POSEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Date of Meeting: November 10, 2026

Link

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

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

In-person Attendees:

- List retained (4)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the October 20, 2026 regular meeting were presented and 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)

Minutes from the October 20, 2026 special meeting were presented and 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)

CLAIMS DOCKET

Clerk-Treasurer, Jodie Rankin, provided the claim docket to the council prior to the meeting.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the Claim Docket as presented. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

PAYROLL DOCKET

The Payroll Docket was presented and emailed to Council members in advance for their 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)

BANK RECONCILIATION

The October Bank Reconciliation was presented to Council members in advance for their review and available at the meeting.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the Reconciliation as presented. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 2026-10-20-01 Water Service Regulations Ordinance Second Reading

President Rutledge presented Ordinance No. 2026-10-20-01 for second reading.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2026-10-20-01, Water Service Regulations, on second reading. Justin Rutledge seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance No. 2026-10-20-02 Amending Usage, Rates, and Charges of the Town of Poseyville, Indiana's Gas Utility -– Distribution Rate Change Only

President Rutledge presented Ordinance No. 2026-10-20-02 for second reading.

Randy Rankin made a motion to pass the second reading of Ordinance No. 2026-10-20-02 Amending Usage, Rates, and Charges of the Town of Poseyville, Indiana's Gas Utility. Justin Rutledge seconded the motion.

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

Uniform Development Ordinance – Posey County

Attorney William Bender was in attendance to present proposed amendments to the Posey County Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) on behalf of the Posey County Area Plan Commission (APC). Joe Marvel, APC President, was also present to answer questions and provide additional clarification and detailed comments.

Mr. Bender explained that the amendments presented were primarily intended to address basic language and wording clean-up to the original amendments approved by the APC.

The Council agreed to consider the ordinances collectively and take action on them as a group, with the exception of two ordinances that will be presented for consideration at a later date, following approval by the Posey County Commissioners.

Attorney Bender presented the following ordinances for Council consideration. Discussion was held regarding each ordinance, with Mr. Marvel providing clarification and additional information as requested:

Ordinance No. 2026-11-10-03, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2(B)(4) Of The Posey County Uniform Development Ordinance Regarding Renewable Energy Generation System, Secs-3 (Tier 3 Solar).

Ordinance No. 2026-11-10-04, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2(B)(10)(C) Of The Posey County Uniform Development Ordinance Regarding Permitted Uses For Small Contractor Facility In C-2 And C-3 Districts.

Ordinance No. 2026-11-10-05, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3(B)-Table 10 of The Posey County Uniform Development Ordinance Regarding Permitted Uses For Ground Mounted Signs in I-1 and I-2 Districts.

Ordinance No. 2026-11-10-06, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10-Definitions of The Posey County Uniform Development Ordinance Regarding Definition of Lot Coverage.

Ordinance No. 2026-11-10-07, An Ordinance Amending The Posey County Uniform Development Ordinance Regarding Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Following the discussion Mike Baehl made a motion to approve all five ordinances as presented on first reading. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

President Rutledge asked the Council to suspend the second reading rule. Randy Rankin made a motion to suspend the second reading rules. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve all five ordinances as presented on second reading. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

2027 Salary Ordinance 2026-11-10-01

Clerk-Treasurer Rankin provided the 2027 Salary Ordinance to the Council prior to the meeting for review.

Mike Baehl made a motion to pass the 2027 Salary Ordinance as presented on first reading. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

President Rutledge asked the Council to suspend the second reading rule. Mike Baehl made a motion to suspend the second reading rules. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

Mike Baehl made a motion to pass the 2027 Ordinance as presented for second reading. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

Resolution 2026-11-10-02 INPRS Treatment of Mandatory Member Contributions State Form 55544.

President Rutledge presented the proposed changes to employee retirement benefits, effective January 1, 2027. He explained that providing this additional retirement benefit for Town employees had been a goal of both himself and Mrs. Rankin for the past couple of years. After careful consideration and budgeting, the Town is now in a position to make this benefit possible.

Under the proposed resolution, the Town will assume the employees' 3% employee contribution to PERF (Public Employees' Retirement Fund), providing an additional benefit to eligible employees without requiring them to pay that portion of their retirement contribution.

President Rutledge expressed his appreciation to Jodie Rankin for her time, effort, and work in researching, planning, and budgeting to make this benefit a viable option for the Town and its employees.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-11-10-02. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

Anthem Health & Vision Renewal & Adoption Agreement for Health Reimbursement Arrangement.

President Rutledge explained that he and Jodie Rankin had met with the Town's insurance representative after receiving notice of a 22% increase in monthly health insurance premiums. Several plan options were reviewed, and a new plan was selected with the goal of keeping the Town's insurance costs manageable while maintaining the existing level of coverage for employee benefits and prescription medications.

