

POSEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: May 13, 2025

Video Link

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Justin Rutledge at 5:32 PM.

PRESENT

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

In-person Attendees:

- List retained (5)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the April 8, 2025, meeting was presented and emailed to council members before the meeting for review:

Randy Rankin motioned to approve the April 8, 2025 minutes as presented. Mike Baehl 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 Claims Docket as presented. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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 April 2025 were presented to the council for review via email before and 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

Damion Robison of 118 E Fletchall Street, Poseyville requested to address the Council. Marshal Carter presented that Mr. Robison was in violation of Ordinance 2016-09-14-02 Permitting Plantings on Right of Way. Mr. Robison did remove the tree after he was notified. Mr. Robison requested the Council allow him to plant the tree that would only be 12 feet tall in the right of way where there are not utilities present. Council President addressed Mr. Robison and appreciated him coming in but expressed how the town has used a lot of tax payer money to clean up trees that have fallen from the right of way. Mr. Rutledge was not in favor or allowing plantings in the right of way to avoid such issues in the future along with potential side walk issues but would take the request to a vote for the Council.

Mr. Baehl made a motion to not allow the tree to be planted in the right of way. Mr. Rankin seconded the motion.

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



NEW BUSINESS

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

President Rutledge opened the Public Hearing at 5:46 p.m. regarding the Cumulative Capital Development Fund and the reestablishment of the maximum tax rate. He began the hearing by reading the official Notice to Taxpayers aloud. A member of the public inquired about how the funds would be allocated. It was explained that, historically, the Town has primarily used the Cumulative Capital Development Fund for technology needs and special projects. The allowable uses of the fund are now broad, provided expenditures are properly budgeted and appropriated.

It was further noted that the fund was originally established with a maximum tax rate of \$0.05 per \$100 of assessed value. However, due to the Town not reestablishing the rate annually, it has gradually decreased to \$0.03. The proposed resolution seeks to reestablish the rate at \$0.05. Going forward, the Town is no longer required to pass a resolution each year to maintain the rate.

Clerk-Treasurer Rankin clarified that while the resolution would authorize the maximum rate of \$0.05, the Town could choose to adopt a budget based on a lower rate, such as \$0.03. She also noted that the current balance in the fund would likely be included in future additional appropriations, particularly for technology upgrades related to the end-of-life of Windows 10 on all Town computers.

Hearing no further questions or comments, President Rutledge closed the Public Hearing at 5:57 p.m.

During subsequent Council discussion, President Rutledge acknowledged the potential implications of Senate Bill 1 and expressed concern about raising taxes, particularly in light of recent increases in property tax bills due to higher assessed values. He stated that he was not in favor of increasing the tax burden on residents at this time.



Mr. Rankin and Mr. Baehl both expressed concern about current and future budgetary constraints. After a thorough discussion, the Council agreed that while the Town must be mindful of the impact on taxpayers, reestablishing the fund at the full rate was fiscally prudent.

Mr. Rankin made a motion to reestablish the Cumulative Capital Development Fund at the maximum tax rate of \$0.05. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baehl. Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (no), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

President Rutledge inquired about the status of the Additional Appropriations Request. Clerk-Treasurer Rankin responded that the paperwork was not yet completed. She explained that she is still awaiting an assessment from Lieberman's regarding the Town's technology devices to determine what will be needed for the Windows 11 update scheduled for October 2025. The Town does not currently maintain a comprehensive inventory of its technology assets, which has delayed the process of gathering the necessary information.

Clerk-Treasurer Rankin also sought direction from the Council regarding funding for cemetery mowing. She noted that the cemetery appropriation has been fully expended, and the fund will be depleted following the required transfer of funds back to the EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) fund. At present, some Riverboat Sharing funds are being used to cover mowing expenses. While Riverboat funds are typically designated for park use, they can be allocated for other needs if necessary.

President Rutledge suggested the possibility of placing a donation table at the cemetery during Memorial Day weekend to collect contributions toward maintenance costs. However, he expressed concern about overlapping with the efforts of the Cemetery Board, which also collects donations.

Mrs. Rankin added that, pending a fund balance transfer, some EDIT funds could be appropriated for mowing expenses. The Council discussed several potential funding strategies and agreed on the importance of thinking creatively to address the issue.

No formal action was taken at this time.



Clerk-Treasurer Rankin requested guidance on bills associated with 4450 Community Growth and Innovation due to various anticipated bills outside the normal appropriated funds for utilities. President Rutledge indicated the new agreement with HVG should cover that tonight. President Rutledge felt that some of the costs we will get covered from the agreement allotment of \$10,000.00 shared expenses.

