POSEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Date of Meeting: October 15, 2025
Audio Link

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Council President Justin Rutledge at 5:38 p.m.

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

In-person Attendees:
- List retained (2)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
Minutes from the September 9, 2025, meeting were presented, having been emailed to Council members in advance for their review.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

CLAIMS DOCKET
The Claims Docket was emailed to Council members prior to the meeting for their review along with a final copy presented at the meeting.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the Claims as presented. Michael Baehl 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.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the Payroll Docket as presented. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

UTILITY ADJUSTMENT DOCKET
The Utility Adjustment Docket was emailed to the council members before the meeting for review

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the Utility Adjustment Docket as presented. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

BANK RECONCILIATION
The Bank Reconciliations for September 2025 were provided to the Council via email prior to the meeting and presented in their entirety during the meeting.

A motion to approve the September 2025 Bank Reconciliations was made by Mike Baehl and seconded by Randy Rankin.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

NEW BUSINESS

Amending Usage, Rates, and Charges on Gas Utility Ordinance 2025-10-15-01 Effective November 1, 2025
President Rutledge presented Ordinance No. 2025-10-15-01, *Amending Usage, Rates, and Charges for the Town of Poseyville's Gas Utility*, for its second reading.
As a reminder, effective November 1, 2025, all reconnect fees will apply per utility. If the office has issued a shut-off notice and utility workers are dispatched to disconnect service, the customer will be charged a $75.00 reconnect fee for each utility.
Hearing no objections, Randy Rankin made a motion to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2025-10-15-01, which was seconded by Mike Baehl.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

2026 Budget Ordinance 2025-10-15-02 for Appropriations and Tax Rates
President Rutledge presented Ordinance No. 2025-10-15-02 the 2026 Budget Ordinance. A public hearing was held on September 9, 2025 for the budget. Hearing no objections, Randy Rankin made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-10-15-02 as presented. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

2026 Salary Ordinance 2025-10-15-03
President Rutledge presented Ordinance 2025-10-15-03 the 2026 Salary Ordinance. Clerk-Treasurer Rankin advised the Council that the proposed rate changes for the employees will be implemented as presented.
The ordinance also includes a health insurance increase for employees from $ 0.01 per pay period to $5.00 per pay period. All current reimbursements in place will carry over to 2026.
Hearing no objections, Mike Baehl made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-15-03. Seconded by Randy Rankin.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

2026 Town Council Meeting Dates
The Council was presented with the proposed Town Council meeting dates for 2026. Clerk-Treasurer Rankin asked whether the Council wished to move the October meeting due to the school's fall break, allowing for potential family vacations with children or grandchildren.
Mrs. Rankin advised that it would be better to schedule the meeting later in the month to ensure all bills are received for payment, noting that many invoices are not typically received until around the 7th–10th of the month. She also informed the Council that there is only one other meeting in 2026 not scheduled on the second Tuesday of the month—September 9, 2026—due to a holiday.
After discussion, the Council agreed to move the October 2026 meeting to October 20, 2026.
Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the 2026 Town Council Meeting Dates with the change to October 20, 2026. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

2026 Payroll Calendar
Clerk-Treasurer Jodie Rankin presented the Council with the 2026 Payroll Calendar. Advising everyone that there are two pay dates that will be early due to a holiday. Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the 2026 Payroll Calendar, seconded by Randy Rankin.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Personnel Policy for the Town of Poseyville
Clerk-Treasurer Jodie Rankin presented an updated Personnel Policy to the Council and Attorney for review before the meeting. It includes a few changes in language due to insurance premiums, recent Hoosier Start changes, and changes in hours.
Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the Personnel Policy for the Town of Poseyville. Seconded by Mike Baehl.

Web Page Hosting Change – IN.gov / Local Government Services

Clerk-Treasurer Jodie Rankin presented to the Council the proposed transition to hosting the Town's website through IN.gov. This is a free service available for websites of the Town's size. Mrs. Rankin explained that the IN.gov platform offers a seamless and user-friendly interface for making updates.

She noted that although the office wants to improve the Town's current website, the existing hosting interface is cumbersome and not user-friendly. The move to IN.gov would allow for easier updates and enhanced accessibility for citizens. It also ensures we meet the new 2027 deadline for ADA compliance. Mrs. Rankin also advised that the transition would be smooth and uninterrupted, with users automatically routed to the new site once it is active.

Motion: Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the new web hosting change to IN.gov. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

Property Casualty Policy Renewal & Cyber Security

Mrs. Rankin advised the Council that the Town's current property and casualty insurance vendor, Selective Insurance, submitted a 20% rate increase for renewal. The Town's insurance agent, Adam Johnson, sought competitive quotes from multiple providers and worked diligently to secure the best possible rate.

After review, the Town will return to Bliss McKnight, a previous insurance vendor, resulting in an estimated savings of approximately $7,000 on the renewal.

Mrs. Rankin further explained that, due to the structure of the umbrella policies, a separate cyber insurance policy is required. To meet the cyber coverage requirements, several services were added to the Town's technology agreement with Lieberman Technologies, including email retention, which had been previously discussed with Mr. Rutledge.

