

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 3, 2025
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 Combs offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the August 6th regular meeting and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents copies of the September 3, 2025 Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Purdie moves to approve and ratify the September 3, 2025 Fund Report and Docket and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

2026 BUDGET HEARING

Council President Perrin opens the Public Hearing at 5:02pm. Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss shares that she gave each Councilmember a packet with the 2026 Budget documents last week. Perrin asks if there are any questions or proposed changes and notes that we will be having our department head budget workshop next Wednesday, September 17th, at our Special Meeting. Being no further questions or comments the hearing is closed at 5:03pm. This will be placed on the October 1st agenda for adoption and approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Impact Fee

Attorney Lee Robbins shares that there has been some questions as to whether the town can impose and collect an impact fee which could be used for a fire truck, infrastructure, etc. He states we could only impose an impact fee on future development, not the current Pleasant Creek Development. Attorney Robbins further shares that most communities choose, instead of an impact fee, to negotiate with developers to have them provide or contribute to various improvements.

Road Project

Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin shares the issues with E&B Paving doing the road project. He states that communication has been horrible with the contractor. He shares that they received the Notice to Proceed on July 18th. Per the contract, they were supposed to start the project within 7 days. However, they did not return the signed documents until August 11th. The contract further states that they are to complete the project within 45 days. If we use the date of August 11th, that would be September 25th. Supt. McCauslin asked for a construction schedule multiple times and finally received one today (9/3). That schedule lists a completion date of November 2nd, which is not acceptable. There is a provision in the contract that states they owe \$500 per day if they are not finished on time. Council President Perrin adds people who live on Sawmill Road are unable to get their mail due to the project and must go to the Post Office in person to pick up their mail. Council discusses various options. Councilman Perrin moves to give Supt. McCauslin discretion to negotiate a new deadline with October 1st as the absolute latest and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

NEW BUSINESS

Proctor Park Community Day

Wendy McClellan is here with UpLift to share about the Community Day planned for Saturday, September 13th at Proctor Park. This event will celebrate the completion of the memorial project. Ms. McClellan presents the budget for the event to Council. The total cost is \$4,885. Festival Country will cover \$2,500 of the cost and the rest will come out of the donations received for the project. Whit's Inn is providing food. There will also be a DJ, bounce house, balloons, and glitter tattoos. Shuttle buses from the Clark Pleasant School Corporation will provide transportation to and from Proctor Park. Ms. McClellan is promoting the event on Facebook with boosted posts.

Brine Maker

Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin reminds Council he has been trying to purchase a salt brine maker and sprayer for a few years. He just received quotes. There is only 1 supplier for this item and he has a sole source letter to go along with the quote of \$82,000 which is for the salt brine maker, sprayer, and storage tanks. Supt. McCauslin states that this will save the Town money over time. He estimates the equipment will be paid for after 83 treatments. The Town will be able to treat roads up to 1 day before expected weather conditions. He requests that the purchase come from Economic Development Lit Fund and states we have \$100,000 appropriated in that fund for this year. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the purchase and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Flock Cameras

Police Chief Joe Rynerson shares with Council the importance of flock cameras. Currently there are 47 flock cameras in use in Johnson County. New Whiteland does not have access to them because we do not have our own flock cameras. If we purchase 2 cameras for New Whiteland, we will then also have access to all of the flock cameras in Johnson County. These cameras have been helpful in locating people with dementia, stolen vehicles, wanted people, etc. Chief Rynerson describes some cases that have been solved due to flock camera footage. He states the cameras are \$3,500 each and come in sets of 2. It will cost \$7,000/year and the cost includes maintenance. Council asks about funding and are interested in hearing more. Asst. Police Chief David Brooks will do a formal presentation at the next regular meeting.

Emergency Services

Council President Perrin shares about an incident that occurred 2 weeks ago in which a long-time resident in town passed away. The woman's daughter and friends told President Perrin that the officers and firefighters were so kind and compassionate and they appreciated how everything was handled.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2025-09

Repealing Wheel Tax Ordinance 2025-02

Attorney Robbins shares that this ordinance was introduced and discussed at the August 6th meeting and is presented tonight for final reading. Councilman Purdie moves to pass Ordinance 2025-09 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2025-10

Vacating a Platted Utility Easement

Attorney Robbins states that the property owner where the Subway is located was asking for approval to vacate a water line easement that runs through that property and disturbs their plans to use the property in any expanded way. There is nothing in the easement and Indiana American Water submitted a letter consenting to the removal of the water line easement. They have no need for it and do not object from it being removed. Notice has been published and satisfied so that this ordinance is eligible to adopt tonight. Councilman Combs moves to approve Ordinance 2025-10 and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. Ordinance 2025-10 is passed with unanimous consent and unanimous vote of all five (5) members of the Town Council present.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sheri Reed, 327 Southlane, shares that she would like golf carts allowed in town. She uses hers in Franklin and at Johnson County Park and would like to also use it here in New Whiteland. Council President Perrin states that the town is currently reviewing other municipality's golf cart ordinances and they plan to re-address this topic in the winter. Ms. Reed also asks about sidewalks in town and asks who is responsible for maintaining them. Council President Perrin states that they are the responsibility of the property owners. Ms. Reed specifies that she is referring to a sidewalk going through a grassy area in a cul-de-sac. Supt. McCauslin states that is the Town's responsibility and he will add that to the list of sidewalks to repair.

Dee Appleton, 103 Sawmill Rd, asks what is being done from Bel Aire to Whiteland Road and specifically if they will also have a sidewalk there? Supt. McCauslin states that as part of the development project there will be a sidewalk on the west side of Sawmill that will connect into the north side of the development. Ms. Appleton also shares that the area across the street from her is looking better and she is seeing progress. She appreciates the Town taking action on the issues. Ms. Appleton shares concerns again about some of the homes in Town that have junk and cars with no tags. Council President Perrin states that the best thing to do is to call the police department and give them an address and make them aware. Supt. McCauslin states that through the GIS there is an online citizen engagement form residents can fill out. Chief Rynerson states that residents can call and remain anonymous.

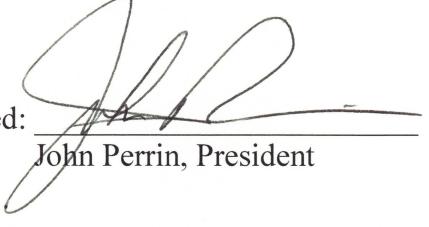
Jamie Rainey, 103 Sawmill, shares again about the water issues in his yard and his neighbor to the north. There is a lot of standing water. Supt. McCauslin states that with Supt. Gillock out he cannot speak for him. However, he will have Supt. Gillock reach out to him.

Eva Coleman, 12 Lee Court, asks if there is any talk of doing the sidewalks on Tracy Road and how they might be impacted especially in light of the delays on Sawmill Road. Supt. McCauslin shares that the contractor will be taking care of the sidewalks on Tracy Road next. However, they were instructed not to tear up Tracy Road until the completion of Sawmill Road. She shares that she has noticed a lot of speeding issues even in the construction area, which is also a school zone. Council President Perrin states they have added a flashing light there to help people pay more attention. Ms. Coleman says she would like to see more officers monitoring the area. Chief Rynerson states that he has officers sit in designated areas each morning and evening and asks Ms. Coleman to call the police department when she notices issues.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17pm by Council President John Perrin.

Respectfully submitted,


Angela DeVoss, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 
John Perrin, President