No formal action was taken at this time.

President Rutledge indicated that Mr. Schopmeyer notified us shortly before the meeting that he concurs with the Subdivision Development Agreement Town of Poseyville and Hometown Ventures Group (HVG) as it is written. Mr. Baehl requested the Exhibit A be updated. Mr. Jason Hoehn representing HVG sent the new Exhibit A that will be printed and updated. Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the Subdivision Development Agreement between the Town of Poseyville and Hometown Ventures Group with the updated Exhibit A, seconded by Mike Baehl.

Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (no), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Justin Rutledge and the Council thanked everyone involved for making the agreement get to this point. Everyone is excited about the future of the project.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Revisions to License Door-to-Door Solicitors Ordinance. President Rutledge acknowledged that our hands are tied with state statute on food truck regulations. All Council members agreed they do not like that they come to town with no financial benefit to anyone, including those asking them to be in town unless associated with a festival or event. Municipalities cannot charge food trucks a permit fee. The Council requests citizens and organizations to reach out to local establishments to work out opportunities to utilize their food service.

No further action was required.

Update on Revisions to Weed and Grass Ordinance. Mr. Bender had a few suggestions on updates to the Ordinance. In the third WHEREAS there needs to be



a change in the prior ordinance reference. Also, suggested changes to No. 4 on page 3. The fees should be consistent as follows:

1. The applicable fines:

- **First Violation in Calendar Year: \$50**
- **Second Violation in Calendar Year: \$100**
- **Third and Subsequent Violations in Calendar Year: \$250**

Due to the time of year, the Council expressed a desire to move forward with the adoption of the ordinance at this meeting, incorporating the suggested changes. Marshal Carter requested clarification on procedural steps related to the five-day notice rule. He was advised accordingly.

It was also noted that going forward, certified mail will no longer be used for ordinance enforcement notifications. All service will instead be conducted in person by the Marshal or Deputy. Additionally, a tracking system will be implemented to ensure consistent and transparent documentation of enforcement actions.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-05-13-01, titled "Weed, Grass, Garbage, and Trash Control," with the suggested revisions provided by Mr. Bender. The motion was seconded by Randy Rankin.

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

Randy Rankin then made a motion to suspend the rules requiring a second reading of the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mike Baehl.

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

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2025-05-13-01 with the suggested changes. The motion was seconded by Randy Rankin.

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



The ordinance will be published in the newspaper, as it includes provisions for the assessment of potential fees.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Marshal Carter emailed the Council the run's report before the scheduled meeting.

Marshal Carter said if anyone needs a golf cart inspection to please contact him or the Town Hall. He will schedule a time for the inspection. The year on the sticker is your expiration date.

Marshal Carter reminded everyone that it is mowing season and to remember to blow yard clippings back into your yard. It is not allowed to have them in the street for reasons to protect storm drains.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Kolley asked the council consider three quotes provided for turn-out gear. They will order one set because they just bought gloves and hoods at the FDIC conference. Quotes are as follows:

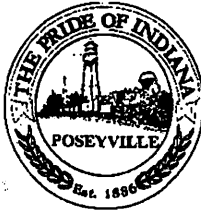
Hoosier Fire Protection	\$3,717.00
Mid America Fire & Safety LLC	\$3,684.57
MacQueen	\$3,805.00

After much discussion about the use of the turn-out gear and durability, Randy Rankin made a motion to use Hoosier Fire Protection for one set of turn-out gear to test the durability of the manufacturing they offer. Seconded by Mike Baehl.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Chief Kolley requested the Council approve estimated maintenance to 7E1 for \$925.00. Randy Rankin made to motion to approve the maintenance, seconded by Mike Baehl.

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

Chief Kolley requested permission to proceed with extraction equipment maintenance. One quote was from John Pace at \$1,000.00 and Genisis for



\$1,500.00. Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the extraction equipment maintenance for \$1,000.00, seconded by Mike Baehl.

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

UTILITY DEPARTMENTS

The Water Usage ordinance draft is not ready but will be forwarded to Council for review upon draft completion.

STREET DEPARTMENTS

None

PARKS DEPARTMENT

None

COMMUNITY CENTER

None

CEMETERY

None

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled Town Council meeting is on June 17, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in person and via live stream.

A motion was made by Mike Baehl, seconded by Randy Rankin.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m. on a motion from Randy Rankin, seconded by Mike Baehl, and approved by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,



B. Jodie Rankin, Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Poseyville

ATTEST:



Justin Rutledge, Council President