

Town of Orland

9535 W. State Road 120, Orland, Indiana- Community Center Bldg.

May 11, 2026 Town Council Meeting

6:30pm

1. Opening prayer recited before meeting start.

2. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

3. Council President Robin Sears called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call: Council President, Robin Sears was present, Council Vice President Chris Sanders was absent and Councilman Zeb Schuette was present. The Clerk-Treasurer, April Sanders was present to record the meeting. Town Attorney Kevin Bruns was absent.

Marshal Kline was present. Maintenance Superintendent Phil Slisher was present.

In the audience, Chris Emerick was present. Orland Tigers Youth League Board Members were present, Ray Hagemeister, Christian Granados and Torie Strong. Orland Area Chamber of Commerce President Kris Wheaton was present. Gary Manahan was present from Manahan Construction.

Town residents Kevin Kellett, Jacob Springer and Les Wooster were present.

Open Sealed Bids – Picnic Table Surplus

Council opened and read all sealed bids received for surplus picnic tables previously declared surplus. A tie occurred for Table #7 between Mike Booker and Jacob Springer. A random drawing was conducted, with Jacob Springer selected as the successful bidder. Final bid awards were announced for all tables. Clerk-Treasurer Sanders will notify the successful bidders and coordinate payment and pickup arrangements. The winning bids were awarded to the highest responsible bidders as follows:

- Table #1: Roger Smith (\$30.00)
- Table #2: Roger Smith (\$30.00)
- Table #3: Roger Smith (\$30.00)
- Table #4: Roger Smith (\$30.00)
- Table #5: Mike Booher (\$50.00)
- Table #6: Mike Booher (\$50.00)
- Table #7: Jacob Springer (\$50.00)
- Table #8: Mike Booher (\$50.00)
- Table #9: Mike Booher (\$50.00)
- Table #10: Roger Smith (\$30.00)
- Table #11: Tom and Diane Smith (\$100.00)
- Table #12: Tom and Diane Smith (\$100.00)
- Table #13: Roger Smith (\$30.00)
- Table #14: Roger Smith (\$30.00)

4. Clerks Report - *The Clerk-Treasurer submitted financial statements for Council review. Employee time sheets were provided electronically and, when possible, signed during payroll verification prior to Council meetings.*

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes- Town council reviewed the April 13, 2026 meeting minutes. Councilman Schuette made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 13, 2026 as presented, Council President Sears seconded the motion, motion carried.

B. Claims – Town Council reviewed the claims as presented. Councilman Schuette made a motion to accept the claims from the dates of April 14, 2026 through May 11, 2026 as presented, Council President Sears seconded the motion, motion carried.

C. Approval of Employee Time Sheets and Payroll – Councilman Schuette made a motion to accept the employee time sheets and payroll for pays #9 & #10 of 2026, Council President Sears seconded the motion, motion carried.

D. Approval of April 2026 Bank Reconciliation- Clerk-Treasurer provided the April 2026 bank reconciliation reports. Council approved by signing off on log provided.

5. Reports-

A. Street/Water/Park Department – Maintenance Superintendent Phil Slisher provided updates regarding multiple ongoing projects.

- Quality Asphalt has been contacted regarding repairs to the walking track and is expected to begin work once weather conditions allow.
- Clear Lake Electric continues troubleshooting street lighting issues on SR 327 and has isolated the electrical problem to five poles.
- Work continues on dugout improvements and relocation of playground equipment acquired from the Angola Housing Authority.

Scoreboard Repairs

Ray Hagemeister and the Youth League worked with Technical Solutions Group to identify repairs needed for the park scoreboards. Parts were ordered and repairs are expected to be completed before the end of the baseball season.

Councilman Schuette made a motion to approve Technical Solutions Group's quote in the amount of \$1,205.00 for scoreboard repairs. Motion seconded by Council President Sears. Motion carried.

Office/Garage Building Wall Repairs

Council reviewed three quotes for repair of the west wall of the office/garage building. References previously requested for D&S Services were obtained and reviewed.

Councilman Schuette made a motion to approve D&S Services in the amount of \$2,450.00. Motion seconded by Council President Sears. Motion carried.

Pavilion Roof Replacement

Council reviewed three quotes for replacement of the roof on Pavilion #1 located near the stage.

