meeting to order at 7:30pm. In attendance were President Paul Freeman, Clerk-Treasurer Mallory Lowe, council members Aaron Kendall, Ken Godeke and Ray Engler. Also present was Superintendent Jeff Goerges and attorney Jason Spindler.

Kendall made a motion, seconded by Engler to accept the minutes from last month. Motion passed 4-0 voice vote. Godeke made a motion, seconded by Kendall to approve last month's financial report. Motion passed 4-0 voice vote. Kendall made a motion, seconded by Engler to approve the accounts payable claims. Motion passed 4-0 voice vote.

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT:** I've still been making trips to the bank & post office picking up sewer payments during Covid-19. We have another regulation from state, that we now submit a "Pre"-Budget Worksheet so that deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup> on the State's Gateway program, so I'm already working on draft budget for 2021. Just a reminder, our budget is what sets the local 'city' line on our property taxes. (avgs to about \$175 per household annually) We will be receiving our first property tax payment next month, that will be the property tax levy set last year that we receive in June and December. The town receives about \$93,000 a year from property taxes. Some of our fuel and road taxes will go down slightly from the Covid shutdowns, but hopefully not significantly. For example, we normally receive about \$3100 a month into our LRS fund, but last month it was \$2950, so \$150 less a month than normal so far.

**In the Utility Department:** We've also had 4 houses sell, change owners in the last month. We've received 5 calls so far of people filling their pools.

**In General Town Items:** Thanks to Eric Gries using his clout in the trash industry, our bills from Advance disposal have gone down from \$73 a month to \$49.

**Old Business**

**1. Sewer Rates**

Freeman advised raising rates since Lowe noted the sewer department balance was continually declining

**2. Sewer Inspections/Outflow**

Freeman stated that we've been discussing starting a program to inspect sump pumps connected to the sewer system. Council discussed. Jeff will get estimates from plumbers about completing the inspections that he and Aaron will not be completing their selves.

**3. Update on Municipal Bond**

Jason Spindler noted that there is a meeting tomorrow at 11am at the Area Plan to approve a resolution. There is also a phone call at 1pm tomorrow. Spindler noted that we need to have a special phone meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup> for Council, RDC & RDA at Noon.

**New Business**

No new business

**Superintendent Report**

Jeff Goerges stated that they have been installing the new 1.5hp pumps and haven't had any problems so far. The tractor tire has been replaced. Jeff advised he went out and tried to mow around Hillsdale road and mowed trees along bank. Jeff stated that he has received complaints about tall grass at the house on Boonville-New Harmony Road, Jeff will flag it tomorrow. Jeff will also flag the yard on Wortman road at the vacant house if it's not mowed.

**Fire Dept Report**

Brandon Zimmer from Scott Fire Twp Dept attended and reported that they had 393 runs and 162 of them were from the Darmstadt station.

**Deputy Sheriff Report**

Not present

**Board member comments**

Ray Engler stated that Joe Gish, a property owner in Inglefield asked if a culvert could be cleaned. Jeff stated that is not the town's responsibility and it's on railroad property.

**Attorney comments**

No further comments

**Resident comments**

Eric Gries asked about the pipe along road and that he will be installing city water meter.

Roger Bippus stated that if we go into houses to also inspect that if any homeowners have well and city water connected to anything that has a drain.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49pm

Attest:

Mallory Lowe

Clerk-Treasurer

