

April 14, 2025

Meeting opened by President Steve Hall with the Pledge to the American Flag.

Members present: Randy Dunnuck, John Blankenbaker, Jeff Davis, Steve Hall

Members absent: Spencer Reed

Others present: Jerry Scott, Joyce Hamilton, Earl Clark, Caleb Halsema, Shannon Fritz, Marcie Schlosser, Rex & Vicki Reade, Lance Engle, Adam Fisher, Branden Scott, Cory Kissick

Randy made a motion, seconded by Jeff, to approve minutes from the 03/24/25 meeting.
Motion carried 4-0.

Council members signed a docket for current expenditures. John made a motion, seconded by Jeff, to approve. Motion carried 4-0.

Old Business

Steve did not have any old business.

Randy said that the new decorative light poles are being installed and should be finished within a few weeks.

John said that he will be starting work on the amphitheater next week. He will call and get the lift machines for them to use. Jerry said that the town guys have crimped all the remaining metal for the volunteers working on the amphitheater.

Jerry reported that the water main repair at the entrance of Albany Heights is complete, with the exception of the pavement repair.

He has not taken the evacuator machine for the annual maintenance, since it has been in use the last couple of weeks. He will get it done as soon as he can get it down to Indianapolis to the dealer.

Chief Fritz said that the light package has been installed on the 2025 Toyota Tundra, and he will be striping the truck sometime next week.

New Business

Steve said that a company is interested in lots 4 and 5 in the Industrial Park area. He said that a verbal offer of \$80,000 was made and they are now researching our water and sewage rates before making a formal offer.

Steve asked the Council to sign a renewal agreement with Flesher Brothers, listing lots 4 and 5. This agreement would end on August 31, 2025. Jeff made a motion, seconded by John. Motion carried 4-0.

Steve presented the quote for \$3,200.00 to fabricate and install the handicap railings on the amphitheater ramp from Barber Welding. Randy made a motion to accept the quote, seconded by Jeff. Motion carried 4-0.

Steve explained to the Council that Northwest Bank has a fraud prevention option called Positive Pay, and Joyce would like to add this service to the Civil and Payroll accounts. We would also like to change our Civil account to become a Sweeps account. This would keep the account at a certain threshold, and if we need more funds then it will automatically "sweep" the funds back to the account. We would earn interest, at the rate of 3%, on this account. While the positive pay has a fee, approximately \$400 per month, the interest earned would well outweigh the fee and earn us several thousand dollars. John made a motion, seconded by Randy, to accept these changes. Motion carried 4-0.

Steve brought Ordinance 2025-4, amending salary ordinance 2024-10. This would add Branden Scott as Utility Worker No. 1 and deleting Kevin Anderson as Utility Worker No.2. Branden's starting salary will be \$20.00 per hour, and he will be reinstated his 2 weeks' vacation and 14 hours of personal time and all holidays from when he resigned his position in 2022. John made a motion, seconded by Randy, to approve these changes. Motion carried 4-0.

Steve presented a Rain Insurance Policy for the Summer Concert Series to the Council. The concert committee has asked for the Council's approval for the committee to pay the premium of \$1,224.00 to have coverage on the 4 concert dates, if we receive .25" of rain or more, to regain \$2,500.00 per incident. This will allow them to recover some funds if we need to cancel the concert, because the bands would still need to be paid. Randy made a motion, seconded by John to approve this request. Motion carried 4-0.

Steve presented the contracts for The Bulldogs, Indy Annies, Big Rosco and the Hammers and the Blue Leafs to perform at the 2025 Summer Concert Series. Jeff made a motion, seconded by John, to accept these contracts. Motion carried 4-0.

Steve explained that the concert committee has asked that alcohol sales be offered at the Summer Concert Series. Steve did the first reading of Ordinance 2025-5, the consumption, use and sales of alcohol at town sponsored events. The Council has agreed to hold a public meeting on April 28, at 7pm in the Town Hall. Joyce will advertise in the newspaper and the ordinance could be adopted at the April 28 meeting of the Town Council.

