



Town Council Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2025

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Larry & Alice Randolph, Dean Smith, Corey Oberlin, Addie Miller, Ray Rodriguez, Haley Hurst, Rita Van Voorst, Patty Myers, Vernon Miller, and Sharma (303 N Benton Street).

Dean made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 26, 2025. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Dean made everyone aware that this meeting is being live streamed.

Water: Dean asked MacKenzie if Avery had anything for water while he is away at training. MacKenzie said only the quote to fix the 2016 Chevy. Dean said he spoke with BoDick's in town and received a quote from them as well. BoDick's quote is \$6,354.00 for the transmission. BZ Chevrolet is \$6,311 for the transmission. Other repairs are needed for Avery's utility truck such as the cooler. Dean made a motion to have all of the work completed through BZ Chevrolet. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to get the 2016 Chevy Truck fixed with all of the repairs listed from BZ Chevrolet.

Community Development: Newsletter information has been compiled by Addie and sent to Terry from Mapleleaf Printing. He already sent back a draft.

If you haven't heard, we have been awarded the 2025-01 CCMG. I'll begin working with Commonwealth on advertising and other submissions to INDOT.

MacKenzie informed the council she was selected to attend a training in Providence, Rhode Island, Congress for New Urbanism. The dates would be June 11-June 14.

Maintenance: Corey said they started on the fence today. He doesn't think they'll be back until next week to finish it.

Corey went to the Elkhart County building and met with Steve Switenburger to find all of the maps for the drains in Millersburg. He should be getting back with Corey about this when the maps are ready for pick-up.

Corey gave the council a quote for the dump truck repairs. A lot of the stuff that's listed on the quote doesn't actually need to be complete because Corey serviced it himself. The bed mount that is needed is awfully low. Larry said we are looking at \$1375.00 after removing about half of the items. Dean said he has no problem with it. Dean made a motion to approve the dump truck repairs (what is actually needed for the bed mount) for \$1375.00. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to have the dump truck repair through BoDick's Diesel. Corey told the council he didn't want to take it up there until he knows it won't be snowing anymore. Corey said he'll make arrangements for scheduling.

Marshal: Ray explained to the council he would like to get three new portable radios for his department. He has a quote from ERS of \$14,000. Ray looked through Lexipol, which has written policies for his department. He told the council how Lexipol has grant writers that could submit a grant application on behalf of the town for \$2000. Unfortunately, this wouldn't be a guarantee of being selected for the grant. Larry asked how MacKenzie felt about this. MacKenzie told the council and Ray, it would certainly be a gamble. Maybe we try it once and if we don't get the grant, then we don't try this again in the future. Ray thinks this would be beneficial to have them try to do it because they obviously know what is being asked of for the grant submission. Dean made a motion to approve the grant writing through Lexipol for \$2,000. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to submit \$2,000 for the grant writing.

Ray told the council he is working on the junk vehicles. Robert had one impounded on Monroe Street the other day. There was one on Lincoln and it has been properly plated. Ray said he is trying to work with a woman on Elm Street. He said he gave her a phone number of someone who would pay for her junk vehicle before taking it away. Larry said, B&M does that also. Ray asked Larry if he could get him that number so he can relay it to the woman on Elm Street.

Ray told the council Robert, John, himself, and Larry will be attending the Marshal's Conference April 3-April 5. This is a mandatory training.

Larry made mention of expired buggy plates, Robert has been seeing a lot of those. Unfortunately, we have been running into the issue that we are unable to properly cite them for this because we don't have a local ordinance. Dean asked Ray if he was aware of this. Ray said yes. The plates are not purchased through the BMV so they aren't registered through their RMS system. Plates are acquired through Lake City Bank. Vernon said, they can also be purchased through the Township Trustee he is pretty sure. Vernon asked, why

can't they be ticketed? Vernon said he knew someone that received a ticket a couple of years ago for expired buggy plates by a county officer, it was only \$35.00. Larry said, let's check with the attorney, Elkhart County, and LaGrange County.

Park: Vernon informed the council he opened the bathrooms up the other day. The weather has been so nice and many children/families have been playing at the park.