Motion: Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the Bliss McKnight and cybersecurity contracts as presented. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

Lieberman Technology Renewal Changes

The Council was presented with the updates on the recently approved renewal for technology support through Lieberman Technologies. No further action was required.

Principal Life Policy Renewal

No increase for 2026. No further action is required.

National Union Fire Insurance Renewal

No increase for 2026. No further action is required.

Tourism Discussion

We were recently asked to approve an appointment to the Posey County Tourism Board. However, as explained to the individual requestor, the Town currently has an appointment to the Board. It is Chad Williams. Chad has agreed to continue to serve on the Board. Therefore, no appointment is needed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Marshal Carter provided the Council with the monthly run report prior to the scheduled meeting.

Marshal Carter thanked both elementary school principals for allowing him to speak with students in grades 4–6 about street safety, specifically concerning the use of e-bikes, scooters, and bicycles. The students asked several thoughtful questions during the presentation.
Mr. Baehl expressed concern regarding children not always stopping at stop signs. He shared a recent incident in which he nearly had an accident due to a student failing to stop, noting that he was traveling well under the speed limit. Had he been traveling at the speed limit, the outcome could have been more serious.
Mr. Baehl emphasized his continued concern for student safety and requested that Marshal Carter remain vigilant for students not obeying traffic laws.

Mr. Carter informed the Council that Prosecutor Clowers has secured funds to bring Jermaine Galloway "Tall Cop Says Stop" as a speaker. The event will be held at the Posey County Fairgrounds on December 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Parents and citizens are invited to cover ages 10 + about underage drinking and recreational drug use.

UTILITY DEPARTMENTS

CHA Consulting, Inc./Midwestern Engineers Agreement for Inspections of Infrastructure at Farmington Ridge

CHA Consulting, Inc./Midwestern Engineers Agreement – Farmington Ridge
The Council was presented with the Agreement for inspection services for the Farmington Ridge utility infrastructure. Mr. Rutledge explained that Midwestern Engineers are very knowledgeable about our utilities, having been involved in the last several projects. The Councilmen asked Mr. Farrar if he agreed with the inspection services. He informed them that CHA Consulting has an office in Evansville. They will have access to all our utility information through Midwestern Engineers. Having an office in Evansville will lower our mileage expenses for the inspection services. Mr. Farrar thought it was in the best interest of the Town to have the inspection services for our future infrastructure.
The cost of these services will fall under administrative expenses and may be claimed toward the agreement with HVG, up to a maximum of $10,000.00.
Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the CHA Consulting Agreement. Seconded by Randy Rankin.

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

AIM Representative Visit – Future Funding SB1 and Economic Development

Clerk-Treasurer Rankin informed the Council of a recent visit from Clint Lamb, AIM Representative and former Sullivan Mayor. Mr. Lamb expressed interest in speaking with the Council about future funding restrictions and economic development opportunities.

He noted that because AIM meetings are considered educational under law, the Council could meet without issuing an official meeting notice. He also suggested that the Town consider a 15% surcharge on utilities for customers outside town limits or those who choose not to participate in super voluntary annexation. Mr. Lamb emphasized that many towns have historically provided utilities without such surcharges, but with the implementation of TIF districts and limited tax revenue, reviewing this type of ordinance may be necessary. The Council would have the discretion to grandfather in current customers if desired.

Mrs. Rankin will coordinate with the Council to schedule a convenient time to meet with Mr. Lamb. No further action is required at this time.

HVG Payment Request

The Clerk-Treasurer requested that the Council approve the payment request received from HVG after the claim docket was prepared. Payment will need to be made before the next claim docket. The Council approved the payment request, Invoice 101, for $85,929.88. No further action was required.

Clerk-Treasurer Rankin informed the Council of a recent visit from Clint Lamb, AIM Representative (former Sullivan Mayor). Mr. Lamb said he would love to come and speak to the Council about future funding and economical development. He stated because AIM is written into law as educational, the Council could meet without an official meeting notice. It would fall under educational purposes. He also advised the Town to consider a 15% surcharge on all utilities provided to customers outside the town limits or those not wanting to exercise super voluntary annexation. Mr. Lamb stated that for years, towns have been giving away utilities, and now, with all the TIFs in place and potential reduced tax dollars, the town may have to review such an ordinance. The Council would have the ability to grandfather in current customers or not. Mrs. Rankin will work with the Council on a convenient time to meet with Mr. Lamb. No further action is required at this time.

LWG Engagement Letter – Wastewater Rate Study

President Rutledge reviewed the LWG Engagement Letter to the Council. The rate study is in conjuction with the High School Sewer project. Mrs. Rankin received a call from the IFA confirming the costs of the study would be included in the IFA finance package once the project bids were received. We can sign the engagement letter and

advise LWG of the circumstances. Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the LWG Engagement Letter. Seconded by Randy Rankin.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Light Pole – North Entrance to Farmington Ridge

Mrs. Rankin advised the Council that HVG requested the temporary removal of the light pole at the corner of Vine and Oak to allow for the entrance expansion. There was much discussion about the corner being dark without a light present. Mr. Baehl requested that we move the light for safety reasons. The other Councilmen agreed. Mrs. Rankin will reach out to the Duke engineer to see what can be done about moving it down. No further action was required.

