



POSEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: March 11, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Justin Rutledge at 5:30 PM.

PRESENT

- **Council President:** Justin Rutledge
- **Council Members:** Michael Baehl, Randall Rankin
- **Clerk-Treasurer:** Jodie Rankin
- **Attorney:** William Bender

Virtual Attendees: 2

In-person Attendees:

- List retained (5)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the following meetings were presented for review:

- **Regular Meeting:** February 11, 2025
- **Special Meeting:** February 25, 2025

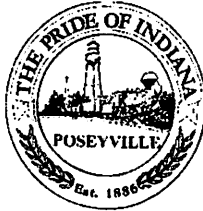
Randy Rankin motioned to approve the February 11, 2025 minutes as presented.

Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting on February 25, 2025 as presented. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)



CLAIMS DOCKET

The Claims Docket was emailed to the council members before the meeting for review.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the 2024 End of Year Claim Docket. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

A motion to approve the current Claim Docket was made by Randy Rankin, seconded by Mike Baehl

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

PAYROLL ALLOWANCE DOCKET

The Payroll Allowance Docket was emailed to the council members before the meeting for review.

A motion to approve the Payroll Allowance Docket as presented was made by Randy Rankin, seconded by Mike Baehl.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank reconciliations for February 2025 were presented to the council for review at the meeting.

A motion to approve the Bank Reconciliation was made by Randy Rankin, seconded by Mike Baehl.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jenifer Neidig, representing Heart of Poseyville, requested to speak regarding the upcoming Annual Pick-up Poseyville Day, scheduled for April 10, 2025, weather permitting.

Mrs. Neidig provided a schedule for the event. There was a discussion about dumpster placement. The Poseyville Police Department will supply one dumpster,



while the Town of Poseyville will provide another, conveniently located on Main Street for easy access. This will be a large pick-up day, and all items must be placed at the curb the night before or in the early morning or taken directly to the dumpsters that will be located at 64 W Main Street.

Additionally, Mrs. Neidig noted that Grow Poseyville will aim to install the hanging planters that day. Mr. Baehl advised that the refurbished poles for the hangers are currently stored at the garage. The Heart of Poseyville has secured funding for all plants this summer, and a Garden Club will be established to assist in maintaining the hanging planters.

The Council expressed its appreciation to Grow Poseyville and Heart of Poseyville for sponsoring such a valuable initiative, as well as to all volunteers and student workers for their efforts last year.

Justin Collins, representing Grow Poseyville, addressed the Council regarding the installation of a Town Clock along Main Street.

The proposed location at the west corner of Main and North Cale Street would require an electrical connection. Mr. Baehl noted that after researching the area, there is no nearby electric access at that location and boring to the closest location would be costly. He suggested an alternative placement in front of Town Hall, which would provide easier access to electricity. All Town Council members agreed that this would be a suitable location and could help expand Main Street beautification efforts to include businesses further down the street.

Mr. Collins also proposed the east corner of Main and North Cale Street as another potential location. There was also discussion about the possibility of using a solar-powered clock, which would allow for greater flexibility in choosing a location.

Everyone agreed that the clock would be a beautiful and valuable addition to the town. However, the final placement is still under discussion.



Mrs. Rankin noted that due to the costs associated with installing electric service for the clock, the town would need to budget at least a year in advance to consider assisting with installation funding.

Mr. Baehl requested to add that the town-wide yard sale will be May 10, 2025, this year. Mrs. Baehl will work to have a map again this year. More information will be released on Facebook. There will be no large item pick-up this year during the town-wide yard sale.

