

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL

APRIL 1, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Town Council President John Perrin opened the meeting at 5:00p.m. with the pledge to the American flag. Council members present were John Perrin, John Schilawski, John Purdie, Dennis Combs, and Chad Waltz. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss and Attorney Lee Robbins. Council President Perrin offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the March 4th regular meeting and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Waltz moves to approve the minutes of the March 27th special meeting and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents copies of the April 1, 2026 Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Purdie moves to approve and ratify the April 1, 2026 Fund Report and Docket and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

John Reed, Candidate for State Representative for District 58, introduces himself and states that he believes we need to have funding for police, fire, and road projects and address those needs in a responsible way. He is married and has 5 children and wants to continue to make the state of Indiana great.

OLD BUSINESS

Dewatering Project / Funding

Robert Reynolds from LWG CPAs presents an updated schedule of financial options to Council. One option includes using 1,000,000 to reduce the funding source. This would reduce the impact by 8% and save taxpayers \$3/month. Mr. Reynolds shares that the SBOA is okay with that process, although we would have to pass a Resolution, it would need to be very specific, and there would need to be a lot of documentation. He states that Mr. Pitman, who we engaged with as bond counsel, or Town Attorney Lee Robbins, would need to draw up the terms.

Town Attorney Lee Robbins cautions against using the Town investments for this purpose, as there will be soft costs for the financing aspect that we will already be paying for. He suggests that the money is used for a different project where we can pay it in its entirety without having the soft costs for financing. Mr. Reynolds states that a decision does not need to be made tonight with regard to the 1,000,000 option. He says that tonight Council can decide whether to go forward with the project and decide to proceed with the bidding on an underwriter. They need bids in May in order to stay on track with the project timeline. Council is hesitant to use the 1,000,000 yet in light of SB1 and the dramatically reduced funding. Council asks Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock about the capacity at the WWTP and the necessity for the project. Council decides at this time to proceed with Mr. Robert Reynolds obtaining bids from the underwriters.

Council President Duties

Council President Perrin refers back to a discussion at the January 7th meeting expressing interest in assuming a few of the duties a town manager would take care of, without pay. He has since spoken with the department heads. Council President Perrin notes that there is not a need to hire and pay for a full-time town manager for New Whiteland at this time. However, he could be the designated person for things like attending the recent Johnson County Emergency Management meetings, talk to vendors, annual reviews, etc. Town Attorney Lee Robbins notes that there is no need to formalize anything, as Council President Perrin would not be getting paid and would be doing things he is already authorized to do.

2025 CCMG Road Project

Public Works Superintendent Duane McCaulsin updates Council that E&B Paving should be doing the final portion of the 2025 road project the week of April 13th. He has had conversations with Town Attorney Lee Robbins regarding the liquidated damages. Attorney Robbins notes that the focus should be on getting the 2025 road project complete and determining how to settle up.

Ordinance Violations

Town Attorney Lee Robbins updates Council about 749 Sawmill, which had repeated ordinance violations. Notices were served and he says Police Chief Joe Rynerson was great at getting those served and talking with them and trying to coordinate with the property owner. Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin arranged what was needed to get the property cleaned up and it looks better.

NEW BUSINESS

JCPL Annual Update

JCPL Director Lisa Lintner shares the year in review packet for 2025 with Council along with a program guide. Some highlights for 2025:

- The library had 387,765 total visits which is enough to pack the Colts games 6 times.
- They had 11,000 new library cards issued.
- There were over 6,000 participants in the Explore Summer reading program.
- They create 3700 programs a year and last year nearly 78,000 people attended.

The Johnson County Public Library continues to be the 10th largest library district in the state of Indiana and rank 3rd in attendance at library programs. Lisa highlighted upcoming programs and said in light of the 250th Anniversary of America that JCPL is planning a lot of programs to celebrate this important year.

CD Renewal

Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss states that one of the Town's CD's is up for renewal on April 16th. She has contacted 4 banks to get quotes on available rates and will communicate that information to Council once she has it.

Residential TIF

Attorney Stephen Watson from Williams Barrett & Wilkowski presents information about the option to have a residential TIF district. With the state making it harder and harder to fund services, communities are looking at various options, one is TIF districts. The option to have a residential TIF district expires June 30, 2027. It would require creating a new

redevelopment commission of 5 members. All Councilmembers could be part of this or none, making it 5 new members entirely. There must be 1 non-voting advisor who is a representative from the schools. That person would have a voice but no vote. It would also involve a series of required pre-meeting meetings with specific groups of people. Then it must be presented officially as a resolution specifying what property will be the TIF district.

Mr. Watson explained to Council the 5-step process involved in adopting a TIF district. He states that there is 1 bond issue per residential TIF district. It can be used to pay for various projects such as streets, for anything in, serving, or benefitting a residential housing project. Council asks Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin to do a traffic study to get insight. Council also asks Town Attorney Lee Robbins, PW Supt. McCauslin and Utility Supt. Gillock to proceed with identifying capital improvement issues that need to be addressed by the Town as the next step to move forward from this meeting.

Audit

Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss states that she received an Engagement Email today from the State Board of Accounts. They are notifying the Town that they will begin an audit within 3 weeks.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

None.

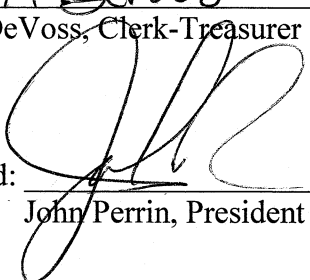
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Victor-Luis Cruz with Globe Life: The Whittingham Agencies returns to again share with Council that he is an agent with Globe Life. He states that they offer a supplemental insurance plan that includes a free benefit discount card. The discount card is available to any employees including volunteer firefighters. Mr. Cruz states that he is not here to replace the Town's existing insurance plan but to offer a supplement. Council President Perrin states that Mr. Cruz can speak with the department heads to see if they are interested.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm by Council President John Perrin.

Respectfully submitted,


Angela DeVoss, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 
John Perrin, President