<u>STREET DEPARTMENTS</u>

Mr. Farrar provided the Council with quotes for patching holes in town. There is currently a list of 8 holes that need to be repaired.

David Enterprises, Inc. for $5,756.40
Black Arts Paving for $14,700.00

Mr. Farrar asked the Council if they wanted to add the recently cut spots from USDI, replacing some valves for gas service. There was much discussion about the settling of the materials. Mr. Farrar said the utility workers took extra steps to pack down the materials. The Councilmen agreed that we should obtain a quote and complete all the repairs now. Justin Rutledge made a motion to approve David Enterprises, Inc. for $5,756.40, contingent upon the additional quote not exceeding $8,500.00. The motion was seconded by Mike Baehl.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

Community Crossing Matching Grant and ADA Compliance

Clerk-Treasurer Rankin informed the Council that she has been working with Jon Craig from Midwestern Engineers to prepare the CCMG grant application for a crack sealing project in 2026. During this process, it was noted that the Town must address ADA compliance requirements to be eligible for the grant.
Mr. Craig advised that the Town could submit the grant application in the current cycle with the contingency that an ADA plan is being developed. The worst-case scenario would be that the application is not approved, in which case the Town could reapply in July 2026, once further progress has been made on ADA compliance.
To meet requirements, the Town needs:

- An ADA Ordinance
- An ADA complaint process
- An ADA plan (to be submitted prior to October 1 each year)

Mrs. Rankin noted that the Town has already made significant progress by installing ADA-compliant ramps on recent projects. The remaining step is to formalize the

process. CHA Consulting can assist by preparing an inventory and developing a formal ADA plan, for a fee. Mrs. Rankin will seek a quote and explore grant opportunities to fund compliance efforts.
Mrs. Rankin emphasized that the Town will not be able to afford future street projects without CCMG funding, noting that the 80% matching funds provided through the program is a significant benefit for small towns like Poseyville.
No further action is required at this time.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Station Roof Repairs
Mrs. Rankin informed the Council that Motz Construction, the Town's contractor, began work on roof repairs at the fire station. Upon removal of the guttering, it was discovered that the damage spanned the entire back side of the building. As a result, the cost is anticipated to approximately double the original quote. No further action is required.

Fire Department Generator
A recent generator load test revealed a failing component in the Fire Department generator. Due to upcoming weather predictions, Mrs. Rankin approved the replacement part quote of $1,500 to prevent potential damage to the generator. No further action is required.

Medical Supplies Replenishment
Mr. Kolley, unable to attend the meeting, requested approval for medical supplies needed to replenish the fire truck inventory. Mr. Rutledge asked that a few quotes be obtained.
Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the purchases on a contingency basis not to exceed $212.80. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

PARKS DEPARTMENT

None

COMMUNITY CENTER

Conference Room

Mr. Rutledge advised the Council that he has been coordinating with the Robb Township Trustee regarding meeting locations. Since the Township provides 50% support of set expenses for the fire department, Mr. Rutledge asked if the Council would approve allowing the Township to use the Community Center Conference Room at no cost for official Township meetings.

Mr. Carter, Township Trustee, requested access to the Community Center calendar to identify potential dates for meetings. Mr. Rutledge stated that he will prepare a letter for Council approval at the next meeting, ensuring the arrangement is documented for current and future Councils. No further action required.

Flooring
Mrs. Rankin presented a quote from Hasgoe, Inc. in the amount of $5,439.20 for stripping and polishing the floors at the Community Center. She noted that while the cost is significant, there is visible damage in the back hallway, likely caused during a rental event when an item was dragged, resulting in scratches that became more noticeable after Autumnfest due to ground-in dirt.
Hasgoe advised that they cannot guarantee complete removal of the scratches, as they appear to extend into the tile surface. Upon approval, Mrs. Rankin will schedule the work—tentatively the week of the 20th—during which the Community Center will be closed for activities.
Once the floors have been refinished, Sinnett Supply will provide a tutorial and setup for the floor buffer to help maintain the floors in good condition moving forward.
A motion to approve the Hasgoe quote of $5,439.20 for stripping and polishing was made by Mike Baehl and seconded by Randy Rankin.
Roll Call Vote: Justin Rutledge (yes), Mike Baehl (yes), Randy Rankin (yes)

CEMETERY
None

NEXT MEETING:
The next scheduled Town Council meeting is on November 12, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in person and via live stream.

A motion was made to hold the next meeting and adjourn at 6:37 p.m. on a motion from Mike Baehl, seconded by Randy Rankin, and approved by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jodie Rankin, Clerk-Treasurer

ATTEST:

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Justin Rutledge, Council President