

TOWN OF FERDINAND

REGULAR MEETING

May 16, 2023

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 in the Ferdinand Town Hall. Present were Council President, Ken Sicard; Vice-President, Debbie Johnson; Council Member, Ron Weyer; Attorney, Sharon Bohnenkemper and Clerk-Treasurer, Tamara Miller.

Debbie moved to approve the Minutes of the April 11, 2023 Council Meeting. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Boy Scout Max Paulin, and his father, Travis Paulin were in attendance.

Department reports (attached) were distributed to the Council prior to the meeting.

Kerri Blessinger, Police Chief, requested \$11,000 to outfit the 2023 Dodge Durango. Ron moved to approve the request. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Blessinger requested \$2,500 to complete the outfitting the 2019 Ford Edge. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Todd Fischer, Electric Superintendent, requested permission to include additional transformers for the KV upgrade to the purchase order at a cost of \$106,342.50. The transformers will be delivered over several months. Ron moved to approve the request. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ben Brinkman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, stated after hydrant flushing is complete, he would like permission to contract M.E. Simpson to locate a water leak at a cost of \$2,450 per day for up to 5 days for a total cost of \$12,250. Debbie moved to approve. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Brinkman requested permission for Austin Ryan to attend the four-week CDL class through Ivy Tech at the 4H Fairgrounds on May 22 - June 16, 2023, at a cost of \$4,500. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Brinkman requested permission to contact National Water Service to install non-potable pumps at a cost of \$36,122.22. Non-potable water is used for cleaning at the plant and to water the park ballfields. Ron moved to approve the request. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Brinkman requested the purchase of new lab equipment for daily lab samples from IDEXX labs at a cost of \$6,325. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 6:45 PM a hearing was held for the Town Council to consider the request of the petitioner, Pfaff Properties and Emendro Philippe, requesting that certain lands within the jurisdictional area of the Town of Ferdinand, 835 Main St. from (B-2) Commercial to Multi-family. The Plan Commission of the Town of Ferdinand did, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023, hold a public hearing to consider the adoption of the herein amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and were considered and certified with a favorable recommendation by the Plan Commission 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining and 2 absent. The Council gave reasonable regard to the comprehensive plans, the current conditions and character of current structures and uses in each district, the most desirable use for which the land in each district is adapted, the conservation of property values throughout the jurisdiction and responsible development and growth. Ron moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-06, An Ordinance Rezoning Certain Land within the Jurisdiction of the Town of Ferdinand, at the meeting it was introduced. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

James stated that tomorrow, he and Sicard will have a Zoom meeting with IOT regarding the website risk assessment. Sicard stated the Town will be working on the cyber security plan.

Brinkman stated we are waiting on IDEM for the non-potable permit renewal.

The following residents of Georgia Street were in attendance: Mark Oser, Scott and Megan Bateman, and Jon Marshall. Mark Oser and Scott Bateman stated, "We are here to listen". Bateman stated there is paving on 3<sup>rd</sup> then it stops. Marshal stated he is curious why there is a new white street sign (which indicates a privately-maintained street) and the previous sign was green (which indicates a Town maintained street) with no notice to the residents. Marshall asked for clarification of the white vs. green street sign. Marshal said they bought property in town and take advantage of our street being maintained and eventually developed. Tom Lueken, Street Superintendent, explained that the street department was fixing faded signs and Georgia Street has a new white street sign, indicating it is an unimproved street and is not on the Town inventory list registered with the State. The sign can be changed to green; it won't change the "non-improved" status or the fact it is not in the Town inventory with the State. The Town has provided millings for the unimproved Georgia Street and other non-improved streets in Town. Lueken gave a recap of the past events. When the Oser curb was approved, the Town paid for a survey to have Georgia Street laid out. The curb was to identify the property only, not for street pavement. More recently, Neil Weyer installed curb to identify his property. Jerome Boeckman requested curb on the Beckman side (north) of 3<sup>rd</sup> street, so he could identify and sell properties. Normally the land owner pays for the storm drainage, the town paid to install storm drainage on the north side of 3<sup>rd</sup> to help slow drainage for the people on

