



Town of LaFontaine  
PO Box 207  
13 W Branson St  
LaFontaine, IN 46940

Town Council Meeting Minutes  
December 8, 2025

John called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance: Lori Brane, John Krhin, Nikki Brubaker, Pam Whitener, Seth Guenin, Tom Simpson, Wendy Black, Maria Smyth, Mat Galligan, Jeff Smith, Brad Hayslet, Tracie Hensley, Brian Linkenhoker, Tina King, Gary Herring, Chris Harris, JW Conrad, Tom Hughes

John made a motion to approve November 8, 2025 meeting minutes with corrections. Pam told him it has been corrected. Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.

Commonwealth- Chris Harris

- Presented the amendment to the contract for the hydraulic and hydrologic study. Initially, it was for \$70,000. The original contract was for \$35,000. The amendment is for \$70,000. John suggested to take it under advisement until January meeting.
- Moving forward with the park funding through the CDBG grant. Gary and Wendy have received 18 support letters.
- Rob is looking into the design of the park and what the fee is going to be. It would include permitting, working with the DNR, design and bidding. It does not include construction.
- Jeff has meet with Mike Conwell from Blue River about the Geo bags. The original numbers seem reasonable. There are some additional costs such as pouring the cement slab, plumbing into the lift station. We may have to get a metal analysis of the sludge to submit with the land application for disposal. It would also determine how much the cost will be long term.

- Chris has not heard anything about the water project.
- John mentioned that the meters that still need installed will wait until receive the money.
- Pam said Matt was in the office last week. He gave her the invoices that possibly needs paid before the end of the year. Pam said that is a lot of money without the USDA funds.

#### Marshall's Report- Mat Galligan

- In November there were 23 traffic stops, 20 calls for service. He worked a case with the Sheriff Department on a child neglect case that resulted in felony charges. The four suspects that were breaking in cars have been identified and charges have been sent to the prosecutor's office. The CAD system should go live on December 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>. He had training on the CAD system, firearms and tasers.

#### Fire Department Report-Tom Simpson

- In November there was one fire call, one vehicle accident and seven medical calls.

#### Utility Report-Jeff Smith

- He spoke to the Wabash Park Department about the cabin. The Park Department referred him to an Amish crew for repairs. He said the Amish crew is pretty expensive. Lori suggested that Jeff get an estimate.
- The permit for the sewer plant has been renewed for five more years.
- INDOT has reduced the funding for the community crossing grant and LaFontaine was not awarded the CCG grant for next year.
- Next month Brad starts the apprenticeship for the water program.

#### Community Alliance report- Maria Smyth

- Received another donation for the mural. They are planning a 250th Birthday party for the country this summer. 35 Trax has agreed to come play in June.

#### Clerk's Report- Pam Whitener

- All banks are reconciled and balanced. We did receive the reimbursement for Jeff's wages for the third quarter. We have not received our final 2026 budget approval. I emailed our DLGF rep and he said he has not started on Wabash County. Operation pullover accounts have been put into place so that the vouchers and receipts will tie into each other for accurate accounting. We will pay Mat and then get reimbursed quarterly. Baker Tilly will be hosting four webinars in December and January covering year end procedures. State Board of Accounts will be hosting three webinars in December covering closing out the year. Pam plans to attend all the webinars.
- Lori made a motion to approve the bills for \$38,136.26. Nikki 2<sup>nd</sup> . Approved 3-0.
- Billing adjustments:
- Seth Guenin-Account #1041001 Leak adjustments. John made a motion to credit account #1041001 for \$29.53. Nikki 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.
- Account # 1075010- resident was charged for usage of two meters. John made a motion to credit account 1075010 for \$418.24. Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.
- Account #216300 resident's meters were reversed. John made a motion to credit acct # 216300 for \$198.34. Nikki 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.

#### Old Business

- Ordinance No. 9,2025 adopting rules for water and wastewater utilities. The reason for this ordinance is new homes needing service that are not hooked into the lines. Anything over 20 feet the resident will have to pay for every five feet of service. Also, Wastewater adjustments can be made once a year not to exceed a three month period. John made a motion to approve Ordinance No 9,2025 adopting rules for water and wastewater. Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.
- Ordinance No. 10, 2025 An ordinance Establishing 2026 Salaries for the Employees of the town of LaFontaine, IN. John made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025 Establishing 2026 Salaries for employees of the town of LaFontaine. Nikki 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.
- John made a motion to suspend the rules. Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0

- John made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 9 2025 an ordinance adopting rules for water and wastewater utilities. Nikki 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.
- John made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 10 2025 an ordinance establishing salaries for town of LaFontaine Employees. Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0
- John made a motion to unsuspend the rules. Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.
- John made a motion to transfer \$40,000 from General Fund #1101 to the Payroll Holding Account #8901 to balance the fund for year end. Nikki 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0.

#### New Agenda

- Resident wanted to know why we are not plowing the allies.
- Jeff explained that the truck with the plow that's used for allies is broke down.

Lori made a motion to adjourn. John 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 3-0

Respectfully Submitted by;

Tina King

Deputy Clerk