

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
AUGUST 5, 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. Councilman Purdie offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the July 1st regular meeting and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

OLD BUSINESS

Golf Cart Ordinance Discussion

Police Chief Joe Rynerson distributes his report to Council and goes over various parts of the report. He suggests drivers of golf carts must be 16 or older, meet all licensing requirements, have a valid registration permit decal on the golf cart, no more passengers than what the golf cart is designed to have, and have safety equipment such as lights, mirrors, a horn, etc. Chief Rynerson also requests that golf carts be permitted to only cross US31 at a signal intersection. Council discusses Chief Rynerson's report along with potential penalties. Assistant Police Chief David Brooks distributes a draft Golf Cart Registration Application to Council for their review. Council would like more time to review Chief Rynerson's report and asks to put this topic on the next agenda for further discussion.

E&B Paving

Attorney Lee Robbins and Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin share information with Council about conversations they had with E&B Paving. Attorney Robbins states that E&B Paving agreed they were at fault and took ownership of the delays. They offered a cost of \$51,500 in liquidated damages and Public Works Supt. McCauslin is satisfied with that amount. Attorney Robbins further explains to Council various scenarios and matters surrounding the legalities of collecting liquidated damages. For example, the Town would not be permitted to collect damages for the time period of December 31st – March 31st as it was not possible to advance the project at that time. Councilman Combs moves to accept the offer of \$51,500 in liquidated damages from E&B Paving and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Attorney Lee Robbins refers to the invoice from E&B Paving for \$1,425,310.50.

E&B Paving	
Contract Amount	\$1,487,004.91
Less Liquidated Damages	\$51,500.00
Less Change Order	\$10,194.41
Invoice Total:	\$1,425,310.50

This amount reflects the deduction of \$51,500 for the liquidated damages and the change order of \$10,194.41. Attorney Robbins asks Council to authorize Council President Perrin to sign the change order and allow Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss to pay the invoice upon receipt of the signed change order, prior to the next Council meeting. Councilman Combs moves to authorize Council President Perrin to sign the change order and allow Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss to pay the invoice prior to the next Council meeting and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Bids for I&I

Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock refers to a study that was done in the Raintree edition which prioritized rehabilitation of I&I. Quotes for the project were opened in June which would take care of all of the Priority 1 issues from the report from Wessler Engineering presented to Council at the February 4, 2026 meeting. Utility Supt. Gillock distributes a report of the 2026 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Evaluation of Bids from Wessler Engineering. SAK Construction is the lowest bid at \$180,176.00. He plans to use \$80,176 of his Capital Improvement money towards this amount and needs to get the Notice of Award signed tonight to proceed. Councilman Purdie moves to approve the bid from SAK Construction for \$180,176.00 and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Dewatering Project

Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock gives an update on the dewatering project. Joe Tierney is here with GRW and states there is a pre-construction conference with the contractor tomorrow at 10am. That meeting will kick off the project. Mr. Tierney has 3 copies of an agreement that he needs Council to sign as well as a Notice to Proceed. They are putting August 6th as the date for the project to begin. It is a 425-day contract with the project expected to be complete by October 5, 2027.

Town Attorney Lee Robbins updates Council on the sale of the bonds for the dewatering project. He states that the bonds sold on open market with a favorable credit rating which drove the interest rate down. We were able to purchase bond insurance which further drove the rate down and put in some of the town's money to help lower the sewer rate increase.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Emails

Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock shares quotes from Wright Tech for emails for Councilmembers. The cost would be \$12/month and be the same as what we currently have for the Town, meeting security requirements, be secure, etc. Councilman Purdie moves to proceed with the emails for Councilmembers and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Best Equipment

Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock refers to an email he sent to Council on July 23rd regarding emergency repairs needed on the jet/vac truck. In that email Utility Supt. Gillock noted that Best Equipment is the solo vac service repair/dealer in the state and the cost was \$20,372.60. It became a safety issue and fortunately no one was hurt. Supt. Gillock asks Council to ratify authorization for the repairs. Councilman Waltz moves to ratify authorization for the repairs to the jet/vac truck and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Risk Management Report

Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss refers to the Risk Management Report from Nick Irmeger at Bliss McKnight that she received on July 9th and forwarded to Council at that time. It has also been included in the Council packet for this meeting. Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss notes that the report outlines some areas of improvement and says that department heads are already working on some of the tasks.

