

Royal Center Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 2, 2025, at 6pm
Royal Center Town Hall

Attending:

Council Members Present: Brandon Schmaltz, Teresa Hiatt, Ryan Funk, and Tim Minnick. Jasmine McMillan is absent.

Others present: Clerk/Treasurer - Carrie McIntire, Deputy Clerk – Gina Kennell, Sewer Superintendent – Lucian Eller, Town Attorney - Brad Rozzi, Town Marshal – Dale Campbell, Mike Montgomery – Kitchell Agency, Abby Roudebush, Lorie Solomon, and Bobetta King.

Opening: Pledge of Allegiance led by Brandon Schmaltz.

Minutes: Motion made by Teresa Hiatt to approve May Regular Meeting Minutes, second by Tim Minnick. Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business:

Ordinance 2025-4 Amended Leave Time: Attorney Rozzi completes the **second reading** of Ordinance 2025-4 Establishing PTO for full-time Town of Royal Center employees. 4 additional holidays are being added and all sick & vacation time switch to PTO. The Ordinance is to take effect 1/1/2026. Ryan Funk makes a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-4 as read, second by Tim Minnick. Motion passes unanimously. The Ordinance is available at Town Hall for review.

New Business:

Annual Insurance Review: Mike Montgomery with Kitchell Agency is present to give a review the Town's insurance policies which renew on 6/4/25. The premium will increase by 9.88% overall. The largest increase in premium is in the Umbrella policy since litigation settlements have increased and are more common. Royal Center Volunteer Fire Department VFIS Accident/Sickness Policy renews in August 2025. Chief Schroder requested that Kitchell Agency estimate the cost of renewing the policy as it is with \$150,000 Death Benefit but also estimate the cost of renewing the policy with a \$500,000 Death Benefit, so the Council may review it. Chief Schroder feels the increase is necessary due to increases in the cost of living since the policy was first accepted. Mike will be getting those numbers to us.

Boone Township Trustee – Fire Contract: Brandon summarizes the Fire Contract for 2026 between the Town and Boone Township. The dates of contract were updated. No changes to terms. \$14,000 for Fire Protection, \$250 for clothing reimbursement for those who are double certified. \$200 for clothing reimbursement for those who are single certified to be paid by the Town and the Township. The Township amount is not to exceed \$8,250.00. Tim Minnick makes a motion to approve the 2026 Fire Contract, second by Teresa Hiatt. Ryan Funk did not vote. Motion passes unanimously.

PYL Improvements: Abby Roudebush presents information to those present regarding a grant for approximately \$35,000 the Pioneer Youth League received last year to completely renovate the girl's diamond and to make repairs to the boy's diamond. The bleacher boards were replaced and sealed on both the girl's and boy's diamonds, Fissel Electric repaired lights & installed electrical outlets on the mounds of both Pioneer Elementary School diamonds, the concession stand was painted to match the other buildings at the park, gravel was added to a low-lying area. The girl's field will be graded down, leveled, and the outfield fence will be set in to the correct distance (It has migrated out over the years.), Hoosier mix will be added to the field. The boy's field will have its edges fixed and leveled but not as

extensive as the girl's field. Ryan Funk requests that PYL notify Aaron Carlson, Water/Street Superintendent before the upcoming projects begin, so he can verify proper locating has been done and that the plans align with those of the Town. PYL plans to begin renovations after the baseball season ends the second week of July 2025. Brandon Schmaltz, Council President thanks Abby & PYL for the improvements they are making at the park. Ryan Funk inquires whether Pioneer School Corporation ever contributes financially to the upkeep of the girl's diamond since they utilize it for all JV/Varsity home games. Abby states the school purchases lime for the field every other year (alternating with PYL). Discussion commences. Brandon will follow up with Mr. Bingaman, Pioneer Jr./Sr. High School Athletic Director, whether there is a way Pioneer can contribute time/money to the field maintenance. Abby offers her time to a collaborative meeting if the Town desires her presence.

