

## October 23, 2025, Public Hearing and Town Council Meeting 6:30pm

- **Bruce Brown initiates the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.**
- **The roll call is conducted by Clerk-Treasurer Bart Whitesitt took roll call with the Town Council members that are present: Bruce Brown, Kevin Richey, Jeffrey Van Hoy, and Desiree Payton were all present. Meghan Haynes from The Courier-Times was present. Town Council President Roger Hammer was absent.**

The town council meeting began with the adjournment of the regular session to proceed with a budget hearing. The proposed 2026 budget includes \$1,026,783 for the general fund, \$180,965 for the MVH motor vehicle highway fund, \$120,000 for the park, \$112,863 for the cemetery, and \$69,895 for the American Rescue Plan fund. The council approved the 2025 salary ordinance and discussed the appointment of Alice Bogman to the library board. Public comments raised concerns about a proposed PUD, including water supply and electric rate impacts. The meeting concluded with the approval of claims and financial matters.

### Action Items

- Roxanna Bova - Advertise the library board opening and accept applications from interested residents.
- Send the approved 2026 budget ordinance to the appropriate parties.
- Schedule interviews with the engineering firms that submitted proposals.

### Outline

#### Budget Proposal

- Bruce Brown notes the absence of Roger Hammer and Gregg Morelock, suggesting the need to suspend the meeting for a hearing.
- **Desiree Payton makes a motion to adjourn the regular town council meeting and start the budget hearing, which is seconded by Kevin Richey. Motion carries 4-0**
- Bart Whitesitt begins reading the proposed budget amounts for various funds, including the General fund \$1,026,783, local Road and Street \$20,000, MVH motor vehicle highway fund \$180,965, park \$120,000, cemetery \$112,000, cumulative capital improvement \$50,000, American rescue plan fund \$68,895, local law enforcement continuing Ed Fund \$15,000, Riverboat fund \$50,000, public safety \$88,000, LOIT special distribution fund \$12,000. Bart Whitesitt explains the zero

value for the cumulative Capital Development Fund and the need for additional appropriations if required.

- Bruce Brown calls for a motion to close the public hearing and resume the regular Town Council meeting. **Kevin Richey makes a motion to re-convene the Regular Town Council meeting, which is seconded by Jeffrey Van Hoy. Motion carries 4-0.**

### **Approval of Minutes and Public Comments**

- Bruce Brown asks for a motion to approve the September 18, 2025 minutes. **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to approve the September 18, 2025 Town Council Meeting minutes, which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carries 4-0.**
- Bruce Brown opens the floor to Public Comments. Charlie Ours owns the property, 129 North Madison Street. He brought a petition to obtain part of the vacant alleyway that's borders his land; he also brought his deed as well that shows that he owns the property that borders the vacant alleyway there near the railroad tracks that empty lot. Jeffrey Van Hoy suggests waiting until Gregg Morelock gets to the meeting to vote on the petition. Gregg Morelock went over the process for the closing of the alleyway.
- Eric Rodenberg lives on Adams St, expresses concerns about a proposed PUD (Planned Unit Development) and its potential impact on the community, including water supply, electric rates, and property values. He discuss the lack of concrete information and the potential negative effects of the PUD on the community.

### **Police Report**

- Landon Dean provides a report on police activities, including security checks, traffic stops, tickets issued, school bus patrols, and arrests. Landon Dean mentions the success of a recent fundraiser and the positive community response. And that picture is from our fundraiser the other night. Couple of police officers messing around having a good time (from his slide show). Landon Dean discusses the ongoing police academy training and the involvement of guest instructors. Landon advised that the new handguns were delivered which they're all locked up at the moment. The police department had a plethora of training the next weekend, and department is going to get qualified with those new guns and start carrying them after they've qualified with them. Captain Davis and Officer Day took the guns out and tried them out their guns, and they really like them. The fundraiser and the meet and greet, what a success that was, and it was really fun. Thanks to Michaela, she and everybody else in the office, they worked and planned that well, just a little over

a month of planning, and we had it right out here in the alley. It had a good turnout. We ended up raising \$10 shy of \$5,000 so it was a pretty good, pretty good weekend. So, it was awesome. Thanks to the donors, and everybody that that helped with that. It was a super fun time. Landon Dean highlights the renaming of Carey Street and the honorary adoption of Captain Davis by the Carey family.

## **New Business**

- **Desiree Payton makes a motion to approve 2026 Budget Ordinance #102325 on the first reading, which is seconded by Kevin Richey. Motion carries 4-0. Kevin Richey makes a motion to suspend the rules, which is seconded by Jeffrey Van Hoy. Motion carries 4-0. Jeffrey Van Hoy makes the motion to adopt on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading the 2026 Budget Ordinance #102325, which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carries 4-0.**
- **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to read by title only 2025 Salary Ordinance #102325A-Amendment, which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carries 4-0. Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to approve 2025 Salary Ordinance #102325A-Amendment on first reading, which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carries 4-0. Desiree Payton makes a motion to suspend the rules and continue with 2<sup>nd</sup> reading by title only, which is seconded by Kevin Richey. Motion carries 4-0. Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to approve as read and adopt the 2025 Salary Ordinance #102325A-Amendment, which is seconded by Desiree Payton. Motion carries 4-0.**
- Roxanna Bova reads an email from Joanne Bush about Pam Haas's resignation from the library board and the need to appoint a replacement. Roxanna Bova mentions a recommendation from Linda Lashbrook for Alice Bogman to be appointed to the library board. Jeff Eakins suggests advertising the library board opening to allow other residents to apply. Meghan Haynes is interested and will send her resume to Roxanna. The Council tabled until next Town Council Meeting November 20,2025.
- Bruce Brown and Bart Whitesitt discuss the process of reviewing engineering proposals from Commonwealth Engineers Incorporated, VS Engineering, USI Consultants Incorporated, and United Consulting. **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to continue Engineering bids to November 20,2025 meeting, which is seconded by Kevin Richey. Motion carries 4-0.**
- Cemetery Dump conversation is tabled until next Town Council Meeting November 20,2025.

### **Approval of Claims and Financial Matters**

- Bruce Brown calls for a motion to approve the accounts payable voucher registry summary for the General Council docket \$433,879.00. **Jeffrey Van Hoy makes a motion to approve the General Council Docket \$433,879.00, which is seconded by Kevin Richey. Motion carries 4-0.** Bart Whitesitt presents the payroll docket for the month \$164,620.81. **Desiree Payton makes a motion to approve the payroll docket for \$164,620.81. which is seconded by Jeffrey Van Hoy. Motion carries 4-0.**
- **RDC had nothing to discuss in this meeting**
- **The meeting is adjourned at 7:38pm**

October 23, 2025 Public Hearing and Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes  
**TOWN OF KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA, BY ITS TOWN COUNCIL**

Voting Affirmative:

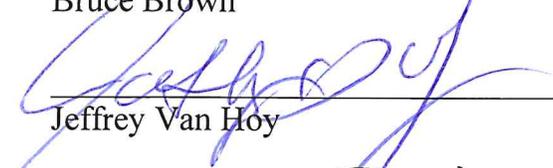
Voting Opposed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Hammer



\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Brown

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey Van Hoy



\_\_\_\_\_  
Desiree Payton



\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Richey



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Roger Hammer

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Bruce Brown

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Jeffrey Van Hoy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Desiree Payton

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Richey

ATTEST:



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Bart Whitesitt, Clerk-Treasurer