

**TOWN OF PORTER
Redevelopment Commission
303 Franklin Street**

October 28, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: President Allison Hultmen, Russ Erwin, Peter Sawochka-Dalton, and Beth Mehling

Absent: Vice-President William Lopez, Jamie Hogan, Karen Spanier

Also Present: Director of Development Michael Barry, Tammie Sufana for Spanier

Approval of Minutes

Peter Sawochka-Dalton made the motion to approve September 23, 2025 meeting minutes, with Russ Erwin making the second.

Motion carried 3-0.

Consideration of Claims

Russ Erwin made a motion to approve claims for August and September as presented, with Peter Sawochka-Dalton making the second.

Motion carried 3-0.

Audience Participation

Reports

Building Commissioner/Director of Development

Michael Barry states Mnoke Trail NPS Agreement they have a meeting next week with Burns Harbor and consultants. He is working on a maintenance agreement with Rafi Wilkinson from NPS, he is working even though furloughed. Environmental Review is still on hold with furlough going on.

Barry mentioned there is no prepayment clause in the INDOT contract that needs to be in there, then we will review it again.

Barry mentioned the waterpark was purchased by residents and they want to know what we want to do. Just the east side was sold and hopefully it will help with development.

Old Business/New Business

RDC 2026 Goals-Hultman asks board what they thought of list. Sawochka-Dalton states he likes some of the items on list. He would like to do something done with vacant properties. Erwin states it is a good starting point. He has been approached by people who watch trains, he wonders if there was a place on Wagner to put something there for them. Barry mentions that he will talk to John Bell about something on his property.

Hultman mentions we could investigate how to bring revenue to our town. Barry states maybe have some events at park and have food trucks; he is going to work on Food truck ordinance.

Barry mentions walkability/connectivity there is a Lily Grant-Thrive-that they are trying to figure out what to spend it on. The goal is to get pedestrians across the tracks. We need safe crossings, and funding is the issue.

New Business

RDC 2026 Spending Plan-The board discussed this year's plan and mentioned keeping everything we have currently and making a few increases to some line items. Hultman mentions we did a good job of the 2025 plan. She comments that next month the goal is to approve the 2026 Spending plan. Erwin mentions Fire department would appreciate any additional funds.

Commission Comments

Hultman mentions the Façade Grant is available and to help make businesses aware of it. Erwin also mentions it is on the Chamber website.

Adjournment

Peter Sawochka-Dalton made the motion to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-2.9, this meeting was livestreamed to youtube.com/porterindiana. A recording of the livestream will remain publicly available for a minimum of ninety (90) days following the date of the meeting. Meeting agendas, minutes, and any memoranda, may be viewed at townofporter.in.gov.

Approved the 25th day of November, 2025

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF PORTER

/s/ William Lopez, Vice- President

/s/ Russ Erwin, Secretary

/s/ Jamie Hogan, Member

/s/ Peter Sawochka-Dalton, Member

Attest: /s/ Karen Spanier, Recording Secretary