Additional Appropriation - Chet's Building Fund – Ordinance 2025-5: Ryan Funk makes a motion to adopt additional appropriation in the amount of \$23,206.00 from Chet's Building Fund for repair of the pole building at Town Hall, second by Tim Minnick. Motion passes unanimously.

Park Wall Estimate: Carrie McIntire, Clerk-Treasurer summarizes the estimate of \$6,650.00 in labor and materials from Jack Timmons to repair the Park Wall. Jack will grind and chisel out all loose rock and cracks, tuck point all cracks chiseled out, and acid wash and seal the column damaged by the Oregon-Davis school bus. Tim Minnick makes a motion to accept the estimate from Jack Timmons to repair the wall at Rea Park, second by Ryan Funk. Motion passes unanimously.

Police Protection – 2025 Pioneer Days: Royal Center Lions Club requests police protection for Pioneer Days. Town Marshal – Dale Campbell states it is covered.

Leaf Removal: Ryan Funk asks if the Town Council is still interested in possibly obtaining a leaf vac. Discussion commences and the Council agrees they are interested. Ryan will research the options of purchase, rental, or leaf service.

Reports/Updates –

Lucian Eller – Reports CCR Water Report is going out soon.

Brad Rozzi – Gives an update on the new requirements for CCMG (Community Crossings Matching Grant) as it relates to wheel tax & vehicle excise tax for towns. Brad states the regular CCMG is still available to our Town without implementing a wheel tax or vehicle excise tax for our municipality. Those taxes may be implemented if we wish to apply for funds from the supplemental pool of funds. Also, this may not even apply to municipalities with a population less than 5,000. Brad will continue to research.

Ryan Funk – Bryan Patterson of 126 & 128 N Market Street inquired whether the meter that is not in use could be removed, so he does not have to pay two bills. Discussion commences. Attorney Rozzi suggests not taking action at this time, because we will have to review records and do the same for all unused meters.

Tim Minnick - Announces that Levi Mannies of RCFD is going to shadow him for the next two Emergency Management meetings (August & December). If he is interested, he will take over as our representative in 2026. Levi recently received his HAZMAT certification and is enthusiastic about this position.

Gina Kennell – Kids in golf carts and scooters are driving dangerously and the occurrences have increased since school is out. Also, she is still seeing golf carts without registration stickers. Bobetta King adds that adults with children not safely sitting on the back of the golf cart is a problem as well. The common concern is that someone is going to get hurt. Gina requests that something be done to enforce the rules in place. She

is also concerned that if someone gets hurt the Town will be liable. Abby Roudebush asks what makes the Town liable as opposed to the golf cart driver. Attorney Rozzi states that it is really like a vehicle and fault lies with the driver while driving the golf cart. Dale states that scooters are required to follow Road Rules as well.

Carrie McIntire - Reports that our Anthem Dental premiums will increase by 3% upon renewal in August. The premium is increasing from \$58.77 to \$60.53 per employee. A copy of the notice is provided to the Council. Carrie also provides Direct Line of Supervision and Municipal Nepotism Policy forms to the Council members in attendance to complete and asks that they leave them with her after the meeting. She states we can accept them at the July meeting.

Comments:

Lorie Solomon – Asks if there has been a decision made regarding the floor in the main pavilion at the park. The Council explains that the doors to the building must be replaced first, then the floor will need stripped to reveal its true condition before the Town commits to a plan of action. The Council wants to proceed, but they need to find an appropriate flooring solution based on the floor's true condition.

Claims:

Teresa Hiatt makes a motion to accept claims, second by Tim Minnick. Motion carries unanimously.

Adjourn:

Teresa Hiatt makes a motion to adjourn, second by Tim Minnick. Motion passes unanimously.

ATTEST:



Carrie McIntire, Clerk-Treasurer



Brandon Schmaltz, Town Council President

