

NOBLE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday September 2, 2025
NOBLE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
NOBLE COUNTY NEW ANNEX

PRESENT:

Tom Janes
Mary Wysong
Brandon Chordas
Doug Harp
Max Franklin
Casey Myers

ABSENT

Trey Forbes

ALSO PRESENT:

Gary Leatherman, Noble County Commissioner
Jackie Knafel, Noble County Coordinator
Dennis Graft, County Attorney
Matt Getts, KPC Media

Doug Harp, Council President, brought the meeting to order at approximately 1:00PM

CORRESPONDENCE

- Doug Harp shared an invitation that he had received concerning a seminar in Elkhart County about Drug Policy Solutions.
- Health First Indiana – updates from the Health Department

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as corrected with a motion from Tom Janes and a second from Mary Wysong. Motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Casey Myers reported that he had attended the EMA meeting. He indicated that it was an informational meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Dennis Graft, County Attorney, gave the council information about voting by phone, asking that the members view the I.C. code 5-14-1.5-3.5 to determine whether they want to develop a policy of allowance on this board.

HIGHWAY

Zack Smith, Highway Engineers, was present for the following engineering report for the department:

- Storm Damage - Zack informed the council that he is scoping design and cost for an addition to the highway garage. There was some structural damage to the West end of the garage office and thought that this would be a good time to consider needed upgrades to the building. Zack will be proceeding with the posting of the "Request for Proposal's" for the project. Weigand had done a preliminary cost estimate which came in at \$492,749.00 Zack feels that between the insurance money received and his building repair and maintenance budget, this might be a doable project.
- CCMG – the 2026 CCMG application process will open in October. Zack will be submitting the following road projects:

1. 300 S between CR 700 E and Old SR 3
2. 300 N between SR 3 and CR 1000 W
3. CR 100 N between SR 9 and CR 125 N
4. Williams Lake Road
5. CR 150 W
6. Pheasant Cove Subdivision.

Zack is requesting that the Council sign a Financial Commitment Letter. Mary Wysong moved to sign the letter. Max Franklin seconded the motion and the motion carried 6-0.

- LPA Projects – Zack plans to submit three bridges – Bridge 45, Bridge 65 and Bridge 75 for LPA projects this year. He will also submit the 600 West project, possibly to be done in phases for projects this year.

ADDITIONALS

Jay Cheshier, 911 Director, is present to request an additional in the amount of \$3,000.00 for service contracts in the Noble 911 fund, 1000-36200-045. Tom Janes moved to approve the additional. Brandon Chordas seconded and the motion carried 6-0. Jay had also requested additional part time overtime funds but informed the council that he is canceling that request.

CIRCUIT COURT is requesting an additional for 1000-14703-037 Special Appointments in the amount of \$2,000.00 and one for 1000-31202-037 Physicians in the amount of \$5,000.00. Both additional are approved with a motion from Max Franklin and a second from Mary Wysong. Motion carried 6-0.

AUDITOR – An additional for deputy's pay is being requested by Shelley Mawhorter, Noble County Auditor in the amount of \$3,519.36 1000-11101-004. Brandon Chordas moved to approve. Max Franklin seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

CCD

Max Weber, Noble County Sheriff, had CCD claims for the council to consider:

Equiparts	\$402.45
Equiparts	\$ 85.34

Brandon Chordas moved to approve these two claims. Casey Myers seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

There was also claim dated 8/25/25 for Equiparts in the amount of \$756.68 which was approved with a motion from Tom Janes and a second from Max Franklin. Motion carried 6-0.

TRANSFERS

A transfer request for the Opioid money was requested:

Decrease 1237-11137-137 Jail Release Coordinator	\$7924.96
Increase 1237-18100-137 PERF	\$4,794.59
Increase 1237-12600-137 Social Security	\$3,130.37

Casey Myers moved to approve. Mary Wysong seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

The Auditor is also asking for a transfer of funds:

Decrease 1000-21300-004 Computer forms	\$600.00
Decrease 1000-13301-004 Education & Training	\$300.00
Increase 1000-13700-004 part time overtime	\$900.00

Tom Janes moved to approve. Max Franklin seconded. Motion carries 6-0.

2026 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Shelley Mawhorter, Noble County Auditor was present for this public hearing. The council was given a copy of the 2026 budget as advertised. There being no public comment or opposition heard, the public hearing was closed.

NOBLE COUNTY PARK BOARD

Diane Scott, Grace Caswell, Kevin Yent, James Haddock and John Metzger, all member of the park board were in attendance for this meeting. Diane was the spokesman from the group and gave an update of the things that have been done and the plans for the future. One of the biggest concerns was that of funding for marketing and advertising as well as an operational fund. Mary Wysong asked about the marketing and advertising and that being a Convention and Visitors Bureau responsibility. When the park board was established, minutes from that meeting indicated that there would be no financial obligation on the part of the county for this board. It also stated that any funds needed should be done through fund raising and grants. Diane indicated that the ordinance that was done at that time, was prohibiting the board from getting grants as it indicated council approval for grants and the fact that the council only meets once a month, some grants needed more immediate response. Diane is asking that the ordinance be amended to allow grants to be applied for without council approval and also that the group be allowed to have a treasurer. Dennis Graft, county attorney, indicated that if the group appoints a treasurer, that it is his advice that they be bonded. Jackie Knafel, County Coordinator, also was concerned about any grants that might allow the hiring of employees. The council asked Dennis to draft an ordinance to allow grant application without council approval and to allow the group to appoint a treasurer with the stipulations earlier mentioned with no employment grants and that the treasurer be bonded. The group did request that the council consider an annual budget for the Park Board in the amount of \$10,000.00. With budgets tight because of the SB 1, the council could not commit to a financial obligation at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Noble County Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the council being October 6, 2025

Dated this 6th day of October, 2025


Trey Forbes


Max Franklin


Mary Wysong


Brandon Chordas


Tom Janes


Casey Myers


Doug Harp

ATTEST: 
Michelle Mawhorter, Noble County Auditor