President Rutledge explained that considerable effort was made to avoid reducing existing coverage. However, to help offset the increased insurance costs and keep premiums at approximately their current levels, a deductible was introduced for both employee-only and family coverage.

As part of the insurance renewal process, it was also recognized that the Town had budgeted funds to accommodate additional insurance-related expenses. Therefore, the recommendation was made to establish a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA), allowing the Town to reimburse eligible employees up to $2,500 annually for qualifying deductible expenses upon submission of appropriate documentation.

Randy Rankin made a motion to adopt the Health Reimbursement Arrangement Agreement. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

2027 Town Council Meeting Dates, Payroll & Holiday Calendars

The Clerk-Treasurer presented the 2027 Town Council meeting schedule, which was set for the second Tuesday of each month regardless of holidays or the school calendar. Mrs. Rankin advised the Council that this schedule may result in the claims docket not being included in the meeting packet and instead being distributed by email on the day of the meeting due to delays in receiving bills through the mail. No further action was taken.

The 2027 Holiday Calendar was presented to the Council. No further action was taken.

Mrs. Rankin advised the Council that she had adjusted the 2027 payroll schedule to allow a minimum of four business days for payroll processing. This change was also recommended by the auditors to provide adequate time for a secondary review prior to each pay date. The revised payroll schedule effectively reduces the processing period by one day during five pays starting with the second pay in 2027. No further action was taken.

Revised Personnel Policy for the Town of Poseyville

Mrs. Rankin presented the Council with an updated Personnel Policy. The revisions incorporate the newly adopted retirement benefit and remove specific date-driven information that is already addressed in the annual Salary Ordinance, which is required by state statute to be adopted each year. The updated policy now references various details contained in the Salary Ordinance "as represented in the annually adopted Salary Ordinance."

Mike Baehl made a motion to adopt the revised Personnel Policy for the Town of Poseyville. Randy Rankin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

Property Casualty Policy Renewal & Cyber Security

Mrs. Rankin presented the Council with the Town's insurance renewal information. The Property and Casualty policy renewal reflected approximately a 4% increase, while the Cyber Security policy increased by $3.13. Coverage is provided through Bliss McKnight, with Agent Adam Johnson of McGowan Insurance. Mrs. Rankin advised that, according to the Town's insurance agent, the Town received one of the lowest premium increases in the industry, as many municipalities and organizations experienced double-digit increases.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the insurance renewals. Seconded by Randy Rankin.

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

Lieberman Technology Renewal

There is a 5% increase in the monthly technology support fee for Lieberman. The contract is auto renewable unless we wish to terminate the contract. No further action was required.

Copier Purchase

Mrs. Rankin advised the Council that the office copier had reached the end of its service life and replacement cycle. She obtained quotes from Altstadt's, the Town's current copier service provider. The account representative provided two options for consideration.

The first quote was for a black-and-white copier at a cost of $3,995.00. The annual full-service maintenance agreement includes up to 1,500 copies per month.

The second quote was for a color copier at a cost of $4,195.00. The annual full-service maintenance agreement includes up to 1,800 black-and-white copies per month and 250 color copies per month.

Mrs. Rankin recommended the purchase of the color copier. She advised that the Town's existing color inkjet printer would be declared surplus due to its excessive operating costs

and low page yield. The proposed copier is a multifunction device that provides printing, scanning, and copying capabilities.

Lease options were also provided for both machines; however, the total lease cost would be approximately three times the purchase price. Therefore, leasing was not considered a cost-effective option for the Town at this time.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the purchase of the color copier from Altstadt's. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Call Report

Marshal Reese submitted the Monthly Call Report to the Council prior to the meeting. The report is incorporated into these minutes by reference. Marshal Reese explained that the report reflects the calls and incidents directly handled by him and his department. He noted an addition of an ordinance violation that was tagged and resolved before a fine was assessed. No action was required.

Sonitrol Building Keypad Request

Mrs. Rankin presented a request to install an access control keypad at the Police Department building to eliminate the need to purchase and manage key fobs for outside law enforcement agencies. The proposed system would allow each participating agency to have its own access code, enabling officers to utilize the facility as needed. The change would reduce the administrative burden associated with tracking key fobs for organizations over which the Town has no personnel oversight regarding hiring and separations. Additionally, the keypad system would expand access to more officers while reducing the overall cost of providing this benefit.

A quote was received from Sonitrol in the amount of $894.99 for the installation of the keypad, along with a nominal increase to the monthly monitoring fee.

