

Town of Beverly Shores

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – February 17, 2026
Administration Building – 500 S. Broadway, Beverly Shores, IN

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
(This meeting was a hybrid meeting and broadcasted live via Google Meets and was recorded.)

Roll Call - Council Members: Councilors Matrona Malik, Donna Norkus, David Phelps, and Candice Peterson-Smith were present. Also, present: Clerk-Treasurer Ellen Hundt, Marshal Ed Clapp and, Attorney Connor Nolan. Council Geof Benson attended electronically. Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Sally Bagnall was absent.

Title VI Survey Availability

President Phelps announced the availability of the Title VI public involvement survey. This survey is available online via the Town's [website](#).

Public Presentations

Request to Vacate an Alley - Kendall/Brandstrader-Griggs (continued from January 2025):

Councilor Malik motioned to continue until the March 17, 2026 Town Council meeting. Vice President Peterson-Smith seconded. There was a roll call vote. Benson = yea. Malik = yea. Norkus = yea. Phelps = yea. Peterson-Smith = yea. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of January 20, 2026: Vice President Peterson-Smith motioned to approve minutes as presented. Councilor Malik seconded. There was a roll call vote. Benson = yea. Malik = yea. Norkus = yea. Phelps = yea. Peterson-Smith = yea. The motion passed unanimously.

Report of Police & Street Departments

Violation Report: Nothing to report

Police Report: Marshal Clapp gave report. Clapp requested to start shopping for a new vehicle. A discussion regarding EV vehicles and grant possibilities. No action was taken.

Street Report: Clapp gave report.

Ordinances & Resolutions:

None.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report

Consideration of Claims –CT Hundt presented the January/February 2026 APV register, noting items that were not standard expenses. There was a roll call vote. Benson = yea. Malik = yea. Norkus = yea. Phelps = yea. Peterson-Smith = yea. The motion passed unanimously. CT Hundt also presented the Fund Report, 2026 Combined January Report, Revenue Report, Appropriation Report, Depository Balance Report, Bank Rec Checking, Bank Rec TrustIN, Bank Rec Water, BOK Financial/2020 Bond Series, January Payroll. Councilor Norkus will sign off on reports.

Councilor Norkus motioned to approve the 2025 AFR for the Town. Vice President Peterson-Smith seconded. There was a roll call vote. Benson = yea. Malik = yea. Norkus = yea. Phelps = yea. Peterson-Smith = yea. The motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of Claims for Bonds, 2020 Series: None. Meeting to follow Council meeting.

Reports from Committees/Liaisons:

ADA progress: Nothing to report.

Building & Building Site Committee: There was no meeting.

Board of Zoning Appeals: There was no meeting.

Capital Planning Committee: Vice President Peterson-Smith gave report. Peterson-Smith presented the 5 Year Capital Plan. CT Hundt will post the plan on the Town's website.

Fire & Emergency Management: Councilor Benson gave report.

Greenspace Committee: Vice President Peterson-Smith gave report.

Indiana Dunes National Park: There was no meeting.

NIRPC: President Phelps gave report.

Parks & Recreation Committee: Vice President Peterson-Smith gave report.

Plan Commission: Councilor Norkus gave report.

TDD: Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business:

Grants updates:

Grant opportunity from the EPA on technical assistance for wastewater treatment:

Councilor Benson reported there are grant opportunities for preengineering the entire sewer project for Beverly Shores, The Pines, and Highway 12.

Councilor Norkus reported the Town's preproposal was accepted and approved to submit a full proposal. Councilor Benson motioned to give Councilor Norkus permission to work with the Smith Group and submit the full proposal to the Lake Michigan Coastal Program 2026 grant. Councilor Malik seconded. There was a discussion on the purpose of the grant projects. There was a roll call vote. Benson = yea. Malik = yea. Norkus = yea. Phelps = yea. Peterson-Smith = yea. The motion passed unanimously.

Comprehensive Plan Updates and Progress: President Phelps presented a summary of the plan updates. Councilor Benson motioned to accept the Plan. Vice President Peterson-Smith seconded. There was a roll call vote. Benson = yea. Malik = yea. Norkus = yea. Phelps = yea. Peterson-Smith = yea. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on Town Signs: Vice President Peterson-Smith presented an update on sign ideas for Beverly Shores permit parking. CT Hundt will post an updated version of the presentation when available.

New Business

Lake Michigan Coastal Program 2026 Grant Submission: This was discussed earlier in Old Business.

Submission of the 5 year Capital Plan from the Capital Planning Committee: This was discussed earlier during the report of the Capital Planning Committee.

Discussion on retirement of 2017 General Obligation Bond and engagement of consultant: President Phelps reported that he, Vice President Peterson-Smith, and CT Hundt had a conversation with Baker Tilly regarding the maturity of the 2017 GO Bond and the appropriateness of issuing a new General Obligation Bond. The recommendation was to start now to be prepared for any DLGF deadlines for the fiscal year 2027. Baker Tilly provided an engagement letter for review. There was a discussion about what municipal advisor to use and how to proceed. No action was taken.

Discussion on proposed amendments to the Watercraft Ordinance §91.03: The Parks & Recreation Committee submitted their recommendations for changes to the Watercraft Ordinance. There was a discussion about the separation of fees, the rest of the recommended changes, and whether the Beach Monitor would be willing to take on additional responsibilities. There was further discussion about having Attorney Nolan review and advise Council. Attorney Nolan to create an ordinance for the fees to be reviewed at the next meeting and also review the rest of the code and recommend changes.

Written Communications

President Phelps wrote a letter of recommendation on behalf of The Depot for a grant. He further reported he received an email from a resident stating she would not be buying a 2026 parking permit due to the increase in price.

Public Comment

Mike McCurdy, 41 S. Oval, criticized the Building Commissioner, fines issued, and the misinterpretation of the Town's Building Code.

Town Council Comment

Councilor Benson thanked Doug Wolfe and Vice President Peterson-Smith for their work on updating the signs.

President Phelps reported he will be testifying against HB1001 on behalf of the local communities. He encouraged residents to call Senator Charbonneau to express their displeasure.

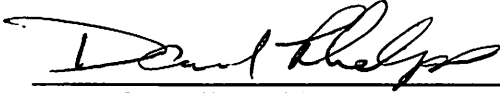
Adjourn:

Councilor Norkus motioned to adjourn.

Councilor malik seconded.

There was a roll call vote. Benson = yea. Malik = yea. Norkus = yea. Phelps = yea. Peterson-Smith = yea. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 09:24 p.m.



Town Council President:

Attest:



Clerk-Treasurer

Ellen Hundt