

Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, August 11, 2025 · Ligonier City Hall
301 South Cavin Street · Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Call to Order

Mayor Earle Franklin called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Present: Council Members Brian Hite, Doretta Wiegand, Matt Kreager, and David Cisney

Also Present: Mayor Earle Franklin, City Attorney Laura Kaufman, and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn

Absent: Council President Chris Fought

Minutes from the meeting of July 28, 2025

Motion to approve: David Cisney

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Mayor's 2026 Pay Increase Recommendation

Mayor Franklin addressed the council regarding the 2026 budgeting. The Financial Plan prepared by Baker Tilly was distributed. The plan includes a 4% increase in wages for all civil employees and administration, along with a \$4,000 per year increase for full-time sworn officers of the police and fire departments. He recommended that council approve both.

Motion to approve: Matt Kreager

Second: Brian Hite

Vote: All Ayes

Shared Clinic Proposal

Bryan Shearer and Barb Hawn have attended meetings with the school and Parkview regarding the creation of a shared clinic for employees covered under the City's insurance plan. Information regarding the clinic was included in the council packet.

Under the proposal, the City would pay \$40 per covered person per month for employees to access the clinic. The employee pays nothing for the visit or for many generic medications and services that would be included. We anticipate that participation in this program will help minimize future insurance premium increases. A worksheet outlining the total annual cost was included in the council packet.

Members reviewed the information for discussion. Dr. Lowe is presenting the proposal to his school board tonight as well, and their Insurance Committee will meet later in the week. They anticipate deciding by their second August meeting, which is the same date as ours. Bryan provided a letter of support, as he was unable to attend tonight. Barb Hawn asked that we follow a similar timeline for a decision. Members had no further questions at this time.

Motion to table: David Cisney

Second: Brian Hite

Vote: All Ayes

Acknowledgement of July 2025 Fund and Bank Reconciliation Reports

Both reports were distributed to council members in their packet. All acknowledged receipt.

Claim Registers – APV #s 73827-73962

Motion to approve: David Cisney

Second: Doretta Wiegand

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Council Member Matt Kreager

- The Veteran's Memorial is progressing. The monuments are pending installation, and laser engraving is expected to be completed this week.
- Veterans' information forms are available from Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn for inclusion in the Local Hero's Kiosk.

Mayor Earle Franklin

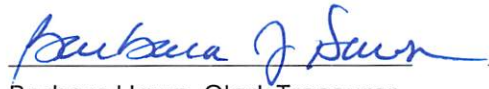
- Meetings were held with Baker Tilly regarding the citywide financial plan. The outlook remains strong until 2028, when local income tax cuts take effect.
- Appreciation was expressed to the Street and Water Departments for completing hookups in preparation for the paving project.

Adjournment

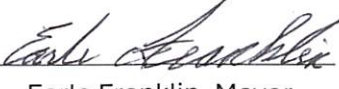
Motion to adjourn: David Cisney

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes



Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer



Earle Franklin, Mayor