Vernon said Toni is working on the pickleball courts. She would like to put a pavilion in between the courts to help keep it shaded on hot summer days and also would like to put a sidewalk into the courts. This will help keep the dirt off of the courts. Toni plans on having the new court painted May 1. Dean asked, do you see any problems with this? Vernon said no, they will have to put culverts in because there is a water way. Bender's is who she's receiving a quote from. Vernon said, there will need to be an 8-inch tile because when the snow started melting, that area was flooding. Dean said, he would like to see a drawing/sketch before anything is set in stone. Vernon said he will get one drawn up. Vernon said, it won't be right away, I just wanted to present it to you so everyone knows what's going on. Dean said he isn't opposed to this by any means, he's just curious to see what this will look like and make revisions to the water/flooding issues if necessary.

Clerk Treasurer: February Bank Rec is done and Suzy has signed off that she has reviewed, everything is correct and true. Larry, Dean, and MacKenzie signed off on the February Bank Rec.

MacKenzie told the council she met with Kathi from New Focus HR. It was a really nice introductory meeting and she should have a draft for us in 6-8 weeks.

MacKenzie reminded the council and employees her and Addie will be gone at training March 17-March 20. If anyone needs anything they are welcome to call, text, or e-mail.

MacKenzie said she met with John and Kevin from Verkada. They have both been great to work with. They're very helpful and accommodating.

MacKenzie told the council she is going to start working on the TIF Report in Gateway.

MacKenzie submitted a trash container ordinance and it is being reviewed by the attorney.

New Business: Rita started by saying, a couple of things. She is here on behalf of Carl Wheeler; he is in the hospital and may be coming home tomorrow. She said he questioned

the Town Hall building being handicapped accessible. Where the drop box is located, he can hardly turn around in his wheel chair to get back out where he needs to go. Dean asked maybe we could move the drop box to the front corner? Corey suggested, maybe make a ramp where the drop box is or move the drop box by Addie's desk area? Rita mentioned, not only the drop box but there aren't any push buttons to get inside the building. How is Carl supposed to open the door up himself and go into the building? Rita said, Carl is just looking out for you guys. Dean asked Corey to look into this for us, getting a push button and electric doors. MacKenzie, can you check with Commonwealth about a drop box or having it moved? Dean asked, MacKenzie if she was okay with this. MacKenzie said she would be as long as it would stay in the Clerk's Office. Haley asked, what about the grassy corner? Vernon said, that would be great because you could cement that in. It's a nasty place to mow. Dean said he would like for this to be a bit handier.

Dean asked Rita if she had anything else? Rita said the speeding. Ray said, we try to sit everywhere.

Rita asked Ray if he will be handing out new stickers for golf carts? Ray said, yeah, we can give those out again. Dean said if it's just a renewal, do the golf carts need to be inspected again? Ray said no, only if it's a new one. MacKenzie and Addie can hand them out. Dean asked MacKenzie to advertise this on the water bills. MacKenzie verified with the council if they'd like to have something about that on the water bill or the trash cans? Dean said add it to the newsletter, if there's still time.

Patty Myers spoke up about some of the areas in town when she pushes her dog(s) in the stroller. She said on Lincoln, there's always vehicles parked on the sidewalks, that's not what a sidewalk is for. There's also parking in alleys and that creates a hazard when pulling our or having to maneuver around those. Ray said he would go and take a look.

Patty also mentioned about flooding issues in the alley between her and Avery. She said, we're the only ones that really pay for it. The alley was redone when Washington Street was being completed, I believe. Are they ever going to fix that? Patty wanted to mention to the council that Corey has been doing an awesome job cleaning out the drains. Dean asked Corey to look into this for Patty.

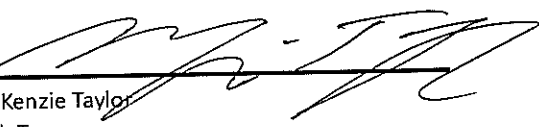
Sharma was here in regard to an extremely high-water bill he received for the March billing cycle. The address is 303 N Benton Street. Sharma was adamant there are no leaks anywhere to be found. MacKenzie told Sharma, when Avery gets back, he will collect a data

log and see if we can detect what's going on and told him to hold off on paying the bill for now.

Dean made a motion to pay bills. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to pay bills.

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

X



MacKenzie Taylor
Clerk Treasurer

X

Dean Smith
Council President