the north side. 2/27/2018, Jerome Boeckman requested 410 feet curb and gutter on the west side of Georgia Street, so the Town paid for a survey, then, Jerome Boeckman said he did not want to install curb because the property was now sold. Bateman requested curb and gutter only 100 feet Georgia Street, Jerome only wanted high back and they will cut in for driveways at a later date. Oser said he has never asked for asphalt because there is less traffic on the unimproved street. Oser asked, when the Henry Wagner addition was added, why were other streets added to the inventory, but not Georgia Street. No one in attendance had that information. There are portions of various streets throughout town that are not in the Town's inventory. Typically, the developer is responsible for getting the street up to the Town specifications including curb and gutter, before it is accepted into the Town inventory. Marshall stated now that new homes have been built on Georgia Street bringing more tax dollars into the town, he would like a paved road. Bateman stated he is looking for a maintained road. Georgia Street has not been accepted into the town inventory, as it is not up to the specifications required by the Town. The street department periodically spreads rock on the road as a courtesy to the residents. The Town also provides snow removal and regular trash pick-up on Georgia Street and keeps maintained for emergency vehicles. Lueken will notify the installer regarding the residents who have completed the curb and gutter application. The Town will pay for the survey needed for the curb and gutter installation and the residents will reimburse the Town for the cost of the curb and gutter installation. The owner of the property at 5<sup>th</sup> and Georgia will be affected if the road is laid out as platted. Sicard stated, this is a good example of the developer not doing their job. This group is interested in curb and gutter. This is where we need to get with Tom and set up a plan. As for eventually getting it paved, that is another subject to be addressed. Marshall applied for curb and gutter in the fall of 2022 and thought his gutter would be done in 2022. Lueken explained, the contractor comes on his schedule when there are multiple projects in Town. Lueken and the Georgia Street residents will get together to put together a plan for curb and gutter. The Town will need to do an updated survey now that there is a commitment from the residents to follow through with the curb and gutter install. Marshall would like to move forward, regardless of what happened in the past, to get to finish their home and expedite the process, if we can. Ron added, the first step is to get the survey, curb and gutter installed. Oser stated, that this is not new development, it never was. It is platted, the lots were sold, at the time, there were no requirements. Krampe addition was developed with a lot of expense to the Town. At that time gravel roads were accepted by the Town. This is not the developer's mistake. Some owners asked for curb, some did not, this was not

new development. This is different. Lueken will work with the residents to complete the curb and gutter requested. The Town will not be paving the road, but will continue to maintain it as in the past.

The bids for the MVH Ton Truck were opened:

**Bob Luegers Buick**

\$50,625 2024 GMC

\$24,367 Dump Bed

\$74,992 Total

**Uebelhor and Sons**

\$48,225 2024 Chevy 3500 Reg Cab 4WD

\$27,325 Meyer Uplift

\$1.50 Tires Tax

All bid GM assist. will go to the Town

\$75,551.50 Total

Ron moved to take the bids under advisement, with authority to Tom Lueken to make a selection and move forward. If the low bid is not accepted, Council needs documentation of the reasoning. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The bids for the Fire Department Half Ton 4WD Pick-Up Truck were opened:

**John Jones**

\$65,265 2023 Silverado w/ Cap

\$(9,162) Municipal Discount

\$56,103 Total

**Bob Luegers Buick**

\$61,300 2023 GMC 1500 4WD

\$(6,900) Municipal Discount

\$ 6,500 Topper

\$60,900 Total

Ken moved to take the bids under advisement, with authority to John Hoppenjans to make a selection and move forward. If the low bid is not accepted, Council needs documentation of the reasoning. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ken moved that the Town Council appoint Jenny Etter to the open position on the Board of Zoning Appeals, with a term ending December 31, 2023. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Calcar has completed the paving of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, and the close-out process for CCMG 2021-2 and CCMG 2022-1 will be submitted to INDOT by Miller.

