

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, July 27, 2026 - 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 President Chris Fought; 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.

Minutes from the Meeting of July 13, 2026

Motion to approve: David Cisney

Second: Doretta Wiegand

Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Isabelle Lopez, 212 South Cavin Street

Ms. Lopez stated that she will be celebrating the one-year anniversary of her store. She requested permission to close the alley next to her building on August 21, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for live music. She also requested permission to have two food trucks facing the store and sidewalk during the event.

Motion to approve: David Cisney

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Perry Township Fire Contract for 2027

The Perry Township Fire Contract for 2027 was presented for approval. The contract includes a 1.5% increase over the 2026 contract and is for a one-year term.

Motion to approve: Chris Fought

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Acknowledgement of June 2026 Bank Reconciliation and Fund Reports

Council members acknowledged receipt of the June 2026 bank reconciliation and fund reports included in their meeting packets.

Claim Registers – APV #76414–76481

Motion to approve: David Cisney

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Police Chief Mike Crossley

Chief Mike Crossley presented Bryan Shearer with awards recognizing his service and his duty weapon as a retirement gift. Brandon Stout also presented Bryan with his retirement badge.

Bryan Shearer spoke and thanked the City staff, stating that his career with the City was the best career he could have ever dreamed of and that it was especially meaningful to serve in his hometown. He expressed his full confidence in the command staff and the Police Department.

Council Member Brian Hite

- Congratulated Bryan and commented that it is hard to believe he is retiring.

Council President Chris Fought

- Congratulated Bryan and stated that the Council looks forward to what comes next.
- Thanked Mayor Earle Franklin for his service to the City over the last several years and stated that he has been good for the City.

Council Member Doretta Wiegand

- Congratulated Bryan and expressed appreciation for his service.
- Congratulated Chief Mike Crossley.
- Thanked Mayor Earle Franklin for his service.

Council Member David Cisney

- Congratulated Bryan Shearer and noted his 25 years as Police Chief, stating that the average tenure of a police chief in Indiana is approximately three years. He stated that Bryan has set the stage for things to come.
- Thanked Mayor Earle Franklin for everything he has done for the City.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- Congratulated Bryan Shearer on his retirement from the Ligonier Police Department and on becoming Mayor-Elect of the City.
- Congratulated new Police Chief Mike Crossley and his administration team, including Assistant Police Chief Jason Shearer, Detective-Sergeant Grant Moser, Patrol Sergeant Brandon Stout, and Accreditation Manager Chris Shearer.
- Stated that the City's employees are its greatest asset.
- Thanked Mayor Earle Franklin and expressed appreciation for his leadership over the last several years.

City Attorney Laura Kaufman

- Thanked Mayor Franklin and stated that he made the City Attorney's job easy.

Mayor Earle Franklin

- Stated that it was a pleasure to take Bryan Shearer to the Mayor's Roundtable.
- Shared that Bryan was not only the Police Chief but also a neighbor, and that their children had grown up together. He stated that Bryan was the best neighbor anyone could have.
- Stated that it was his pleasure to make the promotions possible and noted that small towns can have an influence on larger cities.
- Thanked everyone for all they do for the City.
- Expressed appreciation to the Council for its participation and for staying informed about what is happening in the City, stating that they make him look good.
- Reported on the Mayor's Conference held in Greenwood the previous week.
- Reported on the MUST meeting held that day and commented that there are many ways to interpret the rules and regulations. He stated that the MUST task force has been well attended.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: David Cisney

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Barbara A. Hawn Earle Franklin