

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 8, 2025**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on September 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Andrews Town Hall in accordance with applicable law and pursuant to appropriate notice.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Laura Dillon, Roger Newsome, Jr., and Michael Dean Young were in attendance. Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell declared a quorum was present and the meeting would continue.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Roger Newsome made a motion to approve council minutes for a Regular Session held on August 25, 2025. Dean Young seconded the motion, which was approved, 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2026 BUDGET FORM 4

The public hearing opened at 6:01 p.m. Council President Dillon first introduced Ordinance 2025-6 for next year's budget. Clerk-Treasurer Powell next discussed a situation she identified today on Gateway that, after speaking with the DLGF, requires Council to reduce the CREDIT budget by \$25,341.00. Council agreed with her recommendation to do a reduction resolution for the CREDIT fund later this year instead of adopting a lower than advertised amount for 2026. Council will be considering a CCMG project application in October that will most likely not begin until next year. With no comments or questions from the public, Dillon closed the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. The 2026 Budget Form 4, Ordinance 2025-6, will have its final read and adoption at the September 22 council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

HARTA Bicycle Trailhead: On the large screen, Dillon shared images from Nick Hancock of the Andrews kiosk signage and map designs. She added there was no mention of a timeline to begin installation as Hancock is still waiting to receive the equipment.

Utility Planning Grants: Dillon said she spoke with Mike Kleinpeter about doing two utility planning grants, for wastewater and storm water, and that he would soon be contacting Powell with further information. She also said there would be three events to be held in November to qualify for extra OCRA scoring points to boost the Town's application.

CCMG: Using the large screen to share a map, Dillon discussed the 2026 CCMG application summary and rough cost estimate received from Anthony Goodnight, Lochmueller Group. The estimated cost of \$462,160.00 would repave multiple roadways in town, including the following streets: Chestnut, East and West Jefferson, Berry, West McKeever, Bellville, Clifton, and Pearl. The CCMG offers an 80/20 split leaving the Town responsible for \$92,432.00 of this cost estimate which should all be payable in 2026. Powell was asked to contact Goodnight to set up a meeting date.

Stump Grinding: Newsome said, with no additional stump grinding quotes available, he is prepared to proceed with removing nineteen stumps from the town's right-of-way throughout the area. The only quote backed with insurance is from Doran Harshbarger in the amount of \$3,825.00. Young motioned to accept and approve the Harshbarger quote, which was seconded by Newsome. Motion carried 3-0.

Newsome also brought up the street cuts not being repaired yet. Bullock replied that he spoke with the contractor recently and they promised to pave the septic repair street cuts this week. This is not the Town's responsibility to do.

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Newsome next asked about the 400 W Monroe St property. Platt said he is coordinating with the county Department of Community Development (DCD), as the owner has not responded to Andrews PD or the DCD about recent violation citations. The DCD plans to contact and work with the tax sale purchaser after they take ownership on September 17.

NEW BUSINESS

Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours were set for Friday, October 31 from 6-8:00 p.m.

Water Hydrant Replacement: Colin Bullock presented to Council two quotes to consider to replace a hydrant at the corner of Main and McKeever Streets which was damaged by a hit and run driver earlier this year. EJ Prescott submitted a quote of \$19,985.11 and Utility Supply came in at \$12,649.66. Council approved Bullock to use the Utility Supply quote for a new water hydrant and insertion valve installation and also directed Powell to pay for the hydrant from the CREDIT fund.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Josh Platt reported that his vehicle is in the shop having the emergency lights serviced. Also, a violation has been cited at 133 S Jackson St for the backyard. He also answered Dillon's inquiry on daily police presence at the elementary school. He also reminded everyone of the annual countywide active shooter and emergency training for police and fire departments.

Fire Department: Dean Young reported that the department is training with a thermal imaging camera. Also, a fish fry fundraiser is scheduled for November 8 at the fire station.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock said they have been trimming trees and overgrowth from the right-of-way along Jefferson and McKeever Streets at the request of the school transportation department.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell shared that Companion Life Insurance has delayed billing due to technical issues, and that her office had a challenging IT day thanks to a Microsoft update that affected the network system. Training on the new website platform is ongoing. When asked, Powell said she expects to hear from Deputy Clerk McNally by the end of the week on a return to work date.

CLAIMS

Dean Young made a motion to approve the claims as presented, which was seconded by Roger Newsome. The motion was approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS & PUBLIC COMMENT

Cheryl Chopson, 212 Columbia St, asked council what the official name is for the town park. A sign has not been in place for years at the park. According to Google Maps, it is identified as Town of Andrews Public Park.

Braxton Craft, 87 E McKeever St, questioned what was discussed at the recent executive session. Council did not share that information, but Young added that it was a waste of time with nothing of importance to consider and take action with at a public meeting.

Dean Young commented on how dark it is at night at the end of Terrel Street, where a path leads out to town property and the compost pile. He said installing a light there would be good for security reasons. Colin Bullock said he would install a light on the red barn soon.

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With no further business, Newsome motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m., seconded by Young.

Approved this 22nd day of September 2025.

APPROVED BY Laura A. Dillon as
LAURA A. DILLON COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY Roger Newsome as
ROGER NEWSOME, JR. COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY Michael D. Young as
MICHAEL D. YOUNG COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY Laury L. Powell as
LAURY L. POWELL CLERK-TREASURER