

INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
September 15, 2020

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met Tuesday, September 15, 2020. Mayor Bell-Guercio called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. All Councilmembers were present except Ed Whatley.

The minutes of September 1, 2020 were reviewed. Councilmember Elliott made a motion to accept minutes as presented. Councilmember Harley seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Chief Tyler reported hydrant testing will start again in October. He also reported departments budget was approved today.

Bell-Guercio read a Proclamation proclaiming September 28, 2020 as Family Day and the week of September 27 through October 2, 2020 as Family Week in the Town of Indian Springs Village. This proclamation encourages our citizens to join together in observing this day/week by spending time with their families and by engaging in appropriate ceremonies and activities to honor and strengthen both our town and state families.

Bell-Guercio asked the Council to start a conversation to consider bringing a sales tax to our town. Currently, due to Councils frugal spending, the Town operates in the black and has no debt. However, due to increased cost, disasters such as tornadoes, flooding and other disasters could cause us to dip heavily into our reserves. The town has operated on a volunteer basis for the past 30 years. Circumstances and issues have changed over this period and our engineering, attorney and accounting expenses have increased and can no longer be handled by volunteers and council members. Additional professional services are needed in all of these areas.

Additionally, a sales tax is much fairer in that it lets everyone who uses our area participate and not just the residents. Most everyone voluntarily annexed into the city but there are many properties throughout our area that remain in the county but receive all of the benefits of our zoning protections and increased home values without any way to contribute. Having additional funds would also allow the town to contribute more to the library, schools, and law enforcement needs, for example. A host of improvements that would increase property values could be addressed with new revenue funding i.e., preserve green areas, trash pick-up, maintaining entrance ways and the list goes on. Communities surrounding our town have 3.5 to 4% sales tax where we have 0%. Conversation will continue as we go forward on this matter.

Bell-Guercio adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Downs, Town Clerk