

Special Board of Public Works & Safety and Park Authority Meeting
Thursday, July 2, 2026 – 11:00 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 24, 2026

Motion to approve: Ronny Terry

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

EXOS – Contract for IT Services

Bryan Shearer addressed the upcoming departure of the City's IT Director, Gary, whose last day will be July 10. He explained that Gary's departure creates an urgent need to ensure continuity of the City's technology operations and institutional knowledge.

Bryan recommended transitioning the City's IT position from a full-time employee to a managed IT services model, noting that the City does not require an IT professional on-site every day. He stated that several neighboring communities, including Waterloo, Angola, and New Haven, currently utilize managed IT services successfully.

Bryan explained that after discussions at a recent roundtable meeting with Jeff Roeder, they developed a transition plan designed to capture Gary's knowledge and documentation before his departure. The goal is to ensure the City has the information necessary to continue operations without relying solely on one individual. He noted that Gary has been very cooperative throughout the process in identifying the City's technology needs moving forward, which has increased confidence in the proposed transition.

Because the services being sought are professional services, Bryan noted that the City is not required to solicit competitive bids.

The proposed transition would include an initial four-week onboarding and knowledge-transfer period with the managed services provider at a cost of \$18,711. Following that transition, the ongoing managed services agreement would cost \$12,474 per month. Bryan noted that the City's current cost for the IT position, including wages and benefits, is approximately \$9,000 per month.

Bryan recommended proceeding with the managed services model and having the firm assume the responsibilities currently performed by the IT department head to provide continuity, security, and long-term support for the City's technology infrastructure.

City Attorney Laura Kaufman reviewed the contract and stated that everything is in order. She noted that she was pleased with the provision allowing termination of the agreement with 30 days' notice

Motion to approve the contract with EXOS and give Barb Hawn the authority to sign the contract electronically: Ronny Terry

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

Alliance – Apprenticeship Program

Barb Hawn reported that the Alliance of Indiana has made its apprenticeship program available to Kris Funk in the Wastewater Treatment Plant. A wage progression schedule has been developed that is consistent with the apprenticeship program currently in place for Andrew Magdich, Bryan Luevano, and Servando Pena. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Benjamin Glowinski requested approval to enroll Kris Funk in the apprenticeship program.

Motion to approve: Tom Janes

Second: Ronny Terry

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Board Members and Administration

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- Expressed his thanks to the board for the approval of the EXOS contract.

Park Director John Parrish

- John Parrish reported that funding for the new playground equipment at Prentice Park has been fully secured. The playsets have been acquired through a grant from the manufacturer, with one-half of the

remaining cost funded by a local foundation and the other half funded by a local family. As a result, the equipment is expected to be installed this fall.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn expressed her appreciation to the Board for approving the EXOS contract. She stated that she was very impressed with the implementation plan presented by EXOS and believes it provides the best long-term solution for the City's technology needs moving forward.

Mayor Earle Franklin

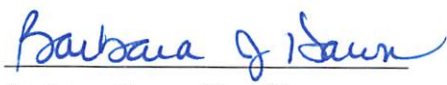
- Mayor Franklin stated that the meeting with EXOS went very well and that the timing of the transition worked out favorably.
- He reported that city officials recently met with county officials and Paige Sansone from Baker Tilly regarding the Municipal Units Strategic Taskforce (MUST) and Local Income Tax (LIT). Additional meetings will be scheduled to continue discussions and work toward establishing the taskforce.
- Mayor Franklin will be attending the Indiana Conference of Mayors Annual Conference in July, emphasizing the importance of making local governments' voices heard by the state legislature.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Tom Janes

Second: Ronny Terry

Vote: All Ayes



Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer



Earle Franklin, Mayor