

Regular Meeting Minutes November 4, 2025

Present: President Terry Richey, Members Chad Wilson, and Jamy Greathouse, Clerk Treasurer Danieta Foster and Atty Matthew Lorenzo. Vice President Jason Hillenburg was unable to attend.

President Terry Richey opened the meeting with the pledge.

Administrative Approvals and Town Operations

- The agenda for the meeting was reviewed and approved without changes. Jamy Greathouse motion. Chad Wilson 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- Minutes from the October 7, 2025 regular meeting were approved. Chad Wilson Motion. Jamy Greathouse 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- Claims were approved. Jamy Greathouse motion. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- Allowance docket approved. Chad Wilson motion. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- The board approved moving forward with Stahl Communications for IT managed services, driven by insurance requirements for cybersecurity coverage and limitations of current in-house IT support. Two quotes presented, Stahl Communications \$425/month & LEAP Managed IT \$1867.06/month. Jamy Greathouse motion. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- A proposal was made for the town to purchase six 22-inch noble fir Christmas wreaths at \$35 each for display on light poles, funded from town property funds. Mark Wilkerson motion. Jamy Greathouse 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- Discussion focused on replacing the last remaining older town truck, used for snow removal and salt spreading.
 - The plan is to repurpose the aluminum bed from the old truck onto the new one, with installation estimated at \$2,500.
 - The new truck will be used for salt spreading and may be outfitted with a snow plow mount after purchase.
 - Financing options through the bond bank were discussed, with quotes valid for trucks currently on the lot.
 - Two quotes were presented: John Jones (\$47,300) and Chevy dealer in Jasper (\$49,007, includes free delivery and service loaner).
 - The board approved a motion to purchase the vehicle from John Jones, with a budget up to \$50,000 to cover additional costs. Jamy Greathouse motion. Chad Wilson 2nd. Carries 4-0.

Property Access, Development, and Community Concerns

- Residents of Short Street, Brandi Davis, and Debra and Darrell Reed raised concerns about the potential extension of Short Street, citing recent attempts by a neighboring property owner to open the road and access their yards.
 - GIS maps indicate Short Street is not a through road and ends at the back of Reed's property.
 - Closing Short Street would result in landlocked properties with no road frontage, preventing future development or sale according to town ordinances requiring 65 feet of frontage.
 - The town would remain responsible for road maintenance if the road is not closed.
 - Council confirmed that no one has approached the town about extending the road, and that are no future plans to do so.
- Bryant Layman, the new owner of the property that extends from the terminus of Short Street to Preston Street addressed the concerns, and rumors about the use of the property with Council, and the Short Street residents.
- Concerns were raised about the potential closure of Short Street landlocking his property.
- The existing sewer line and utilities in the ditch line were noted as critical infrastructure that could be affected by road closures.
- It was agreed that shutting down the road would negatively impact future development and access for current and future homeowners.
- The immediate plan is to build two homes on the front lots, with no intention to build multiple tiny homes or significantly increase density.
- For lots three and four, there is currently no road frontage, and any future development would require council approval and potentially an easement through adjacent properties..
- Recent surveys have designated certain areas as drainage easements to address stormwater management and future gutter installations.
- The importance of maintaining access for all properties and the need for collective agreement on easements were emphasized.
- Residents expressed concerns about trespassing and late-night activity on their properties.
 - It was clarified that police should be called to report incidents, and Jackson County dispatches local officers for such matters.
- It was confirmed that no property would be taken for road expansion, and there are no plans to build tiny homes.
- Residents were encouraged to report any suspicious activity to the police to maintain community safety,
- Council discussed with property owner Bryant Layman allowing a 60 ft road frontage exception for lot 2 along Preston Street, instead of 65 ft. Jamy Greathouse motion. Chad Wilson 2nd. Carries 4-0.

Sewer and Water Rate Studies and Financial Planning

- Bakertilly discussed sewer and water rates, economic impacts on funds, funding needed to move forward with regular business and project funding.
- Bakertilly will provide Council with all paperwork needed to move forward with rate increases before the December Council Meeting.
- Rate studies for both water and sewer will be available at Town Hall for anyone from the public that would be interested.

Community Events and Approvals

- The Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 6 at 6 p.m., starting at the school and proceeding along Preston Street, Moore Street, Highway 31, and ending at Hammacher Hall.
 - Permission was granted to close roads for the parade, and necessary paperwork is being processed with the state. Jamy Greathouse motion. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.
 - The town received approval to use a community Christmas tree at the Methodist Church, with plans to request donated Christmas lights from the community.
- The student council will hold a silent auction on November 24 at the Crothersville-Austin basketball game, with proceeds benefiting the society.
 - The town is considering donating a basket for the auction, as done in previous years.
- Preparations for "Light Up Crothersville" decorating contest is underway.
 - Last year, \$500 in prizes were awarded, the same approved for 2025. Jamy Greathouse motion. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.

GoCo Updates, READI Funds

- Division A, Pay App 5, Division B, Pay App 5, Division C, Pay App 5 approved. Jamy Greathouse motioned. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- Change Order 1 for the water project approved. Jamy Greathouse motion. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- Payment for easement on Puckett Property for Water Project approved, \$2700. Chad Wilson motion. Jamy Greathouse 2nd. Carries 4-0.

Misc

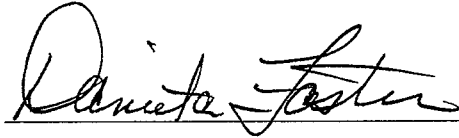
- Utility Updates
Fluoride has been discontinued in September of 2025
- Ordinance 2025-7, An Ordinance amending Chapter 91 ("Nuisances") of the Crothersville, Indiana Code of Ordinances. Approved on 1st Reading. Chad Wilson motion. Jamy Greathouse 2nd. Carries 4-0.
- Clerk Treasurer Danieta Foster discussed the new LIT distributions, according to SEA 1. Informed Council of a premium holiday during the month of November for AIM Medical Health Insurance. Asked Council to look over the Employee Handbook before the December meeting. Discussed the annual Light Up Crothersville contest. Announced new office hours for 2026. Office hours will be changed to Monday- Friday 8 am to 4 pm.

Adjournment & Public Comments

- There were no public comments in person, or online.
- Jamy Greathouse made a motion to adjourn. Mark Wilkerson 2nd. Carries 4-0.



Terry Richey, President



Danieta Foster, Clerk Treasurer