

Town Council Meeting May 15, 2025, Minutes

- The roll call is conducted by Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Roxanna Bova listing the Town Council members that are present: Roger Hammer, Bruce Brown, Kevin Richey, Jeffrey Van Hoy, and Desiree Payton were all present.
- Roger Hammer asked those in attendance to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence

Approval of Minutes and Public Comments

- Roger Hammer said I have one more change on the 3/20 minutes on page four, three quarters of the way down, it says Roger Hammer clarifies that annexation was based on there was no discussion of annexation. So that should say the land use planning document instead of annexation. So, the question was about annexation, but I was saying there is no annexation to document, so the boundaries confuse people when reporting. They thought they were good annex because of the document. Roxanna Bova said she will get the changes made.
- **Kevin Richey makes a motion to accept the March 20 town council meeting minutes with a correction, which seconded by Bruce Brown. Motion carried 3-0.**
- **Bruce Brown makes a motion to approve April 17 minutes, which is seconded by Jeffrey Van Hoy. Motion carried 5-0.**
- Public comments begin with Sarah Ward from Ward 220 Hill Avenue, who speaks on behalf of the cemetery board.

Cemetery Board's Road Naming Proposal

- Sarah Ward discusses the cemetery board's proposal to lease naming rights for roads within the cemetery. The board has approval from both funeral homes and plans to use blue background signs with white lettering.
- **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to allow the cemetery to proceed with the signage project, which is seconded by Bruce Brown. Motion carried 5-0.**

Highway 40 Sales Special Event Permit

- Lisa White, owner of Yellow Brick Road, requests approval for a special event permit for Highway 40 Sales.
- The event will cover Main Street, Jefferson Street, and Washington Street, with a charge of \$20 for three days.

- The money will go towards the merchants of Knightstown, including future scholarships and town improvements.
- **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to approve the permit which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carried 5-0.**

Police Report and Reserve Officers

- Landon Dean presents the police report detailing patrol hours, calls for service, security checks, traffic stops, and arrests. The report highlights the importance of traffic enforcement and the impact on public safety.
- Landon Dean introduces new reserve officers: Brian Watson, Spencer Maxwell, Logan Marcum, and Sean Dice.
- **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to bring Logan Marcum, Sean Dice, Spencer Maxwell and Brian Watson on as reserve officers, which is seconded by Bruce Brown. Motion carried 5-0.** Landon Dean discusses the upcoming police academy and training courses.
- Landon advised the Citizens Police Academy is coming up at the end of June but not sure of the date yet. He would like to have at least thirty people in the class.
- Landon advised that they are still working on vehicle designs, but he did get a few good ideas from Facebook.
- Landon asked about having new police officer phones for the full-time officers. **Jeffrey Van Hoy made a motion to add 4 lines to the Verizon account for \$41.95 for each full-time officer, which is seconded by Bruce Brown. Motion carried 5-0.**

Streaming Equipment Proposal

- Jesse Riddle presents a proposal for streaming equipment to comply with the new state law requiring municipalities to stream meetings online. The proposal includes cameras, a microphone, and a video switcher, with a total cost of \$13,723.
- The council discusses the need for additional storage and the possibility of using YouTube for archiving.
- **Desiree Payton makes a motion is made to approve the streaming equipment and installment up to \$13,908.90, which is seconded by Jeffrey Van Hoy. Motion carried 5-0.**

- **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion for the necessary wiring (Cable and electric) and TV up to \$7,000.00, which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carried 5-0.**
- Roger advised that once we got the contract from Jesse, we needed to have a special meeting to approve it and get all the equipment up and running.

Bridge at Sunset Park

- Jeffrey Van Hoy raises concerns about the condition of the bridge at Sunset Park, which is no longer safe for driving or walking.
- Jeff Eakins mentions that quotes are being obtained for a non-driving, walkable bridge.
- The council discusses the potential cost and the need for funding from the DNR or other sources.

Works Manager Succession Planning

- The council discusses the need for planning for the succession of the works manager position, especially in case of sick leave or retirement.
- Roxanna Bova mentions that Doug is nearing completion of his apprenticeship and will soon be licensed.
- The council is considering appointing an assistant works manager to ensure smooth operations during absences.
- Roger Hammer proposes leading a subcommittee to address succession planning and future hiring needs. Desiree Payton said that she will be ok with helping with this subcommittee. Bruce Brown will also do it.

Library Handicapped Parking Space

- The council reviews and approves an ordinance amending the code to allow for a handicapped parking space at the library. **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to read by title only Ordinance #041725, which is seconded by Bruce Brown. Motion carried 5-0.**
- **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to accept Ordinance #041725, which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carried 5-0.**
- The council discusses the importance of providing accessible parking for library patrons.

Stone Run Input Paperwork

- Roxanna Bova presents paperwork from Mike Adams regarding work done at Stone Run.

- The council discusses financial responsibility for the work and the need for proper authorization. The paperwork includes details about electrical work, overhead transformers, and necessary utility connections.
- The council has decided to hold the paperwork for further review and discussion.

Sewer Project Update

- Dan Wright provides an update on the sewer project, mentioning ongoing discussions with Speedway and Love's. Both companies are considering their contributions to the project, with Speedway planning a major remodel.
- The council discusses the importance of securing commitments from major beneficiaries to ensure project completion.
- A meeting is scheduled for the following week to finalize details and secure necessary agreements.

CCMG Project Status and Updates/ Water Project and Contract Updates

- Dan Wright announces the closure of the last CCMG project and the temporary halt of the CCMG project until July due to administrative delays. The CCMG program is popular in the state. Dan Wright clarifies that the CCMG project involves road funding projects and is funded entirely by state money, avoiding federal regulations. The project is not canceled but delayed due to budgetary considerations, which is beneficial for small communities.
- Roger Hammer inquires about the status of the water project, and Dan Wright confirms that a contract has been given for a survey. The project is delayed due to other commitments, and Roger Hammer thanks the participants for their patience.

Accounts Payable Docket and Legal Matters

- Roger Hammer mentions the presentation of claims and the payroll docket, which totals \$194,557.51. **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to approve the May payroll docket, which is seconded by Bruce Brown. Motion carried 5-0.**
- Roxanna Bova presents the council docket, totaling \$379,697.38
- **Jeffery Van Hoy makes a motion to accept the May account payable docket, which is seconded by Kevin Richey. Motion carried 5-0.**

Library Contribution and Project Updates/ Communication and Coordination for Projects

- Jeff Eakins discusses the library's request to increase their contribution from \$5,000 to \$6,000. The library is asked to attend the next meeting to present an invoice and discuss

any requirements. Roger Hammer notes confusion about the \$6,000 request and suggests another meeting to clarify.

- Kevin Richey inquires about the status of the North Washington paving project, which was supposed to start this week but has been delayed due to weather and Randy's absence. Kevin Richey mentions the need for communication with the Hoosier gym and other residents about parking during the project. He offers to help with communication to ease concerns and ensure compliance with parking restrictions.
- Roger Hammer thanks everyone for their participation and adjourns the meeting.
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:05p.m.**