

**TOWN OF ARGOS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Council President Ed Barcus called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present for the meeting: President Ed Barcus, Vice President Erica Partin, Members Charles R. Snead, Shawn Harley, Robert Byers, Attorney Derek Jones, and Clerk -Treasurer Lisa Mullaney.

**MINUTES:**

Minutes from February 26, 2025, Regular Session were presented for approval. Member Byers moved to accept the minutes as written. Vice President Partin seconded; motion carried 4 to 1 with President Barcus abstaining due to absence.

**CITIZEN INPUT:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Attorney Report:**

Attorney Jones informed the Council that a public hearing will be held at 7:00 pm for the electricity rates presented in Ordinance 2025-04. He also explained to them that the zoning of the Argos Municipal Building will be discussed at the next Plan Commission meeting and then presented to the Council with a favorable or unfavorable decision from the Plan Commission Members.

Attorney Jones will not be present at the March 26, 2025, meeting.

With no more business to present to the Council, Vice President Partin motioned to accept the attorney's report. Member Byers seconded; motioned carried unanimously.

**EMA Presentation:**

Jess Kindig from The Department of Homeland Security gave a presentation about a two-day train derailment exercise being held on the Norfolk/Southern rail lines south, east of Argos. These training exercises will hopefully include local leader participation. The dates for this training will be August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Flyers for sign-up are available at the clerk's office.

**Other Old Business:**

Council member Harley stated that the town is still meeting with and getting quotes for IT services.

**NEW Business:**

**Gra-Rock System Development Charges:**

Mike Faylor represented Gra-Rock to ask for a reduction in the water/sewer system development charges for the new cement plant located on 17<sup>th</sup> Rd. Mr. Faylor stated that the company would like to annex the property also. The charges would be \$40,824.31 after a discussion, Member Harley motioned to allow a reduction to \$28,314.31. Vice President Partin seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Ordinance 2025-04 Electric Rate Ordinance:**

This ordinance is presented to the Council and will increase electricity rates for the town by an average of 1.6% over a 4-year term. After the discussion, Member Harley motioned to accept Ordinance 2025-04 on the first reading as written. Member Snead seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Park Board Appointment:**

After a review of the candidates that applied to be on the Park Board, Vice President Partin motioned to appoint Mr. Jared Schnitz. Member Snead seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Ordinance 2025-03 Amendment to Chapter 96:**

This Ordinance corrects the open and closing of graves in Chapter 96 of the Argos Town Code. After discussion, Vice President Partin motioned to allow the rules to be waived. Member Harley seconded; motion carried unanimously. Vice President Partin motioned to suspend the rules and accept Ordinance 2025-03 on all three readings. Member Harley seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**2025 Leaf Truck:**

Superintendent Lindstrom presented the Council with bids for a new one-person leaf truck. After a discussion, Member Harley, motioned to approve the purchase of the new leaf truck for \$179,574.00 on a 7-year lease to own with approximately 6% interest he also added to approve \$9,000 to fix our old electric truck chassis to accommodate the new leaf machine. Member Snead seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**BS&A Software Upgrade:**

Clerk-Treasurer Mullaney informed the Council that the software used by the town has a cloud-based upgrade. This would lower the IT costs due to us not having to maintain servers in the future. After discussion, Member Harley motioned allowing the purchase of the upgrade of up to \$36,000.00. Member Snead seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**IT Quotes and New Website:**

Five different IT companies submitted quotes to supply services for the town. After a discussion, Member Harley motioned to accept the quote from Mission MSP after Attorney Jones reviews the contract. Member Snead seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Development Director VanDerWeele presented the Council with a proposal for a new website at a cost of around \$3,000 a year. After discussion, Member Harley motioned to accept the proposal of a new website. Vice President Partin seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Other New Business:**

The Council Members had a short discussion on the upcoming meetings about the new intersection at State Road 10 and 31.

**CLAIMS:**

March 12, 2025, claims totaled \$412,476.30. Vice President Partin moved to accept claims February 25, 2025, through March 10, 2025. Member Byers seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Top 5 Claims:**

IMPA	\$232,108.92
Payroll #5	\$55,351.53
Abonmarche Consultants	\$20,637.50
Brownstown Electric Supply	\$17,945.80
Shankster Brothers	\$11,976.83

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no more business brought before the board, Vice President Partin moved to adjourn the meeting and Member Snead seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

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Ed Barcus, President

ATTEST:

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Lisa Mullaney, Clerk-Treasurer