

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

The Trail Creek Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., at the Trail Creek Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana. Mr. Schacht, Council President led the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Mrs. Saenz to approve the meeting minutes; the motion was seconded by Ms. Janes. Motion unanimously carried.

Approval of Fund Report: Clerk Treasurer, Crystal Frever provided copies of the Fund Report for August 2026. The council reviewed the report.

A motion was made by Mr. Pizarek to approve the fund report; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Saenz. Motion was unanimously carried.

Approval of Claims: Clerk Treasurer, Crystal Frever provided copies of the bills to the council for August 15, 2026 – September 14, 2026, in the amount of \$111,200.67 (ONE HUNDRED ELEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AND SIXTY-SEVEN CENTS).

A motion was made by Mr. Pizarek to approve the bills as presented; the motion was seconded by Ms. Janes Motion carried.

Correspondence: No Correspondence was reported.

MS4: No Report.

Attorney: Attorney Christopher Willoughby not in attendance; Attorney Jack Walton was present in place of Attorney Chris Willoughby. No attorney report was presented.

Engineer: No engineering report was presented. The Council noted that the CCMG project would be discussed under new business.

Park Board: Park Board President Katrina Vedo not in attendance.

No written Park Department report was submitted.

The Council discussed preparations for the upcoming Fall Festival. The Fall Festival was noted as being scheduled for October 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Council discussed painting the field and moving picnic tables. It was indicated that the picnic tables could be moved provided there was no conflicting event scheduled.

The Council also discussed trash cans and leftover cardboard/disposable materials that had been placed in the shed.

Building Inspector: Steve Thomas in attendance.

The Building Inspector reported on an August 28 inspection of the property located at 2811 East Michigan Boulevard, conducted with Officer Steve Dick.

The property was inspected with the owner, Mary Fox, providing access to the building. The inspection determined that several concerns and rumors regarding the property were unfounded. The two upstairs apartments were found to have individual kitchens and living accommodations.

Exterior concerns resulting from the August 11 storm were discussed, including soffit damage and an exterior electrical issue. The need for mowing and weed maintenance was also addressed, as well as junk vehicles on the property.

The Council discussed whether additional legal action was necessary. Based on the inspection, the Council indicated that the matter could be closed, with any future concerns to be addressed as necessary. Photographs from the inspection were available for Council review.

Planning/Zoning: No Report.

Police: Marshal Dick in attendance.

- The Police Department reminded residents that wrapped, store-bought candy donations and cash donations are being accepted for the upcoming Halloween activities. Homemade or opened candy will not be accepted.
- The Department reported that the recent Swanson Center run was conducted without issues and was well organized. The Department indicated that it would recommend allowing the event to return in the future.
- The Police Chief discussed the expiration of the department's body-worn camera contract. A proposal will be presented at the October meeting. The estimated cost is approximately \$3,500 annually. The proposed option would include new body cameras and required storage but would not include the TAP refresh program or extended warranty.
- The Police Department also reported on AED replacement pads. Five sets were purchased for approximately \$360 total. The Department noted that the AED units are approximately four to five years old and that batteries will need to be replaced as they expire.

Street Department: Street Commissioner, Dave Baker in attendance.

- The Street Department recommended that the Town's annual fall leaf pickup begin October 26 and continue through December 4, weather permitting.
- The Street Department also discussed a retired 2015 police vehicle currently being used by the department. Due to the age of the vehicle and anticipated repair costs, the Department recommended selling the vehicle.

A motion was made by Mrs. Saenz to sell the 2015 Street Department vehicle by sealed bid. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vedo. Motion carried

- The Street Department reported that the pick-up truck was generally in good condition. One dump truck was undergoing DOT inspection and routine maintenance, with the second truck scheduled to follow.

NIRPC: No Report

Old Business: No Old Business was presented.

New Business:

- **ORDINANCE #2-2026 - 2027 BUDGET 1ST READING WITH PUBLIC HEARING**

The Council opened the public hearing for the proposed 2027 budget.

The proposed budget amounts presented included:

- Riverboat Fund: \$50,000
- General Fund: \$771,403
- Local Road and Street: \$30,000
- Motor Vehicle Highway: \$222,593
- Continuing Education: \$4,000
- Capital: \$35,000
- Economic Development Income: \$100,000
- Trash and Sanitation: \$262,264
- Public/Local Safety: \$128,334
- Building and Contractor Fees: \$37,500

The total proposed budget was stated as \$1,641,094. The floor was opened for public comment regarding the proposed budget. No public comments were received. The public hearing was closed.

- **SCHNEIDER GEOMATICS INVOICE**

A motion was made by Mr. Pizarek to approve the Schneider invoice. The motion was seconded by Ms. Janes. Motion carried.

