Meeting of the Town Council of Huntertown, Indiana Monday, June 2, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road

A public meeting of the Huntertown Town Council was held on Monday, June 2, 2025, at Huntertown Town Hall, 15617 Lima Road, Huntertown, IN. Present were town council members Patricia Freck, Brad Hite (P); Tina McDonald; and Brandon Seifert; Town Manager Hannah Walker; Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab; Resource Officer Brandon Reichert; Jim Breckler, Stephen Cardenas and Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources Inc.; Mike Hawk of Hawk Haynie Kammeyer & Smith; Beth Johnson of USI Consultants; twenty-four (24) members of the public and zero (0) members of the media. Council member Michael Aker participated via Microsoft Teams.

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

COUNCIL ACTION

Brandon Seifert made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2025, regular meeting. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to approve the general, water, and sewer claims dated June 2, 2025, in the amount of \$164,435.23. Tina McDonald seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve Huntertown Resolution 2025-007, approving 2025 pay 2026 Real Property and Personal Property Compliance with Statement of Benefits (CF-1) forms. Tina McDonald seconded. Rachel Black, Senior Economic Development Specialist with the Allen County Department of Planning services, provided the council with an overview of the resolution and the companies involved. She noted that all were compliant. After no further discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to have Hannah Walker send a comment letter to the Allen County Plan Commission for the re-zoning of a property at 1638 E. Gump Road as presented. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to have Hannah Walker send a comment letter to the Allen County Department of Planning Services in support of the new Huntertown Town Center Zoning District as presented. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to approve a construction inspection engineering agreement with USI Consultants for the Carroll Road Roundabout project in a not-to-exceed amount of \$255,200.00 as presented. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Patricia Freck made a motion to approve Pay Application No. 1 to Fox Contractors Corp. in the amount of \$699,104.02 for Contract B: Shoaff Road water main extension project. Tina McDonald seconded. Jim Breckler provided an overview of the pay application, noting that the town's Allen County ARPA funding will be used to pay for this pay application. After no further discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Tina McDonald made a motion to approve the pay raise and apprentice program advancement for employee Dillon Shellman. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to approve the promotion of employee Leslie Thews from Utility Clerk #3 to Utility Clerk #2. Patricia Freck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Brandon Seifert made a motion to consider Huntertown Ordinance 2025-006, an Ordinance changing the zoning classification of a certain 1.361-acre tract referenced in rezoning petition REZ-2025-0007 from AR low intensity residential to R3 Multiple family residential. Patricia Freck seconded. Ryan Schwab provided an overview of the process for passing the ordinance and provided the council with a petition with 87 signatures from residents opposing the re-zoning. Patricia Freck asked the developer, Jeff Thomas, if the number of Town Homes could be reduced due to the high number of residents' concerns. Thomas said the meeting was about the re-zoning of the land and that the number of Town Homes does not impact the re-zoning. He said he is following the proper procedures and is trying to maximize the available acreage. Brandon Seifert read aloud the letter of support the Town Council sent to the Allen County Plan Commission regarding the re-zoning of this land. He also read a letter to the town council from Allen County Commissioner Ron Turpin explaining his change of mind and subsequent approval of the re-zoning. Pat Freck and Tina McDonald each said they were not aware of the public opposition when they agreed to send the letter of support. Tina McDonald added that she is allowed to change her mind. While casting his vote, Michael Aker said that the large public opposition has changed his mind on the rezoning as well. After no further discussion, the motion was defeated 1-3-1 (Freck - Nay, McDonald -Nay; Seifert -Aye; Aker - Nay; Hite - abstain).

NEW BUSINESS

Outside of items listed under Council Action, no other New Business was brought forth:

OLD BUSINESS

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

REPORTS

Brandon Seifert had the following report:

• He wanted get guidance from the council on using Fort Wayne City Utilities as an emergency connection for the water and sewer utilities. He also suggested looking at eliminating some capital projects that would not be needed with the emergency connection. Derek Frederickson said that a meeting with City Utilities has been held and that a template for an agreement has been drafted, although no dollar amount has been attached. He said the agreement was for a minimum of 20 years and he felt that it was a non-negotiable item. Patricia Freck asked Frederickson if the emergency agreement was needed considering the capital projects the town is currently planning. Frederickson said that under the current rate of growth, an agreement would not be needed. Brad Hite said that the town has nothing more than a piece of paper with words on it. Until City Utilities puts some numbers into the agreement, there really is not anything to consider and the town should continue with its capital project plans.

Resource Officer Brandon Reichert had the following report:

• He echoed the report from Resource Officer Pedro Yaruchyk at the May 19, 2025, meeting, that the statistics from the radar speed sign installed at Copper Strike Pass in the Copper Creek neighborhood showed that 96-percent of travelers were under the 30 MPH speed limit. He said the fastest speed was registered himself as an emergency response vehicle. • The Sheriff's Department is concerned about its budget after passage of Senate Bill 1 and wants the town to re-affirm its interest in a third resource officer.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryan Schwab had the following report:

He asked the council to consider moving its July 7, 2025, to hold a meeting on June 30, 2025, to
accommodate staff vacation time. He noted that the Utility Service Board has agreed to do the same.
Council members gave verbal approval.

Outside of items listed under Council Action, Town Manager Hannah Walker had the following report:

- She, along with staff from Engineering Resources Inc., held a meeting with officials from IDEM to inform them on ongoing utility projects.
- She was informed that INDOT will not allow the town to share funding from the west Carroll Road project with the east Carroll Road project. The town is looking at an estimated \$380,000 in additional expenses.

Derek Frederickson of Engineering Resources had no further report.

Mike Hawk of Hawk Haynie Kammeyer & Smith had no further report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Georgia Schmidt, a resident at 4932 Balor Court, said Thank You.

Patricia Freck made a motion to adjourn. Brandon Seifert seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Brad Hite

President

Ryan Schwab

Clerk Treasurer