During discussion, it was noted that the existing door does not properly unlock from the inside and requires a key to exit. Councilman Rankin expressed concerns that this condition may not comply with fire safety requirements. The Council directed the Clerk-Treasurer to obtain an estimate from Sonitrol to correct the door issue. After discussion, the Council agreed that the combined cost of the keypad installation and door repairs should not exceed $2,000.00.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the Sonitrol quote and authorize the necessary door repairs, with the total cost for both projects not to exceed $2,000.00. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

Body Camera

President Rutledge advised the Council that he and Marshal Reese had been working with a representative from Axon Enterprise, Inc. to acquire body cameras for the Town Marshal's Department. The proposal includes one body camera for the Marshal and an additional camera to be shared among deputy marshals. The cameras include a bilingual translation feature designed to assist officers when interacting with individuals who do not speak English.

After extensive research and negotiations, Axon Enterprise, Inc. provided a five-year agreement that includes the body cameras, software, and training services at a total cost of $12,305.60. The agreement will be billed annually at $2,461.12 per year for five years. Funding for the purchase will be paid from the Town's Public Safety Fund.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the purchase of the body cameras and authorize entering into the agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

Gun Purchase

President Justin Rutledge and Marshal Marshall Reese discussed the need to replace several firearms currently used by the Marshal's Department due to manufacturing-related issues. A representative from ACME Sports, Inc. presented alternative options and explained the company's firearm evaluation program, which allows officers to test various models to determine the best fit for each individual officer.

The total cost to purchase the replacement firearms is $2,548.00.

Randy Rankin made a motion to approve the purchase of replacement firearms for the Marshal's Department. Mike Baehl seconded the motion.

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Jason Kolley, Fire Chief, submitted his requests to the Council prior to the meeting.

The 2026 Volunteer Fire Department Personnel Compensation List was presented for the annual clothing allowance payment. The list included eleven volunteer firefighters.

Due to the current number of volunteer firefighters and the availability of funds within the department's budget, the Council discussed increasing the allowance as a means of recognizing the volunteers' dedication and helping improve firefighter retention. The Council agreed to provide an additional $100.00 clothing allowance to each eligible participant.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the 2026 Volunteer Fire Department Personnel Compensation List with the addition of $100.00 per participant. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

Verification Services – Request to Purchase

A quote to obtain MSA for $579.00 was submitted.

Mike Baehl made a motion to approve the purchase. Randy Rankin seconded the motion.

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

UTILITIES AND STREET DEPARTMENTS

Potential Right-of-Way or Encroachment

Mr. Farrar, Utility Manager, advised the Council that a property owner residing adjacent to the Town's water tower appears to be encroaching upon the water tower property. He also noted that a tree located near the property line should be trimmed. Mr. Bender will research whether a survey of the property has previously been completed and determine what records may be available. No further action was taken.

St. Francis Church School Building

Mr. Farrar reported that the water meter at the St. Francis Church School Building has been replaced. The account had been estimated for several years, and installation of the new meter will assist the Town in improving the accuracy of its water loss audit. He further advised that this was the last estimated water account within the Town and that all issued water meters are now functioning properly.

Street Patching

Mr. Farrar advised the Council that Jerry David has been contacted to provide an estimate for patching street defects and potholes this fall. He anticipates receiving the estimates in the near future. No further action was required.

Utility Rates and Operational Costs

Mr. Farrar also discussed current equipment and maintenance costs, noting the significant increases in pricing compared to five years ago. He reminded the Council of the importance of periodically reviewing utility rates to keep pace with inflation and rising operating expenses. While rate adjustments are often unpopular, he emphasized that such reviews are necessary to ensure the Town remains a financially stable and effective utility provider. No further action was taken.

Community Cross Matching Grant Award Recipient

Mrs. Rankin advised the Council that the Governor and INDOT had announced the Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) award recipients, and the Town of Poseyville was awarded $835,112.40. The Town's required local match is $208,778.10, resulting in a total project cost of $1,043,890.50.

Mrs. Rankin reported that CHA Consulting, Inc. would provide the bid specifications at the December 8 meeting and would have a representative present to review the project. The Notice to Advertise for Bids will be published on December 23 and December 30. Bids are scheduled to be opened at the January 12 meeting, with all required documentation due to INDOT by January 28.

The Council was reminded that Town streets are evaluated and rated on a regular basis, and street selections for paving projects are based upon those ratings as well as consideration of future infrastructure improvements. Streets that may require future water main replacement projects were intentionally excluded to avoid damage to newly paved roadways and to maximize the value of the Town's investment.

No further action was required.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY CENTER

CEMETERY

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Poseyville Town Council will be held on December 8, 2026 with a time change of 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be in person and via livestream on the Town's YouTube channel.

A motion was made by Randy Rankin to schedule the next meeting and adjourn the current meeting at 6:56 p.m. Mike Baehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

_____

Jodie Rankin, Clerk-Treasurer

ATTEST:

_____

Justin Rutledge, President