CCMG 2022-2 bid was awarded to Knies Construction. Bohnenkemper stated we are still working on the easements because the documents changed reducing the size of the easements needed.

CCMG 2023-1 award to the Town was \$282,140.30. Ron moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-

07, an Ordinance authorizing Ken Sicard, Town Council President, to sign the INDOT LPA Contracts and CCMG Agreements, at the meeting it was introduced. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Bohnenkemper requested permission to advertise for bids for the CCMG 2023-01 road projects with the bid opening at the Regular Town Council meeting on June 20, 2023, at 7 PM. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Bohnenkemper stated the owner of 1305 Main Street has responded to the letter from the Town. The owner has secured the doors and boarded up the broken windows and is willing to make improvements for restoration. The Town will continue to monitor the progress.

Lueken is working with the EMS to schedule the work to be done by Seufert on the 202 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street building roof and window project.

The bids were opened for the Police Station exterior painting project.

**Craig and Sons Painting**

\$12,988

**Laake Contracting**

\$9,075

Sicard moved to take the bids under advisement, with authority to Tom Lueken to make a selection and move forward. If the low bid is not accepted, Council needs documentation of the reasoning. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Miller stated the ARPA Additional Appropriation is not needed at this time, but may be necessary before year-end.

Ken stated there is nothing new to add regarding the Local Safety Tax Initiative.

Miller stated the town is experiencing success using the TRECS program to collect delinquent accounts receivables. TRECS collections were \$2,280 out of the \$6,639 requested. We hang about 40 disconnect notices and normally disconnect two or fewer customers.

Miller stated the credit limit with GAB has been met with the department head's existing credit cards. At this time, the credit card limits seem to be sufficient and will not be increased at this time.

Debbie moved to approve Miller's request to attend the ILMCT Training in Ft. Wayne on June 25-29, 2023 at a cost of \$450, hotel, travel and meals. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie reported that, after further research, the Ferdinand APP does not seem to be a feasible option. She suggested the Town could utilize existing social media options to communicate with residents and promote the Town. The Town will not pursue the APP at this time.

Sicard stated the Council has received a template for Critical Incident Support Management (CISM). The Council supports the plan and Sicard requested the plan be adapted to include all employees of the Town. Hoppenjans stated the fire department utilizes the hospital for support and Blessinger added she can follow up with the hospital to document additional support options in the plan.

The Council is reviewing the Electric Rate Study prepared by LWG. The last electric rate increase was in 2019.

Bohnenkemper stated the Treasurer's office recently received an invoice for \$28,346 from Kerstiens for the 2022 annual revenue allowance for the Hidden Meadows subdivision's new taps. The invoice was to be submitted to the Town by January 15, 2023. Bohnenkemper explained, according to the contract, the Council can choose whether or not to pay the invoice. The Council could choose to pay the invoice in exchange for substitute security for a performance bond for \$155,000 to finish out the remaining subdivision streets. The original letter of credit for \$781,750 has expired. Ron moved to approve payment of the \$28,346 invoice, the check will be held by Bohnenkemper until a \$155,000 cashier's check or a letter of credit is received from Kerstiens. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-08, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 9.08 of the Ferdinand Municipal Code Regarding Designated Stop Streets, at the meeting it was introduced. The ordinance adds Mississippi Street at 162 (Main) at the exit of Town Hall as a stop street. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Bohnenkemper stated that the Dollar General dry detention basin has turned into a wet detention basin. She followed up with DG and stated this week it appears DG is correcting the basin. Lueken added DG is also addressing the vegetation and the basin appears to be in compliance.

