

SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM

118 E FRONT ST

SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787

AUGUST 26, 2025

6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Vice President Trey Weber. Members present were as follows: Vice President Trey Weber, Councilman Randy Cokl, Town Attorney Greg Hockemeyer, Utility Supervisor Kent Slater, and Clerk-Treasurer Alyssa Knepple. Council President Brock Waterson and Town Marshal Chad Schipper were not in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2026 BUDGET HEARING: The 2026 budget hearing was opened at 6:30 pm. The Council discussed the budget with the Clerk, who informed the Council and the public that the budget is comparable to the previous couple of years. However, with State tax cuts, our funding is going to be affected significantly, so in the next few years we will see budget cuts. Councilman Weber opened the floor for comments, questions, and concerns. None were voiced. Councilman Weber closed the budget hearing at 6:33 pm.

ADJUSTMENTS

JUSTIN HULL 1101 Bauman St.	\$ 118.05	Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept the adjustment for \$118.05. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.
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NEW BUSINESS

CHRISTINE PALMER: Ms. Palmer addressed the Council about her concerns with the abandoned vehicles and yard debris building up at Swing Tire. She stated there are cars without wheels, tires are beginning to build up again, and the property is attracting vermin, which Ms. Palmer has paid to be trapped and removed from her property. Councilman Weber said that Officer Vandevender was working with IDEM to handle the property. The Council will check what the status is on getting things cleaned up. Officer Hauptert was in the audience and stated that the Police Department has been tasked with checking different sections of Town and reporting Ordinance violations. Those violations will be enforced.

RESOLUTION 2025-8-26: This resolution is an appropriation reduction. The reduction is to help provide funding for the 2026 budget. These are funds that will not be incurred during the last 6 months of the year, so a resolution is needed. Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept Resolution 2025-8-26. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.

ORDINANCE 2025-8-26-1: The Ordinance presented will restrict commercial use of certain public records. The Clerks office has had many record requests from commercial companies. They specifically ask for vendor, APV, and expense information for the last 5 to 6 years. Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2025-8-26-1. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0. The ordinance will be presented at the following meeting for a second reading.

Auxiliary Assistance needed, call 260-723-5312

ORDINANCE 2025-8-26-2: The Ordinance presented allows the Clerk – Treasurer to make certain regular monthly payments prior to Council approval. The Ordinance is to update Chapter 31: Town Officials Section 31.02 to meet Indiana Code 36-5-4-12(a). Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2025-8-26-2. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0. The ordinance will be presented at the following meeting for a second reading.

2025 TRICK OR TREAT: Councilman Cokl made a motion to set the 2025 Trick or Treating day and hours for October 31, 2025 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.

OLD BUSINESS

FOURWAY.NET PROPOSAL: The proposal has been presented at previous meetings, but the Council wanted to make sure the amount of electricity used would be covered by the \$100 monthly rent we receive. The Clerk stated she spoke with Ryan Houin from FourWay and he stated the antenna is only estimated to be about 20 kW per month. \$100 per month is a reasonable amount to charge for rent. Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept the FourWay.Net proposal to attach an antenna to the top of the Town water tower and pay a monthly rental fee of \$100. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.

COUNCILMAN TOPICS

COUNCILMAN WEBER: Councilman Weber has contacted Aaron McClure about the Town purchasing the property at Hathaway Drive. Mr. McClure is willing to sell the land for \$45,000. The Council will work on getting appraisals set up to begin the purchase process.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

PARK BOARD – RANDY SIMPSON:

- LeBrun has new yard games and tables for people to enjoy.
- A grill has been purchased to install at the Town Park near the pavilion.
- Patching on the pickleball courts is almost finished. There are only 2 courts left to be repaired.
- Hometown Hero banners will be available for purchase in the next week or so. Once the application is completed and approved by the Park Board, residents can pay \$80 to order a banner dedicated to family members that have served or are serving in the military or as first responders. The Parks Department will be paying for shipping and inputting orders when they receive at least 10.
- The Rudd property that was donated to the Town would make a great spot for a military memorial. These memorials can cost from \$10,000 to \$25,000. There are grants available and Councilman Weber said he would be in contact with Dale Buuck with the EDC to see what is available.

WASTE WATER/UTILITIES SUPERVISOR – KENT SLATER:

- API has finished replacing the water line on Mulberry.
- Brooks should be starting their section of Main Street sometime this week.
- The water line that supplies homes down Wayne Street is a 6" line and an older line that needs to be replaced. Mr. Slater suggests talking with DLZ about adding that to the 2025 CCMG project as an out-of-pocket expense. The Council said they will discuss the replacement with DLZ.

TOWN MARSHAL – CHAD SCHIPPER: Not present

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TOWN ATTORNEY – GREGG HOCKEMEYER: Nothing to present

CLERK-TREASURER – ALYSSA KNEPPLE:

- **BOYCE TRAINING:** Braylynn, the utility clerk, and Mrs. Knepple will be attending an in-person training course on the new cloud-based accounting system with Boyce Keystone. The training is on October 2 & 3 in Muncie, IN. They will be staying overnight.
- Mrs. Knepple is also seeking quotes for replacing the floors in the East Room and painting the Council Room and East Room. The flooring in the East Room is worn and damaged. With people renting out the room, it needs to look nice and it's starting to look dated.

APPROVALS:

APPROVAL FOR AUGUST 12, 2025, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept the August 12, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.

APPROVAL FOR AUGUST 26, 2025, APV's TOTALING \$ 468,995.72: Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept the August 26, 2025, APV's totaling \$ 468,995.72. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.

APPROVAL FOR PAYROLL WEEK ENDING AUGUST 18, 2025, TOTALING \$ 14,452.30: Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept payroll for the week ending August 18, 2025 totaling \$ 14,452.30. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.

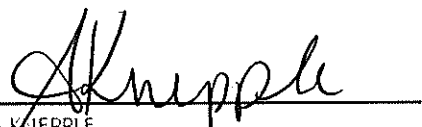
APPROVAL FOR PAYROLL WEEK ENDING AUGUST 25, 2025, TOTALING \$ 13,348.19: Councilman Cokl made a motion to accept payroll for the week ending August 25, 2025, totaling \$ 13,348.19. Councilman Weber seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 2-0.

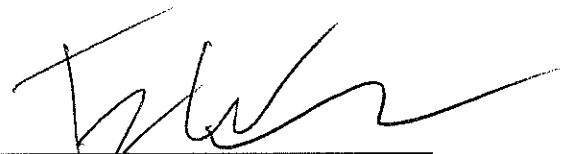
ADJOURN at: Meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm by Vice President Trey Weber.

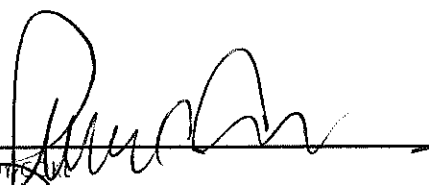
APPROVALS:

ATTEST:

X 
BROCK WATERSON
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

X 
ALYSSA KNEPPLE
CLERK-TREASURER

X 
TREY WEBER
VICE PRESIDENT

X 
RANDY SMITH
COUNCILMAN

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