



July 9, 2025 Town Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Larry Randolph, Dean Smith, Dana Rutter, Corey Oberlin, Avery Ferguson, Gale Gerber, Ray Rodriguez, and Vernon Miller.

Dean called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Dean made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 25, 2025. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Water: Avery began by stating there's not too much for water. Everything is about the same. Avery reminded the council the asset management is coming up from the State on October 11. He hasn't heard of a date that council members will need to attend this class. He will let everyone know when he hears something.

IDEM will be here on the 28th of this month to inspect the water tower. It's Avery's first time having someone come and do this.

Avery gave all of the council members information in regard to Diamond Meter. He explained, they buy whole and old meters. We could get anywhere from \$3-\$5 a meter. Avery said, if he were to disassemble these and turn the brass in it would amount to 2-3 pounds. Avery has popped the heads off of some. Larry asked Avery how many water meters have been changed. Avery said on the list 4-5 but he has 6-8 work orders waiting on him. Over the time Avery has been here, he's replaced 12. More still need changed out since beginning the meter replacement program. The council was all in agreement to use Diamond Meter to get rid of old obsolete meters. Dana said this will be a good incentive to get more meters changed out. Avery agreed, he just hasn't had the time.

Avery gave the members quotes from Batco. Avery said in past meetings we had discussed getting a better locator to find curbstops and you had approved this. The price on the first page is \$855.08. They released a new one and the approved amount was for this one of the \$855.08. Avery went on to explain, then we talked about getting a different style locator which was discussed with Vernon. With this one you can check mains and electrical lines. These come in 3 watts or 10 watts. The 10 watts would obviously be slightly better. If we are really going to use them to locate electrical lines at the park, then he suggested going with the 10 watts. Batco came give us a demo on the locators before deciding what we want to purchase. Dean said he is trying to understand the bigger advantages verse the 7-watt difference. Avery said it has to do

with a soil type and condition. He would get more information out of the 10 watts. Larry asked how long the quotes are good for. Avery said he isn't sure, maybe a couple of months. Dana responded, it says 30 days at the bottom. Larry said if you buy one you better go with the best one. Avery said he hasn't had a chance to talk finances with MacKenzie about this. Dean said to have Batco come out and do a demo without us before a decision can be made. MacKenzie added, once it's decided (if we like the product) we can always do a 3 or 4 way split if every department is going to be using it. Dean said, let's table the 3 watt and 10 watts until we have a demo. The \$855 amount is already approved.

Wastewater: Avery said, with the help of the maintenance department the manhole cover has been replaced at the end of the LeCounts drive. Dean asked if Fred knows yet? Avery replied, probably not. As long as no one hits it or runs over it with the plow we should be good. Larry asked if it will sink? Avery said no, it's a concrete container and riser with a steel manhole cover. It's really level. The only factor would be erosion over time.

The pump at the wastewater plant. We had a spare but it's not in great shape. It'll be the same amount to rebuild the old one verses just getting a new one. The cost is \$8,500 and we really need to have a spare for a backup. Dean asked Avery about using a rebuild if an emergency came up, Avery said he wouldn't trust it. Before Avery took over, the one in Timber Valley was replaced at a cost of \$6,000. It's unfortunately the generation and time we are living in; things are more expensive. MacKenzie asked, how important is this locator then? MacKenzie suggested, maybe it's something to look into for 2026 instead out of this year's budget. Dean told Avery to get the quote for the other pump, sign it, and it's approved because it's truly a necessity that we cannot be without. Dana congratulated Avery on passing the wastewater certification test.

Dean told Avery to tell everyone about the snapping turtle. Over the weekend Tina noticed a slight difference in the flow at the plant. Avery said he looked around to see if anything could be blocking it and noticed a snapping turtle in the flume that was stuck. With Corey's help they were able to get the turtle out of there and place it in the river. Avery suspects the turtle came in through the water clarifier.

Community Development: MacKenzie informed the council of the CCMG 2025-01 start date with Phend & Brown. Right now, they will begin the work on the 21st. MacKenzie is waiting on a letter from Riley (Phend & Brown Manager Representative) to send a letter to Timber Valley resident's alerting them on the upcoming construction.

There is no exact start date for Niblock, MacKenzie is waiting on the schedule from Kurtis.

The speeding ordinance. MacKenzie has had correspondence with the Town Attorney in regard to this. Per our ordinance for traffic, we can do none the less of \$50 and cannot exceed \$500. The Town Council all adamantly decided speeding violations need to be fined at \$200 from here on out to get the public's attention on this serious matter. As for the other ordinances of removing signs and inputting new signs, the Town Attorney will get these drafts to me when he can. Through a unanimous decision and approved upon voice vote the speeding tickets will be at a cost of \$200 moving forward after this council meeting.