Live zoom was stopped due to a technical system issue.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2024 Annual Financial Report was present to the Council by Mrs. Rankin. Mr. Rutledge asked for any comments. Mrs. Rankin advised the Council that the assets are still a work-in-progress. The water assets were updated due to the latest water filtration project but the others are in need of updates. It is a costly to contract with someone to update the information. Mrs. Rankin indicated she will continue to work on updating the asset management system in place. Randy Rankin made a motion to accept the Annual Financial Report as presented, Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Clerk-Treasurer, Jodie Rankin presented the Council with a State of Indiana Deferred Compensation Plan Resolution and Adoption Agreement for a Participating Local Political Subdivision. Four years ago, the State contracted with Nationwide to be the vendor for Deferred Compensation under the name Hoosier Start. At that time, all political subdivisions were able to join under the same umbrella with reduced fees to the participants. Hoosier Start takes on all the fiduciary responsibilities for the political division. Mrs. Rankin did confirm that the current members will see no interruption in access or processes. The change will appear mainly in the branding of the product and reduced fees. Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the State of Indiana Deferred Compensation Plan Resolution and Adoption Agreement for a Participating Local Political Subdivision, seconded by Randy Rankin.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)



Mrs. Rankin informed the Council that she will attend the annual ILMCT conference in Plainfield from March 16 to 20. The conference costs \$445.00. Mrs. Rankin applied for a scholarship to cover the costs. ILMCT granted the scholarship to Mrs. Rankin and credited back the Town of Poseyville credit card for the registration fee.

Jeremy Farrar submitted a letter of recommendation for hiring Denny House for the part-time summer mowing position. During the meeting, Mr. Farrar provided additional information via phone, stating that Denny has previously worked for the town and requires little to no training, as he is already familiar with the town's equipment.

Mr. Farrar also requested that the Council revisit the salary for the summer mowing position, noting that Mr. House is not a teenager. The current seasonal labor salary is set at \$15.40 per hour. After extensive discussion among Council members, Randy Rankin motioned to hire Denny House and set his part-time summer salary at \$16.00 per hour, with the salary to be distributed equally among the MVH, Water, Sewer, and Gas funds. The motion was seconded by Mike Baehl. Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

UTILITY DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Farrar requested to discuss utilities while he was on the phone. President Rutledge allowed the change in agenda order. Mr. Farrar provided the Council with the HACH Maintenance Agreement prior to the meeting. He indicated we have put a lot of money into the Water Plant and this would allow them to come out and check on our equipment periodically. Mr. Farrar checked with his counterparts throughout the area and it is about 50/50 on who participates with the maintenance agreements. If something goes wrong, it will cost us close to \$3,000.00 to get someone on-site plus parts and travel time. The agreement locks in the \$3,000.00 cost plus parts and allowed us to add an additional piece of equipment to the maintenance agreement. After much discussion, Randy Rankin made a motion to enter into the HACH Maintenance Agreement, Mike Baehl seconded the motion.



Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Clerk-Treasurer Rankin provided the Council the SRF Disbursement Request for LWG for \$5,632.50 from Derick Wiggins, Midwest Engineers. The charges are from the accountant providing an Asset Management update for the Water Filtration plant and Water Tower projects required by the IFA as part of the scope of the project. Motion was made by Mike Baehl to approve the pay request for \$5,632.50 Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Marshal Carter provided the Council with a runs report prior to the meeting, which will be incorporated into the minutes.

Marshal Carter requested Council approval for the FOP Range Agreement and the processing of a \$100.00 payment for the term February 1 2025 – January 31, 2026. Randy Rankin moved to approve the agreement and authorize payment. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Marshal Carter provided a community safety reminder to residents that with improving weather, more children and bicycles will be out and about. He urged all drivers to remain cautious while traveling through town.

Marshal Carter informed the Council that the local school district will be hosting a School Safety Night focused on computer and cyber awareness for parents. The event will take place at the NPHS Auditorium on March 18 at 6:30 PM. No action was required by the Council at this time.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Kolley requested approval to have the fire department trucks serviced and pump tested, beginning with the tanker, followed by the engine. Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the service of the FD trucks, seconded by Randy Rankin.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)



Chief Kolley reported ongoing issues with the brush truck, noting that it is not in good condition. The Council discussed potential future replacements and encouraged the fire department to explore grant opportunities. Chief Kolley also stated that the department prefers not to purchase a diesel truck for the next replacement. Randy Rankin suggested having Gerry's inspect the brush truck and provide an estimate for repairs. No formal action was required at this time.

