

MINUTES
ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 10, 2025
PUBLIC MEETING
ROME CITY TOWN HALL
402 KELLY STREET
ROME CITY, IN 46784

Cheryl Clifton called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Members present Cheryl Clifton, Kirk Klein and Ken Cook. Also, present were Leigh Pranger, Heidi Lang, Paul Hoffman and Attorney Bill Eberhard via video call. See also sign in sheet.

Pledge was said.

Ken Cook asked for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the last meeting. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Old Business

Follow Up on Ordinance Violations: Paul confirmed that all current fines have been paid. There are currently three violations open, one at each location: Bernice – nuisance complaint, Spring Beach – abandoned vehicle, and Lakeside – weed abatement. Paul turned in his notice to citizens on pertinent ordinances and information from the Marshal's office to be inserted into the sewer books.

Sewer Rate Study: Heidi informed the Council that her and Leigh met with the Indiana Rural Community Assistance Program on October 29, 2025, to discuss the rate study. No new information was provided at the meeting. Heidi will have Ordinance 2025-05 Sewer Rate Increase published in the newspaper. Cheryl read Ordinance #2025-05 for the First Reading. There will be a Public Hearing on the sewer rate increase for 2026 at the Town Council meeting on December 8, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Kirk made a motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2025-05 Sewer Rate Increase. Ken seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

New Business

Grace Casewell Noble County Visitors Bureau: Grace was unable to make the meeting. Leigh read the developments of the Noble County Visitors Bureau for 2025.

CCMG Grant: Leigh informed the Council that she completed the CCMG Grant paperwork. To repave Pleasant and West Pleasant Point is estimated for the full repair at \$121,793.00 with the Town's portion to be \$24,358.60 if the grant is awarded. Grant status should be known in January.

Pulver Asphalt Resurface Tennis/Pickleball Courts Kelly Park: The Town has received one of three invoices to cover the cost of the resurfacing on the Tennis/Pickleball courts at Kelly Park. Leigh is asking

for approval of the first invoice of \$46,500.00. The second invoice will be presented during the December 8, 2025, Town Council meeting for \$23,500.00. The third invoice will be ready after the striping, net posts and painting are completed in the spring of 2026. Leigh asked the Town to encumber \$19,500.00 for the striping and posts to cover the 2026 invoice. Kirk made a motion to approve the encumbrance for \$19,500.00 for 2026. Ken seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Swaney Agreement: Bill Eberhard explained the Swaney agreement. Mr. Swaney will pay the Town \$10,000.00 per the agreement. This amount will cover the attorney fees that the Town has incurred over this matter. Kirk made a motion to approve accepting the Swaney agreement. Ken seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

SEA 1/SB 1: Leigh gave an overview of the financial impact to the town from the new property tax replacement law. The estimated financial losses, provided by Noble County Assessor, Ben Castle, are as follows: Rome City in 2026 is estimated to lose \$52,000, 2027 estimates \$60,200 – \$61,800 and 2028 estimates \$71,500 - \$74,700.

2026 Holiday Schedule: Heidi will update the current holiday schedule to reflect the correct dates and will have it ready for the December 8, 2025, meeting.

Paul is looking at replacing the police vehicle which was wrecked and totaled in September with an Electric Blazer. The Blazer will be dropped off for a demonstration driving from November 12 – November 19th. It can be plugged in at the Street Garage. Tom Kelly Fleet distributed a video that Paul sent to the Town Council. The cost is \$45,800 estimated. Vehicles have been previously purchased about every 4 years. There is a 14-week lead time on this vehicle from date of order. Heidi and Paul will look at numbers to encumber money for the down payment. There is an 8-year, 100,000-mile warranty on the battery. A Level 2+ charger is \$1,900 estimate.

Ken asked for a motion to approve looking to encumber the money for the down payment. Kirk seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried

Salary Ordinance: Heid presented the #2025-06 salary ordinance and asked the Council how they would like to handle the 2026 salaries. Cheryl would like to have Jenny Dunderman's pay to be increased to \$21.00 p/hr. Cheryl would like to see Paul have an increase of 6% and continue to have Leigh's increase at 8.3%. Cheryl would like to see the Deputy Marshal's and the Street/Sewer Department's have a 4% increase. Kirk asked for a motion to approve First reading of ordinance #2025-06 changes to the salary ordinance. Ken seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried

Reports were given by Leigh for the Town Manager report and Street/Wastewater and Paul gave the Marshal's Department report.

Kirk asked for a motion to approve payment of the town and sewer bills. Ken seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried

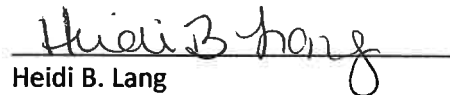
Next Town Council meeting December 8, 2025, at 6:30pm, Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Rome City, IN 46784

Ken asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 pm. Kirk seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN HALL


Cheryl Clifton, President

ATTEST:


Heidi B. Lang
Clerk-Treasurer