

Board of Public Works & Safety and Park Authority Meeting
Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – 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 Members Tom Janes, Ronny Terry, and Mayor Earle Franklin
City Attorney Laura Kaufman and Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

Approval of Minutes of June 10, 2026

Motion to approve: Ronny Terry

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Police Department Personnel Updates – Chief Appointee Mike Crossley

Mayor Earle Franklin announced the appointment of Mike Crossley as the new Police Chief, effective July 28, 2026, following the retirement of current Police Chief Bryan Shearer.

After completing the department's promotional process, Chief-Appointee Crossley recommended the following command staff appointments, effective July 28, 2026, and requested Board approval:

- Assistant Chief – Jason Shearer
- Detective Sergeant – Grant Moser

Motion to approve: Tom Janes

Second: Ronny Terry

Vote: All Ayes

Chief-Appointee Crossley also stated that the department will begin the hiring process to fill the resulting vacancy. He hopes to have the new officer in place by July 28, 2026. He advised the Board that an executive session for applicant interviews would need to be scheduled on a Saturday, as one applicant is currently attending the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and is unavailable Monday through Friday. The Board agreed to coordinate a date.

Water Department – Employee Wage Increase

Bryan Luevano completed the requirements for the third period of the apprenticeship program on June 7, 2026, increasing his hourly wage to \$20.75. Approval was requested to make the wage increase retroactive to June 7, 2026.

Motion to approve: Ronny Terry

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

Wastewater Department – Employee Wage Increase

Andrew Magdich completed the requirements for the third period of the apprenticeship program on June 25, 2026, increasing his hourly wage to \$20.75. Approval was requested for the wage increase to become effective July 5, 2026.

Motion to approve: Tom Janes

Second: Ronny Terry

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Board Members and Administration

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- Officer Nick Knafel, the department's K-9 handler, advised that K-9 Rocco should be medically retired due to arthritis in his spine, which limits his ability to enter and exit the patrol vehicle and perform his duties. Chief Shearer stated that the department does not intend to immediately replace Rocco but the new command staff will evaluate the need for a future replacement.

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- Funding remains available for the 2026 50-50 Sidewalk Program.

WWTP Superintendent Benjamin Glowinski

- The Influent Valve at the Wastewater Plant has been installed.
- Parts for the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) replacement parts have been received, and the project will begin soon.

Mayor Earle Franklin

- Mayor Franklin will attend the Northern Indiana Mayors' Roundtable on Friday and will take Mayor-Elect Bryan Shearer to introduce him to fellow mayors from across northern Indiana. He noted that the monthly meetings are informative, as communities of all sizes face many of the same issues, although to varying degrees.

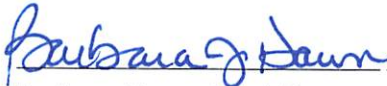
- Mayor Franklin will also attend the Indiana Conference of Mayors (ICOM) meeting in mid-July with mayors from across the state. He stated that the meeting provides an opportunity to discuss municipal concerns directly with state legislators and expressed hope that recent property tax legislation will be among the topics discussed.

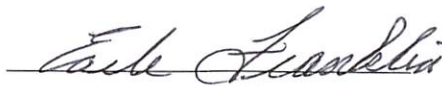
Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Tom Janes

Second: Ronny Terry

Vote: All Ayes


Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer


Earle Franklin, Mayor