Chief Kolley addressed concerns to the Council about an adjacent neighbor blocking fire truck and ambulance exits with their service trucks in the morning hours, along with the excessive trash that is lying around the area due to an overflowing dumpster. Marshal Carter indicated he would watch the area. No formal action was required.

Chief Kolley provided the Council with a summary of the live burn training that took place on March 8, 2025. A total of 42 firefighters from various departments participated in the training.

Chief Kolley extended his gratitude to several departments and organizations for their support, including New Harmony Fire Department, Smith Township Volunteer Fire Department, Owensville Montgomery Township Fire Protection District, the tankers for the water shuttle and standby trucks. He also expressed appreciation for the many donations that contributed to the success of the event, including Donut Bank and Old Union Christian Church for providing lunch and parking space. Chief Kolley emphasized that the event was a great success, providing invaluable training for all involved. The Council thanked the Chief and all those who worked to organize and support the training.

STREET DEPARTMENTS

None

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Baehl reported that the Youth Park is now in full swing, and the Water Department has turned the water back on in preparation for the season.



COMMUNITY CENTER

Councilman Randy Rankin informed the Council that he would gather a list of recommendations for hood cleaning companies and check on pricing for the service. He plans to report back with the information in April.

The Council discussed sending letters to non-profit organizations using the Community Center for free, requesting a donation when the building is used for for-profit events. However, no official action was taken on this matter.

Mrs. Bratcher asked permission from the Council to allow the Farmer's Market to use the inside of the Community Center when inclement weather threatens to close the market. The Farmer's Market group will clean as necessary after the market closes when using the inside. The Council had no issues with the arrangement. No official action was taken.

CEMETERY

Mrs. Rankin addressed the Council to inform them that she will be advertising for additional appropriations for various funds in the near future along with a few transfer resolutions. One of the appropriations will be to correct the fund balance of the cemetery. Mrs. Rankin, along with Mr. Rutledge, had been reviewing the budget to determine how cemetery mowing expenses would be covered.

Mrs. Rankin noted that the cemetery fund balance appeared unusually large, particularly since only \$5,000 is received annually from tax distributions. Upon further investigation, Mrs. Rankin discovered that during the June 2022 property tax distribution, funds intended for the Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) and Park funds were mistakenly deposited into the Cemetery fund. This error needs to be corrected.

Mrs. Rankin expressed concern that, based on the issues she has identified and corrected, the next audit could result in significant costs due to the extensive research required to resolve other potential discrepancies. She shared that many towns of similar size are reporting audit costs between \$25,000 and \$30,000, which is concerning given that such an expenditure would be taken directly from the tax distribution. A distribution that is currently in legislation to receive additional cuts.



The town is scheduled for an audit in 2025, and Mrs. Rankin anticipates that spending will be tight this year and possibly next due to the expected costs associated with the audit.

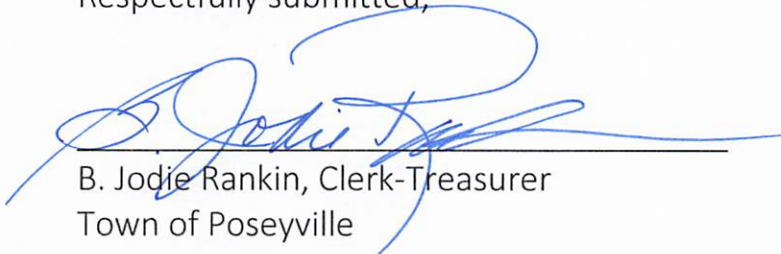
No further action is required at this time.

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled Town Council meeting will be on April 9, 2025, at 5:30 pm in person. Online viewing details will be posted before the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at p.m. 6:57 pm by a motion from Mike Baehl, seconded by Randy Rankin, and approved by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,


B. Jodie Rankin, Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Poseyville

ATTEST:


Justin Rutledge, Council President