Dean asked Corey if we would be keeping any of the crushed concrete or asphalt from the CCMG projects? Corey replied they won't bring it back because they won't be grinding the concrete and asphalt on site.

Maintenance: Corey began by saying last week he and Mike painted the lines outside of Pizza Depot. Then, Avery informed me it's my job to paint the parking lines at the school and at the Post Office. He will begin that one of these upcoming days.

The street sweeper is coming August 13th at 8:00am. It's the same company we used last year. Avery told Corey to track the water usage from the truck. Dana asked about getting vehicles off of the road to have the work completed. MacKenzie said we can put up signs and post this on Facebook.

Corey explained to the council we had a demo with the vacuum truck yesterday. Dana was in attendance for this demo. There are two prices on the quotes you've been given. One is for a diesel and the other is not. This quote does not reflect a trade in value for the one we currently have. One the quotes the booms are manual. Corey said overall, they seem like good guys and are willing to work with us. This company also thinks they have a used street sweeper. Maybe we can make a two for one deal. Dean asked what's the horse power difference? Corey responded, not much. Larry noticed the diesel is \$20,000 more and asked Corey which one he would prefer? Corey said the diesel. Dean asked for a demo on the street sweeper and pricing on that. The council liked the idea of getting a vacuum truck and a street sweeper. MacKenzie said, let's hold off until we establish more concrete figures with the trade in of our vacuum truck.

Dana asked if anyone had gotten ahold of the gentleman that purchased Petra's old house and why equipment was just left there? Lisa Dull called and said they have been back and working on it. Apparently, one of the workers got poison ivy so bad and couldn't work for a while. Robert told him he cannot park the trailer in the road; it needs to be in the yard or driveway. Dana said thank you.

Marshal: Ray informed the council of the bad news in regard to the Lexipol Grant for the radios. We did not qualify. Ray had hoped since we are a small department we would have been eligible for this, but apparently not. Dean asked how much are the radios? Ray said \$4500-\$4600 per radio. Dana asked, how many would you need? Ray said at least 2. MacKenzie had an excel budget laid out for the PD after the Caliber expenses. MacKenzie said she remembers there was money left over but couldn't remember a certain dollar amount. MacKenzie asked if she could have time to reflect on these figures before the council makes a decision.

Ray said Verkada will be out here tomorrow to install the cameras around various locations in town. They were here today.

Ray noticed a semi turning onto Jackson Street to go into the Lumber yard. I told him he needs to use Benton Street. The sign says no trucks so we can at least cite them. Maybe we possible need one on Lincoln and Jackson coming out of Millersburg Lumber and put some on the alleys. We probably need four signs. Ray said he know Rita gets pretty upset because they hit and move the rocks she has placed out, and Ray understands.

Dean said he had a suggestion from a resident about lost cats and dogs. He asked if we have a chip reader on hand to identify dogs. Ray responded no. Ray submits the animals to the Humane Shelter if he is unable to identify where the dog or cat came from. Dean said he wasn't sure if it would be helpful for us to invest in one. Ray commented, not really because we can't hold the animals here for a long period of time. It's best to give the animal to the shelter and let them find the owner.

Dana said people within his ward have approached him about the police department doing a blitz. He said hit hard for a week, spread the word we aren't taking matters lightly with traffic violations and hopefully people get the point. He recognized that it would be hard to do and it stinks having to come in early but 4am-7am you would catch a lot of those people. Ray asked, there's not people working right now because of shut down, right? Dana said yes, he's been off for almost two weeks but production starts back up Monday.

Park: Vernon has been mowing and working on the ball diamonds. He said the grass seed has been laid by the pickleball courts. They are working on the electric right now. Vernon said he is in need of more locks, needs at least 5. Corey said he will look into this tomorrow.

Clerk Treasurer: MacKenzie gave the town council a copy of the amended retroactive salary ordinance. The only change that was made was to Avery's wages. He met his OJT hours and he is now certified in wastewater. Dean made a motion to approve the retroactive amended salary

ordinance that reflects Avery's wage increase. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the retroactive amended salary ordinance was approved.

MacKenzie presented the town council with Ordinance 2025-06 the regulations of setting out and pulling up trash containers from the roadway and/or sidewalk. Dean made a motion to waive the second reading for Ordinance 2025-06. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the second reading for Ordinance 2025-06 was waived. Dean made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-06. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote Ordinance 2025-06 was unanimously approved.

MacKenzie presented the town council with May's Bank Reconciliation. Suzy Bass has signed off after overlooking MacKenzie and Addie's work. The town council all signed off on May's Bank Reconciliation.

Dean made a motion to pay bills. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote bills were unanimously approved.

Dean made a motion to adjourn. Dana seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to adjourn.

There will not be a second town council meeting for the month of July.

X

MacKenzie Taylor
Clerk Treasurer

X

Dean Smith
Council President