Bohnenkemper presented the Council with a Sub-License Agreement with Synenergy Partners, LLC, the supplier of bulk gasoline and diesel on a non-contractual basis, for a fuel management system. The existing fuel card reader, which produces reports showing usage by department/user, has not been functioning consistently. Debbie moved to approve Bohnenkemper sending the agreement to Synenergy and make changes as needed. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ferdinand closed on the 330 Maryland property on January 24, 2022, but the assessment date is January 1, 2022, so a property tax bill was generated and sent to the Town. Bohnenkemper

explained there is a statutory procedure to remove property tax from property owned by a municipality. Ron moved to allow Bohnenkemper to follow the statutory procedure to request the removal of property tax. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie will contact Universal Design to help with the planning phase of the three sidewalk projects in Town.

Lueken will send two employees, Tobin and Rahman, to the Paser training to be held in Huntingburg on June 20, 2023.

IPEP will provide flagger training on May 24, 2023 from 8 AM-noon at the Mobil Room and do a walk-through of the Town properties.

Sicard recognized the police department for Law Enforcement Week.

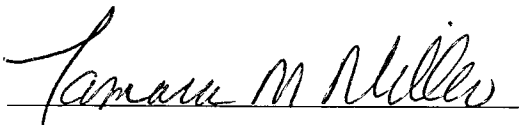
Ron moved to pay regular claims and the special claim (Kerstiens check). Debbie seconded. Motioned carried 3-0.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

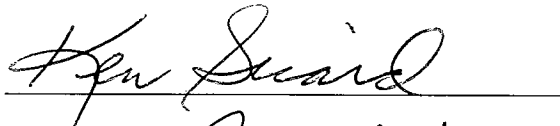
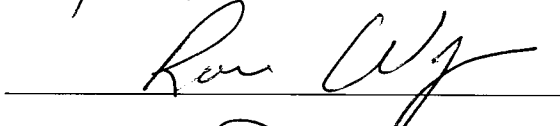
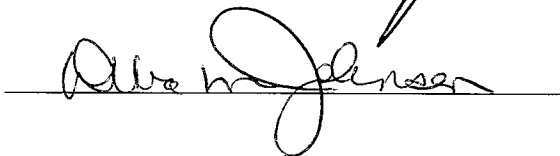
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	June 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	May 24, 2023 at 6:30PM
Plan Commission	Wednesday	May 24, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Park Board	Wednesday	June 14, 2023 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Comm.	Monday	July 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Town Council Budget Meeting	Tuesday	July 25, 2023 at 6:00 AM
Town Council Budget Hearing	Tuesday	August 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Town Council Budget Adoption	Thursday	September 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM

As there was no further business to discuss, Debbie moved to adjourn. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

ATTEST:

  
Clerk-Treasurer

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL

*Ferdinand* Est. 1905

## *Police Department*

243 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street Ferdinand, Indiana 47532

Phone: 812-367-1806 / Fax: 812-998-2094

*Chief of Police: Kerri Blessinger*

*Assistant Chief: Christian Gogel*



1. I am happy to report that the SD-7 radios are up and running beautifully. All equipment has been purchased, issued, and documented. There have not been any problems reported.
2. This month the dog kennels were completely emptied, scrubbed, and sanitized. We also purchased two new doghouses for them. The food for the dogs at the kennels as well as additional bowls are being kept at the Police Department. All Officers were provided leashes to keep in their vehicles.
3. On April 12, 2023, I attended the Ferdinand Merchants Meeting. It was a great opportunity to meet several business owners as well as be informed of the upcoming events in Ferdinand.
4. On April 26, 2023, I attended a Crisis Intervention Team meeting held at the Jasper Library. The meeting was the first of several that will work to develop a strategy and curriculum to assist local service providers with mental health and addiction issues in Dubois County.
5. April 29, 2023, I participated in the LEPC and EMA exercise. It was held at the Jasper Water Plant and was a reenactment drill of a chemical spill. It was very informative and allowed all areas of service to identify strengths and weaknesses.
6. April 17-21st I attended and successfully completed the Indiana Chiefs School. This training is mandated by the State of Indiana. The training was helpful in identifying several of the pressing issues for law enforcement as well as liability issues. It was a much-filled week and generated several ideas.
7. The Ferdinand Police Department was awarded the grant for school safety in the amount of \$3,300.00. Captain Rob Randle completed the grant application. These funds are utilized to provide additional enforcement, specifically school bus arm safety. We are also currently in the process for applying for an additional seat belt grant.
8. The Ferdinand Police Department received an approximately \$900.00 check from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. I applied for these funds, as departments were eligible for the reimbursement due to the loss of funding for Gun Permits. This money will be used for continuing education and training for Officers.
9. We recently picked up the 2023 Dodge Durango that was ordered last year. The approximate cost for up fitting of the vehicle (lights, computer equipment, radar, etc.) is approximately \$11,000. This price includes the equipment itself as well as the installation. This was an increase from previous years and expected cost due to the rising costs and wait times for equipment.



