

Royal Center Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 5, 2025, at 6pm
Royal Center Town Hall

Attending:

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

Others present: Clerk/Treasurer - Carrie McIntire, Water Superintendent – Aaron Carlson, Sewer Superintendent – Lucian Eller, Town Attorney - Brad Rozzi, Deputy Marshal – Kevin Pruiett, Boone Township Trustee – Bob Pifer, Alicia Pifer, Fire Chief – Ed Schroder, Lorie Solomon, Kathern Harvey.

Opening: Pledge of Allegiance led by Ryan Funk.

Minutes: Motion made by Jasmine McMillan to approve April Regular Meeting Minutes, second by Teresa Hiatt. Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business:

Park Improvements: Aaron Carlson provided quotes to the Council from Grand Industrial and Michael Hopper Construction. The Council reviews and discusses the quotes. Teresa Hiatt makes a motion to accept the quote from Michael Hopper Construction in the amount of \$10,365.03 to replace the double doors on the Main Pavilion at Rea Park to be paid from Chet's Park Fund and the quote to replace the door at the Water Generator Room in the amount of \$4,727.52 to be paid by Water Funds, second by Jasmine McMillan. The Town Council tables the quotes from Grand Industrial and Miller's Flooring until Fall to allow time to look for more cost-effective alternatives.

Pole Barn Estimates: The Town Council inquires about estimates received to make necessary repairs to the Pole Barn located at Town Hall. Aaron Carlson states Jack Timmons is not interested in the job. The repairs are extensive and too much for one man. Lucian presents an updated quote from FBI Buildings. Jasmine McMillan makes a motion to accept the quote from FBI Buildings in the amount of \$25,706 for the necessary repairs/improvements to the pole building at Town Hall to be paid from Chet's Building Fund, second by Teresa Hiatt. Motion passes unanimously.

Ordinance 2025-4 Amended Leave Time: Attorney Rozzi completes the **first reading** of Ordinance 2025-4 Establishing PTO and Ryan Funk gives a summary of the changes in leave time 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 available at the front desk of Town Hall for review.

New Business:

Boone Township Trustee – Fire Contract: Bob Pifer was in attendance to present the fire contract for 2026. 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. Ryan Funk reads and summarizes the contract, but we cannot vote due to lack of quorum. We will add this item to the June 2, 2025, agenda.

Reports/Updates –

Deputy Kevin Pruiett – Ryan Funk asks the Royal Center Police Dept. to continue to monitor the parking and speed issue on Sweet Street. He agrees the department will continue to do so.

Lucian Eller – Reports he has the mosquito fogger annual inspection tomorrow.

Aaron Carlson – Announces that Rea Park is officially open for the season and the water is on.

Aaron gives notice that the Town will be flushing hydrants May 12-16, 2025.

He also informs those present that the Town is aware of water standing on the pavement in front of Schwarz Law Office near the corner at the intersection of U.S. Highway 35 and State Road 16. He has investigated the issue and tested the water for chlorination. There is no sign of chlorination, so he believes it is ground water seeping up from below and could have been caused by construction during the Highway 35 Project.

Carrie McIntire – The Clerk notifies the Town Council that Mike Montgomery from Jim Kitchell Agency is on the agenda for our June meeting to review numbers for our Umbrella & Liability insurance. The insurance premiums are expected to increase by 9.88% upon renewal.

Next, she informs the Town Council that AT&T and Globe Life Family Heritage Return of Premium Plans will send representatives to enroll Fire, Police, or Government employees who may be interested on May 20, 2025, at 6 p.m.

The Clerk tells the Council that Apex Waste has agreed to deliver a dumpster to the Sewer Plant on May 16, 2025, for the May 17th Spring Clean Up Day. Discussion commences regarding how to advertise the event. There is not much time to advertise, so we can post notice on Town Hall doors, at the Post Office, and possibly on Face Book or Cass County Online. She suggests scheduling our Metal Recycling Day soon, so Host & Sons will have availability and so we will have more time to advertise as well as coordinate it with our Fall Clean Up Day.

Carrie reports that her office has been receiving complaints about golf carts still being driven on the basketball courts, donated benches being used as pickleball nets, and donated benches not being distributed throughout Rea Park. Discussion commences regarding resolutions to these issues. The Council requests that Aaron get an estimate to place a 4' tall chain link fence around the basketball courts with a locked gate wide enough for vehicles/equipment to enter for maintenance and a walk-in gate for athletes to enter the courts.

Lastly, Carrie inquires about the status of installing the new basketball goals at Rea Park. There has been interest in having a 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament during Pioneer Days, but the backboards have not been installed yet. Aaron Carlson states that he is meeting with Dale Campbell this Thursday to discuss installation of the basketball goals.

Ryan Funk – Announces that Pioneer Youth League (PYL) has been notified to inform Aaron Carlson about any projects happening at Rea Park. PYL is working on several projects, but did not notify or seek approval from the Town Council or Aaron -Town Superintendent. PYL Board plans to tear out and completely reconstruct the Girls 12U diamond which is also utilized by Pioneer JV & Varsity Girls Softball. PYL has recently replaced bleacher seats and added electrical outlets to the pitching mounds for use of pitching machines on the fields.

Comments:

Kathern Harvey - of 304 W North Street has decided to place stone on her side of the alley from North Street to her property. She seeks approval from the Town Council before she begins work. Discussion commences regarding her plans. The Town Council approves her plan with the understanding that the town will not provide materials and will not plow or otherwise maintain the alley.

Bob Pifer, Boone Township Trustee – Bob states he will not be able to attend the June meeting for the vote to renew the Fire Contract, because he will be on a mission trip. The Council understands and asks him to follow up with the Clerk the week after he returns from his trip to sign and pick up the Fire Contract. He agrees.

Claims:

Jasmine McMillan makes a motion to accept claims, second by Teresa Hiatt. Motion carries unanimously.

Adjourn:

Teresa Hiatt makes a motion to adjourn, second by Jasmine McMillan. Motion passes unanimously.

ATTEST: Carrie McIntire

Carrie McIntire, Clerk-Treasurer

Brandon Schmalz

Brandon Schmalz, Town Council President

