

Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana
Monday, March 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, March 17, 2025, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. Present was town council members Michael Aker, Patricia Freck; Tina McDonald; and Brandon Seifert; Town Manager Hannah Walker; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; Derek Frederickson and Jessica Hile of Engineering Resources Inc.; Laura Oberholtzer and Patrick Rew of the Allen County Department of Planning Services; five (5) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Three (3) members of the public and one (1) member of the media attended via Microsoft Teams. Council member Brad Hite was absent.

Brandon Seifert called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL ACTION

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve the minutes of March 3, 2025, regular meeting. Michael Aker seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to approve the general, water, and sewer claims dated March 17, 2025, in the amount of \$546,526.74. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2025-005, an Ordinance authorizing the acquisition and installation of certain improvements for the Sewage Works System of the Town of Huntertown, Indiana, the issuance of revenue bonds to provide the cost thereof, the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of such system, the safeguarding of the interests of the owners of such revenue bonds and other matters connected therewith, including the refunding of band anticipation notes, the issuance of notes in anticipation of such bonds, and repealing ordinances inconsistent herewith. Michael Aker seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2025-005, an Ordinance authorizing the acquisition and installation of certain improvements for the Sewage Works System of the Town of Huntertown, Indiana, the issuance of revenue bonds to provide the cost thereof, the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of such system, the safeguarding of the interests of the owners of such revenue bonds and other matters connected therewith, including the refunding of band anticipation notes, the issuance of notes in anticipation of such bonds, and repealing ordinances inconsistent herewith. Tina McDonald seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to adopt Huntertown Ordinance 2025-005, an Ordinance authorizing the acquisition and installation of certain improvements for the Sewage Works System of the Town of Huntertown, Indiana, the issuance of revenue bonds to provide the cost thereof, the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of such system, the safeguarding of the interests of the owners of such revenue bonds and other matters connected therewith, including the refunding of band anticipation notes, the issuance of notes in anticipation of such bonds, and repealing ordinances inconsistent herewith. Michael Aker seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2025-003, an Ordinance amending ordinance No. 05-015, as amended, to amend the system development charge for new water connections to Huntertown's municipal water system. Patricia Freck seconded. Hannah Walker covered the details of the ordinance, noting that the town will be assessing its system development charge on a per ERU basis instead of a per lot basis. After no further discussion, the motion carried 4-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to introduce Huntertown Ordinance 2024-004, an Ordinance to amend Huntertown Ordinance No. 2022-002, and amend the system development charge for the ERU to be conveyed to the Huntertown Sewer Utility. Patricia Freck seconded. Hannah Walker covered the details of the ordinance noting that the language for the system development charge would change from "per connection" to "per ERU" and that the 10-year sunset clause in the original ordinance would be eliminated. Brandon Seifert said he would not be voting in favor since the sunset clause was being removed. After no further discussion, the motion carried 3-1 (McDonald Aye, Seifert – Nay, Aker – Aye, Freck – Aye).

Michael Aker made a motion to approve a quote from Elan City in the amount of \$7,000 for the purchase solar speed signs as presented. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to donate \$500.00 to the Friends of Huntertown Parks Inc. for its Easter event. Michael Aker seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Michael Aker made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2025-002, an Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the Town of Huntertown, Indiana to be commonly known as the Fens, Phase I, voluntary annexation. Tina McDonald seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Outside of items listed under Council Action, the following New Business was brought forth:

- Laura Oberholtzer and Patrick Rew, representing the Allen County Department of Planning Services, provided the council with a summary of proposed amendments to the town's zoning ordinance, which is being proposed to align the Huntertown ordinance with previously updated County and City ordinances. The council was provided a 9-page document with a list of all proposed changes. The presentation topics included new language for allowing accessory buildings and container homes; updates to building heights; and roadway easement and private street changes. A Public Hearing will be held in May and the DPS will return to the council for approval in June. Brandon Seifert shared his concerns about the new provisions related to accessory buildings being an avenue for homeowners to go above HOA covenants and create party spaces in their backyards. Patrick Rew said that this ordinance does not trump HOA covenants and that if the HOA bans these types of buildings, then they would not be allowed. After no further discussion, no action was taken.

OLD BUSINESS

Outside of items listed under Council action, no other Old Business was brought forth.

REPORTS

Resource Officer Brandon Reichert had the following report:

- He has been attending Homeowners Association meetings on behalf of the town.

- The current police log for Huntertown does not have his officer number attached to it but the number of the rookie he is training. Ryan Schwab said the town has not been getting those reports for a number of months.
- He will try and stay on top of some of the issues that warmer weather brings with kids being out late at night.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had the following report:

- The town will be taking part in a ratings call with Standards & Poor's on Thursday, March 20, 2025, for the sewer bonds.
- He will be sending them a link to an Owl Camera that he thinks will work well for the Town Hall when it comes time to livestream meetings.

Town Manager Hannah Walker had the following report:

- Hathaway Road will be closed over Spring Break week (March 31-April 4) for some utility crossover work.
- Greater Fort Wayne is going to Arkansas for an inner-city visit May 5-7. Tickets are \$750 per person if anyone would like to attend and do not include travel.
- She continues to have conversations with the owners of Love Katiedid Floral over the parking situation at their business on the corner of Lima Road and Hunter Road. She is asking the council for its interest in potential 2-hour parking for the public spaces on the corner.

Derek Frederickson no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None were brought forth.

Michael Aker made a motion to adjourn. Patricia Freck seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Attest:

Brad Hite
President

Ryan Schwab
Clerk Treasurer