Councilman Schuette made a motion to approve Dan Hershberger Construction in the amount of \$2,450.00. Motion seconded by Council President Sears. Motion carried.

Additional discussion was held regarding restroom facilities in the park, future improvements, maintenance of concession stand gutters, and potential future construction of permanent restroom facilities. No action was taken.

B. Police Department – The Marshal requested approval to purchase a Havis laptop mounting desk for a patrol vehicle. The desk will securely mount the department laptop and prevent damage or injury during vehicle operation. A discounted quote from Cole's Auto Detailing in the amount of \$602.15 was presented.

Councilman Schuette made a motion to approve the purchase from Cole's Auto Detailing in the amount of \$602.15. Motion seconded by Council President Sears. Motion carried.

The Marshal reported the department will provide children's identification kits during the Vermont Settlement Festival. A quantity of 300 kits was purchased for approximately \$375, significantly reducing the anticipated cost.

The Marshal also reported that the nuisance property owned by Nathan Sanders has been substantially cleaned up and that the previously missing storm drain grate and steel plate on Vermont Street had been returned by Tim Simons after being requested. Additional discussion was held regarding proposed amendments to the Town's noise ordinance. No action was taken.

C. Water Department- Clerk-Treasurer Sanders reported an ongoing high water usage issue at a residence within Town limits and noted that attempts to contact the customer have been unsuccessful. A formal notice will be sent.

An update was also provided regarding the water plant generator project. The grant-funded generator must be installed prior to December 31, 2026. The contractor has not yet provided an installation date.

6. Old Business-

A. Sculpture Program Updates-

Clerk-Treasurer Sanders provided an update on the Town's 2026 sculpture program. Despite previously issuing a call to artists for the "Light of Liberty" theme in recognition of America's 250th anniversary, no artist submissions had been received. Clerk-Treasurer Sanders advised that the timeline for artist selection, fabrication, and installation was becoming too short to complete the project successfully. Alternative efforts to contact artists directly were discussed; however, it was noted that the Town may need to forgo the sculpture program for 2026. Clerk-Treasurer Sanders reported that the Town is instead focusing on other patriotic enhancements, including the purchase of patriotic street banners and decorative planters, to celebrate America's 250th anniversary within the available budget. No action was taken.

7. New Business –

A. Gary Manahan-Location Permit- Gary Manahan appeared before the Council on behalf of Frank and Veronica Sellner regarding reconstruction of their residence at 7870 N. Tranquility Bay following a fire loss.

Discussion centered on the property's existing encroachment into the Town right-of-way, current zoning setbacks, rebuilding requirements following destruction exceeding 50% of assessed value, and the absence of a Board of Zoning Appeals within the Town. Mr. Manahan expressed concerns regarding the costs associated with relocating the structure to meet current zoning requirements.

Council discussed the matter and requested additional time to review the circumstances, historical approvals, and applicable ordinances before providing direction. No action was taken.

B. Fireworks Ordinance- This item was tabled due to no communication from the Town Attorney on the matter.

C. Noise Disturbance Ordinance- This item was tabled due to no communication from the Town Attorney on this matter.

D. Orland Area Chamber of Commerce; Vermont Settlement Updates- Clerk-Treasurer Sanders reviewed deadlines and requirements outlined in the Chamber of Commerce Settlement Festival agreement. An update was provided by Kris Wheaton, Chamber President regarding permit applications and modifications to the parade route and lineup area. Discussion continued regarding event planning and required documentation.

E. Orland Tigers Youth League- Representatives of the Orland Youth League provided updates regarding the baseball season, scoreboard repairs, portable restroom costs, concession stand maintenance, photography services donated for player pictures, future soccer programming, and potential tournament opportunities.

Council discussed communication procedures for repairs and improvements to Town-owned facilities and emphasized that expenditures requiring Town reimbursement must receive Council approval prior to purchase. No formal action was taken.

Public Comments/Questions concerning ADA or other items of Business –

No additional public comment.

Council signed all necessary documents and check register reports before closing the meeting.

With no other comments or items of business, the motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Schuette, seconding the motion was Council President Sears, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Robin Sears – Council President

Chris Sanders – Council Vice President

Zeb Schuette- Councilman

Attest: _____
April Sanders, Clerk-Treasurer