- **CCMG PROJECT**

The Council discussed the current Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) funding cycle. The application period opened September 1 and closes at the end of the month. The required local match was discussed as having changed from 25% to 20%. The Town's previously developed Asset Management Plan has been submitted and approved and will be used as part of the application process. Road ratings and the Town's prioritized list of roads will be used to determine which projects can be completed based upon the Town's available local match. The Council discussed determining the amount of local matching funds available and comparing that amount to the prioritized road list. Engineering costs and estimates for individual road segments will also need to be determined.

A special meeting was scheduled for **September 24 at 7:00 p.m.** to review and approve the CCMG project scope, estimates, engineering costs, and related funding information prior to the application deadline.

- **HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREAT**

The Council discussed the Town's Halloween trick-or-treat schedule. The Town's trick-or-treat hours were established as 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Halloween night.

- **FALL LEAF CLEAN UP DATES**

The fall leaf pickup schedule was discussed. Pickup is scheduled to begin October 26 and continue through December 4, weather permitting.

- **ORDINANCE UPDATES**

The Council discussed the ongoing review and updating of Town ordinances. Historical Town Council agendas and minutes from prior years are being reviewed and scanned in an effort to locate and organize ordinances and resolutions. A spreadsheet is being maintained to track ordinances and resolutions found in the historical records. The Council discussed the condition of several older, non-codified ordinances, including ordinances that are unsigned, undated, or otherwise incomplete. The Council will consult with the Town Attorney regarding the validity and appropriate handling of these documents. The Council also discussed the possibility of eliminating obsolete ordinances as part of a future comprehensive ordinance review and codification process.

- **FOOD DRIVE**

The Council approved placing a food collection box at Town Hall for a community food drive. The food drive will continue through the remainder of September and October. The Town may also promote the food drive during the Fall Festival. If the Town is the top-selling participant, a \$100 gift card will be awarded for use toward food for the Town Council/community.

- **YOGA FACILITY USE AGREEMENT**

The Council discussed the annual Yoga Facility Use Agreement. The Town Attorney prepared an updated agreement that is effective retroactively to June 1. The agreement requires the Council President's signature and attestation by the Clerk-Treasurer. A certificate of liability insurance has been provided.

- **TOWN WEBSITE**

The Council discussed upcoming changes to the State's website software. The State is scheduled to transition to new software in November. The Clerk-Treasurer discussed the need to complete necessary website updates before the transition and to coordinate changes with the State during the transition period. The Council also discussed formatting requirements for the new system, including restrictions involving punctuation in historical records.

Public Comment: No Comments.

Clerk Comment: Clerk-Treasurer Crystal Frever reminded the Council that when approving future events, consideration should be given to holiday weekends and potential conflicts with the Town's regular trash collection schedule. The recent Swanson Center event created a conflict with the Town's trash pickup schedule, and the issue should be considered when approving similar events in the future.

Mrs. Frever also added she would personally like to donate the funds to purchase the pumpkins for the Fall Festival.

Council Comment: The Council requested that the Clerk-Treasurer purchase a new Indiana state flag for Town Hall because the existing flag has faded.

The Council discussed residents questions concerning fire pits and burning regulations. Members agreed that the applicable ordinances should be reviewed and clarified so that residents and the Police Department have a clear understanding of what is permitted.

The Council also discussed concerns that had been raised regarding activity at the Harding property. The Police Department reported that the property had been monitored and that there was no evidence of people living at the property or ongoing activity as had been reported.

The Council also discussed the Mary Fox property. The Council was advised that, if the Council was satisfied with the inspection and current conditions, no additional action was required by the Council. The owner still needs clearance from the State regarding zoning matters, which will be addressed with the appropriate State agency.

Adjourn: With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Pizarek to adjourn the meeting at 7:44pm, the motion was seconded by Mr. Vedo. Motion carried unanimously.

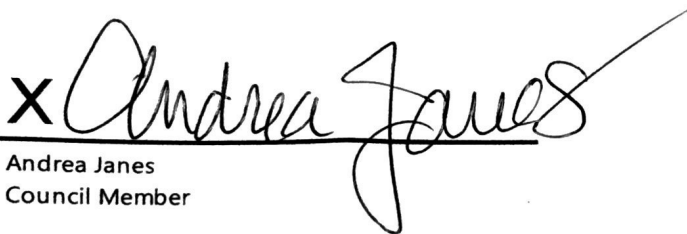
APPROVED OCTOBER 20, 2026 - SEPTEMBER 2026 MEETING MINUTES

X 
Warren Schacht
Council President

X 
Peter Pizarek
Council Vice President

X 
Laura Saenz
Council Member

X 
Brian Vedo
Council Member

X 
Andrea Janes
Council Member

ATTEST:

X
Crystal Frever
Clerk-Treasurer