Ferdinand Est. 1905

Police Department

243 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street Ferdinand, Indiana 47532

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10. I also received an approximate quote of \$2,500.00 for the installation of the 2019 Ford Edge equipment. The equipment was previously approved, purchased, and ordered in October of 2022 and was finally received.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kerri Blessinger

Chief of Police

# Ferdinand Police Department

243 W 10th Street, Ferdinand Indiana 47532

Phone: 812-482-9150 / Fax: 812-998-2094

Chief of Police: Kerri Blessinger

Assistant Chief: Christian Gogel

Total Calls For Service		209		
<b>Calls For Service Report</b> <b>April 2023</b>				
				
Complaint Type		Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm	0	Missing Person Adult/Child	0	
Animal Complaint	3	Parking Violation	1	
Assist Other Agency	15	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	0	
Battery/ Assault	0	Protective/Restraining Order	1	
Burglary (attempted)	0	Prowler (report of)	0	
Burning Complaint	0	Report to Station	1	
Child Abuse/Neglect	0	Return Messages	33	
Civil Matter /Dispute	0	State Dispatch	7	
Citizen Assist	4	Scam	0	
Debris in Roadway	3	Security Check	3	
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle	6	Suicide/or a Suicidal Person	1	
Disturbance/Disorderly Person	2	Suspicious Person/Vehicle	4	
Drug Complaint	0	Theft	1	
Domestic Problem	1	Traffic Control	1	
Escort	2	Traffic Warnings	44	
Eviction	0	Traffic Citations	0	
Extra Patrol	16	Trespassing	0	
Fight	0	Threats/ Intimidation	0	
Finger Printing	0	Vandalism	0	
Fire	0	Vehicle Accident	7	
General Information	11	Vehicle Accident Leaving the Scene	0	
Gun Permit	0	Vehicle Check	5	
Harassment	1	Vehicle Lock Out	0	
Hazardous/ Not Chemical	1	Warrant	0	
Investigation	5	Weather Related Problems	0	
Identity Theft	0	Welfare Check	4	
Illegal Dumping	0	911 false calls	11	
Intoxicated Person	1			
Juvenile Incurrigible/Runaway	0			
Lines/ Poles Down	0			
Lost/ Stolen License Plate	0			
Mental Subject	0			



# FERDINAND FIRE DEPT.

221 E. Fourth St. P.O. Box 31

Ferdinand, IN 47532

## 2023 Summary of Incidents

	<b>FIRE</b>	<b>EMR</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>MAY</b>				
<b>JUNE</b>				
<b>JULY</b>				
<b>AUGUST</b>				
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
<b>DECEMBER</b>				

## **Electric Department Report**

May 16, 2023

- No unplanned outages
- Pole change outs east side of Main Street area
- Main Street lighting from 13<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets
- Permission to purchase Transformers for the 4kv upgrade and replace Holiday Foods setting with pad mount for \$106,342.50. Cost spread out over the next year.



Town of Ferdinand  
2065 Main Street  
FERDINAND, IN 47532-0007  
Phone 812-367-2280  
Fax 812-367-1303  
E-mail: [twnofferdinand@psci.net](mailto:twnofferdinand@psci.net)  
[www.ferdinandindiana.org](http://www.ferdinandindiana.org)

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# Town Council Meeting

May 16, 2023

Put pavement on the rock area where we widened the approach to Pine Dr. off of State Road 162.

