

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
MAY 6, 2026
MEETING MINUTES

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

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the April 1st regular meeting and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents copies of the May 6, 2026 Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Combs moves to approve and ratify the May 6, 2026 Fund Report and Docket and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

OLD BUSINESS

CD Renewal

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents a memorandum to Council with notification of a CD renewal. The CD which was up for renewal April 16th was renewed for 24 months at a rate of 3.56%. Interest of \$20,690.26, upon renewal, was deposited into the money market account.

Golf Cart Ordinance

Town Attorney Lee Robbins presents the Town's current Golf Cart Ordinance 2022-07 which was adopted July 6, 2022, which, with few exceptions, prohibits the operation of off-road vehicles and golf carts. He also presents a Golf Cart Ordinance drafted for nearby Morgantown, Indiana, which is less restrictive. Attorney Robbins states that Council President John Perrin wanted him to circulate these documents and raise the topic with Council to consider again. Council discusses various options including requiring a licensed driver, lights, brake lights, a yearly inspection, etc. Several people are in attendance of tonight's meeting from the public to give their input on this topic.

Kevin Terek, 243 Lynwood Dr, presents pictures to Council with kids operating golf carts. He states he is concerned about the safety issue.

Christy Ward, 1026 Ashland Ave, states that she did research on Bargersville and Franklin's ordinances. They require permits. She explains that golf carts are safe if properly equipped.

Steve Nelson, 811 Willark Dr, says he is in favor of golf carts. He states there is a huge difference between a go-cart and a golf cart. He suggests that we should require there be a licensed driver, have a nominal fee, and a compliance sticker displayed.

Council decides to take the matter of golf carts under consideration and will revisit this topic at a future meeting.

Dewatering Project / Bids

Joe Tierney with GRW Engineers reports to Council regarding bids that were formally reviewed on April 23rd regarding the dewatering project at the WWTP. He presents a table which breaks down the details of the bids from: Thieneman Construction, Pace Contracting, Ottenweller Contracting, and Graves Construction. Each bid includes an extra \$227,000 which is the quote from Maxim for the SCADA upgrades which will be necessary to do in conjunction with this project. Mr. Tierney recommends the bid from Thieneman Construction, which is the lowest bid and is a company he vouches has been great to work with in the past. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the bid from Thieneman Construction with \$250,000 contingency, subject to legal review, financing, and compliance and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Dewatering Project / Funding

Robert Reynolds with LWG CPAs & Advisors gives Council his updated sewer rate report. He did one for the town a few years ago and has made updates. A rate increase will be necessary to fund the dewatering project which we received bids for recently and Council approved tonight. Council had debated between financing the project completely or putting 1 million down from the sale of the water utility. Rate increases have been estimated for both scenarios. Utility Supt. Matt Gillock notes that there has not been a rate increase since 2018. To finance the project completely, rates will need to have a \$13.44 increase. If the town puts 1 million down, rates will have a \$10.32 increase. That is a \$3 difference.

Mr. Reynolds discusses the pros and cons of using the town's invested funds for this project. He also discusses funding options. Council asks if having a contingency is necessary. Mr. Reynolds says there is nothing saying that we have to have the contingency amount. It is usually necessary but not required if the town has their own funds set aside. Utility Supt. Matt Gillock states that only about \$4,000 of the contingency was used on the UV project. Mr. Tierney with GRW shares that most communities do not have the money to fund a project without a contingency. Councilmember John Purdie states that from a banking standpoint he notices that most projects have a contingency.

Mr. Reynolds states that tonight's goal is for Council to choose an underwriter. He has listed 4 options and highly recommends Mesirow. Councilman Purdie moves to approve the choice of Mesirow for underwriting the financing of the dewatering project and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of Findings & Decision

Town Attorney Lee Robbins presents the Decision of the New Whiteland Town Council Regarding Disciplinary Action Against Officer Jordan Potee with Findings of Fact. This document is in regards to the disciplinary public hearing which occurred on April 23rd. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the Decision document and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Resolution 2026-02

Transfer Resolution

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss reads and explains the transfer resolution for the purpose of cleaning up appropriation lines within the 2026 budget. Councilman Combs moves to approve resolution 2026-02 and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2026-01

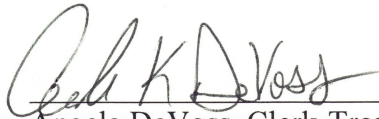
Town Attorney Lee Robbins introduces the ordinance which was sent to Council with Robert Reynold's Appendix. The ordinance proposes rates that are higher than what will ultimately be approved, as Council can choose to adopt rates lower but cannot increase rates more than what was advertised. This item will be placed on the June 3rd agenda and will be part of a public hearing.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

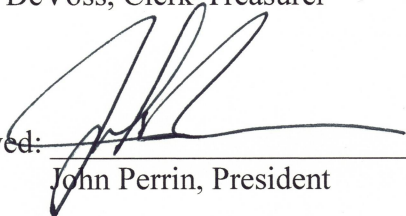
Three members of the public spoke during the topic under old business regarding the golf cart ordinance. Their names, addresses, and comments are listed under that topic.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:08pm by Council Vice President John Purdie.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela DeVoss, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 

John Perrin, President