Steve said he had met with Delaware Community Schools superintendent, Greg Kile, about placing safety bollards along the parking lot. This would be a safety precaution hindering any motorized vehicle from entering the Wildcat Park during events. The school indicated that they would split the cost with the town, Steve will move ahead with the project and bring back details at the next meeting.

Steve presented the annual insurance renewal with Barnum and Brown insurance agency to the Council. This policy would be in effect until April 24, 2026. The annual insurance renewal would be at the cost of \$98,467.00, which is about a 20% increase over the previous year. Insurance rates are skyrocketing due to overwhelming weather events across the United States. Randy made a motion, seconded by John, to accept the quote. Motion carried 4-0.

Randy will bring the list of splashpad employees for approval at the next meeting. We will have each person drug tested before accepting them as employees.

Jeff asked the Council to approve the Farmer's Market request to use the Big Park each Sunday from May to September. If it's too wet in the park, they would use the area by the street garage. John made a motion, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 4-0.

Joyce presented the fireworks contract from Night Magic Displays. The show will be the same as last year, with a few small surprises added to this year. The contract is for \$11,130.00, which is an increase of \$630.00 due to tariffs and insurance increases. Randy made a motion, seconded by John, to accept the contract. Motion carried 4-0.

Joyce announced that the new website is now live! She thanked the Council for approval in making a new, more up to date and user-friendly website for Albany.

Joyce also presented the opportunity to make available another payment option to the residents. They would be able to pay their balance and check their balance on the utility bill via phone. This would not cost the town anything extra but would be an additional fee of 95 cents per use, for the customer. She asked that the Council give it some thought, and she will bring it back to them at the next meeting.

Jerry said that the town workers had filled several potholes and that if there are any that were missed, to please let him know. He said that they had installed the bumpers at the Golf course, since the weather has improved enough, and the golfers are starting to play now.

He also said that the new bearing had been installed at the sewage plant and now that they know it is the correct part, does the Council want him to order another bearing to keep in inventory? Joyce could not remember how much it cost, but she thought that the Council had already approved purchasing an extra bearing at a previous meeting. Joyce will call and order the part.

Chief Fritz said that the officers had been busy the last couple of weeks on an arrest. Steve Hall also asked the audience and Council members to call and speak with someone at the probation or parole department concerning the lack of cooperation we are seeing from them concerning our local youth. We are having a lot of trouble with the youth in town and cannot get any cooperation from the county authorities. The police have been frustrated for years concerning the lack of cooperation and support for them at the county level. At the end of the conversation Chief Fritz was asked who specifically we should voice our concerns to, and he said to contact Judge Ramirez.

Public

Adam Fisher, 330 N Mississinewa, asked the Council about the sewage coming back up into his house, and what could be done to fix the problem. He had his sewage lines redone last year by Peterman plumbing and he said he wasn't sure if they installed a check valve or not. We said that the sewer appeared free and clear on our side, but as a courtesy, we will go down and video the area again. We do not think we require a check valve, but it would be a good thing for him to have installed on his side. He thanked the Council for listening to him and he will try to resolve the issue with his plumbing company.

Earl Clark expressed his concern over the youth in the town also, he said that he is under the impression that there is a House Bill that would legalize marijuana, and make it accessible to children through candy, gum, etc. We all agree that this is something to consider and investigate.

Vicki Reade asked who she should contact concerning installing a handrail at the entrance to the Resale Shop. Steve said she needs to come to a planning commission meeting on the 1st or 3rd Thursday of the month.

Randy made a motion, seconded by Jeff: the meeting was adjourned by Steve Hall at 8:13 pm.
Motion carried 4-0.

Attest:



Joyce Hamilton, Clerk-Treasurer



Steve Hall, Council President