

**Board of Public Works & Safety
and Park Authority Meeting
Wednesday, July 9, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.
Ligonier City Hall • 301 S. Cavin St. • Ligonier, IN 46767**

Call to order by Mayor Earle Franklin

Roll Call

Present: Board Member Tom Janes and Mayor Earle Franklin
City Attorney Laura Kaufman and Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn
Absent: Board Member Ron Terry

Approval of Minutes of June 25, 2025

Motion to approve: Earle Franklin

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Water Department – Employee Wage Increases

Servando Pena and Bryan Luevano, both participants in the Alliance Apprenticeship Program, have successfully completed the first phase with passing grades. According to the program agreement, they are eligible for a wage increase to at least \$19.38 per hour. Both employees are currently earning \$19.25 per hour. A wage increase of \$0.25 per hour was recommended for each, bringing their new hourly rate to \$19.50.

Motion to approve: Earle Franklin

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

Wastewater Department – Employee Wage Increases

Andrew Magdich has completed the first phase of the Alliance Apprenticeship Program with passing grades. Per the agreement, this qualifies him for a raise to at least \$19.38 per hour. He is currently earning \$19.25. A wage increase of \$0.25 per hour was recommended, bringing his hourly rate to \$19.50. Although Kris Funk is not officially enrolled in the Alliance Apprenticeship Program due to the lack of a one-to-one licensed operator requirement, it was recommended that he also receive the same wage increase. Kris has been employed one year longer than Andrew and is currently at the same wage.

Motion to approve: Earle Franklin

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Administration

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- On Saturday, July 12, there will be a couple of street closures for the "Day of Giving" event on Main Street. Main Street will be closed from 3rd to 4th Street to allow volunteers to distribute items via a drive-through setup. This will primarily affect the width of City Hall along Station Street.
- On July 26, St. Patrick's Catholic Church will host an event on the south side of Ravine Park Drive. Chief Shearer has approved the closure of Ravine Park Drive from the east side of the Stone Family fence to the alley to the east. The closure will be in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Access will remain available via the north loop, and the group will also utilize a portion of the school parking lot.

City Engineer Landon Geiger

- In discussion of the Strawberry Valley Trails project, bronze sidewalk markers were reviewed. The cost for a minimum order of 50 markers will be approximately \$923.00. Including installation, the total project cost is estimated between \$7,000 and \$10,000. The goal is to maintain momentum so the project can be bid in the fall for spring construction. Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn noted that the Redevelopment Commission has been the primary funding source for the trails and will continue to make related decisions. The matter will be added to their August agenda.
- Landon delivered a "Coming Soon" sign for the site of the Veteran's Memorial Project.

City Engineer Rick Pharis

- Rick is working with the County GIS Coordinator to correct a minor error on the current zoning map related to the corporate city limits. The revised map will be shared when available.
- Phend & Brown reported that the Community Crossings Project will be delayed until the second or third week of August. Rick will inform the contractor of the upcoming Labor Day Weekend Festival to ensure no work is scheduled during that time.

Mayor Earle Franklin


- Extended thanks to the Street Department for removing a downed tree near the Visitor's Center.
- Expressed appreciation for the Water and Wastewater Departments' collaboration with the Alliance, emphasizing the value of continued education and long-term careers within the city.
- Confirmed a meeting with the contractor for the Veteran's Memorial Project is scheduled for this afternoon and reported that work has begun at the site.


Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Tom Janes

Second: Earle Franklin

Vote: All Ayes


Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer


Earle Franklin, Mayor