Approval / Invoices for Cost of Issuance

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss shares that with the sale of the bonds for the dewatering project there were a few invoices for the costs of issuance that were received recently. She notes that she is consulting with Robert Reynolds at LWG as far as how to set up everything for the funds, payment and bookkeeping side of things. Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss has also ordered checks for the new bank account for the dewatering project. She would like to ask Council to allow payment of these invoices once everything is set up and the new checks have been received in advance of the next meeting. Councilman Purdie moves to allow payment in advance of the next meeting and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Repair to Engine 11

Division Chief Steve Wire refers to an email from Fire Chief Dave Curin earlier today regarding upgrades to Engine 11. In his email he states that this is a project that the fire department has postponed for a couple of years and built up funds to complete. The upgrades will improve equipment storage and efficiency. The quote is for \$6,375 from Hoosier Welding and they are a vendor who has done work for the fire department in the past. Councilman Combs moves to approve the upgrades to Engine 11 and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Referendum Renewal

Councilmember John Schilawski states that Dr. Tim Edsell, Superintendent of Clark Pleasant Community School Corporation, would like to be added to next month's meeting agenda to discuss the referendum renewal.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2026-03

Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin shares that he has been working with Town Attorney Lee Robbins to create an ordinance for park rules because the Town cannot enforce rules without an ordinance. This was also one of the items on the Risk Management Report mentioned earlier tonight. Councilman Purdie moves to pass Ordinance 2026-03 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.** This item will be placed on the September 2nd agenda.

Ordinance 2026-04

Town Attorney Lee Robbins introduces the Wheel Tax ordinance and explains that if the Town wants to adopt a Wheel Tax ordinance the deadline is September 1st of this year. Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin reminds Council that a Wheel Tax ordinance was adopted in 2025 (Ordinance 2025-02) and repealed (Ordinance 2025-09) the same year. More information has come out about the necessity of having a Wheel Tax in order to qualify for certain pools of funds for road repairs. Attorney Robbins states that Adam Stone of Stone Municipal Group will attend the Special Meeting August 19th to explain the specifics surrounding the Wheel Tax decision and give Council an opportunity to adopt the ordinance that night. Councilman

Schilawski moves to pass Ordinance 2026-04 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. **Vote 5 affirmative.** This item will be placed on the August 19th special meeting agenda.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

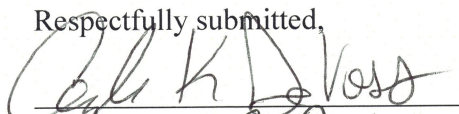
Dee Appleton, 103 Sawmill Rd, states that she is thankful Councilmembers are getting their own email addresses to be more accessible to the community. Ms. Appleton also shares that she took her 10-year-old granddaughter to the park the other day and said there was very little mulch and a lot of overgrown weeds. Council President John Perrin states that is an item on the Risk Management Report that will be addressed. He also asks if the area of the development in front of her house is looking better and she replies that it is looking better.

Joe McMahon, 136 Brentwood Ln, states that he has lived at his house for several years and has made many improvements and takes pride in his home. He notices that some homeowners or renters let things go which brings down the property values. Mr. McMahon remembers when there was a code enforcement officer and states that things are no longer being done. He notices traffic and speeding in the neighborhoods, parking on curbs, parking overnight, issues with sidewalks, etc. Mr. McMahon distributes pictures he's taken of several areas of concern, most notably the area on the corner of Tracy Road and US31 which, he emphasizes, is the first thing people see when they come to our Town.

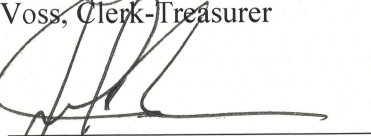
Kevin Terek, 243 Lynwood Dr, asks now that we are growing with new housing developments, when are we getting more officers? He shares that there was a truck parked on his street at night for a whole week and notes that he remembers when if a vehicle was parked on the street at night, they got a ticket. He is concerned because he feels that means no officers drove down Lynwood Dr. for a week. Mr. Terek also states that he did not know National Night Out (NNO) was happening. Years ago, there were signs to let people know about NNO. Council President Perrin shared that the Town of New Whiteland did not do NNO. That was put on by the Clark-Pleasant Police Dept. Whiteland and New Whiteland's police and fire departments were there and it was the 2nd year NNO was done this way. Council President Perrin states that he wasn't there either because he didn't know about it. There is further discussion regarding the new housing development. Councilmembers John Schilawski and John Perrin explain that the amount the Town will receive on the new development is minimal. Mr. Terek asks "Why allow it?" Councilman Combs explains that portion of land would have been developed regardless. It would have been part of Johnson County or Whiteland if New Whiteland didn't annex it. Council President Perrin encourages Mr. Terek to come to the special meeting when Adam Stone explains more about the Wheel Tax and he would be available to answer questions about the development.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm by Council President John Perrin.

Respectfully submitted,


Angela DeVoss, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:


John Perrin, President