Working when we can on our weed control efforts.

Finished removing some dead and wind damaged trees that could be a danger to people along the trail at the Old Town lake and along the trail at the 18th street Park.

Dredge out the ditch along the north side of 22nd Street.

Repair some holes around storm pipe and storm Inlets

*Visit us for a day. Join us for a lifetime.*

KENNETH SICARD, President  
TAMARA M. MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Member  
SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member  
CHRIS JAMES, Town Manager



Town of Ferdinand  
2065 Main Street  
PO Box 7  
FERDINAND, IN 47532-0007  
Phone 812-367-2280  
Fax 812-367-1303  
[townofferdinand@psci.net](mailto:townofferdinand@psci.net)

**Water:**

MRO's Filled with IDEM

Hydrant Flushing Started on Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> continuing till finished

Water main on 3<sup>rd</sup> ready for road work.

Total Gallons	7,284,000.00
Max. Day	304,000.00
Min. Day	185,000.00
Avg. Daily	242800

**Wastewater:**

Monthly IDEM reports are submitted

Monthly plant flow 11.1 Million gallons

52% capacity

Solids discharged 2.1 mg/l per day average

Phosphorus levels of .5 mg/l out of a limit of 1 mg/l average

Midwest installed flow meter at the inlet to the headworks on Tuesday May 2, they will leave in for a few months and gather reads as needed.

Quote from National Water Service to install pumps for non-potable pumps at the plant

Cost \$36,122.22

Quote from IDEXX labs for new lab equipment for daily lab samples

Cost \$6,325

**Education:**

Clint has sent in to retake his Class II Wastewater Exam

Kyle got his letter this week and will be signing up soon for his Distribution Level Medium water test.

Approval for Austin Ryan to be sent to CDL Class May 22<sup>nd</sup> - June 16<sup>th</sup> cost \$4,500

Ben Brinkman

Water/Wastewater Superintendent

KENNETH SICARD, President  
TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Member  
SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member  
CHRIS JAMES, Town Manager



April 20, 2023

**NWS Quote #: 042023-29**

Ben Brinkman  
Town of Ferdinand  
2065 Main Street  
Ferdinand, IN 47532

**RE: Plant Water pump Installation**

Dear Ben,

Pursuant to your request, National Water Services, LLC is pleased to submit a proposal for **Plant Water pump Installation**, as follows:

- Mobilize 3 crew members & boom truck
- Cut 9" concrete 4' X 26" for hatch installation
- Remove existing 3" pipe
- Install (2) submersible 5hp 460V 3 phase pumps hard piped. Pumps will provide 40 GPM at 161' head
- Demobilize site

**Labor and Equipment ..... \$36,122.12**

National Water Services, LLC is looking forward to providing these professional services to **Town of Ferdinand**. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this proposal in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Chris Purkhiser**

**NATIONAL WATER SERVICES, LLC**

**Mobile: (812)653-2630**

[www.national-water.com](http://www.national-water.com)



## PARKS DEPARTMENT TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

*May 2023*

### **General Park Report**

- The park board meeting was held on May 10, 2023.
- PSCI has upgraded the free Wi-Fi access points at both the 5<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Street parks. We are grateful for their partnership.
- In speaking with Ben Brinkman, he is still waiting on the full approval for IDEM's permit for the sprinkling of the fields. He's optimistic that we will have the permit by June.
- We currently have three Eagle projects in the works—one at each of the parks. We are grateful for the continued support of the local Scout groups. They've done numerous projects through the years to help keep our parks even more beautiful and/or provide more activities for those in our community.
- Spring sports leagues are in full swing and the parks are getting tremendous use.

Matthew Weyer  
May 12, 2023





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## TOWN MANAGER TALKING POINTS FOR MAY 16, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

1 – The 2023 Dubois County Leadership Academy is off and running, with two sessions already in the books. We have 15 participants, split into 3 five person teams and they are already working on their Capstone Projects. This year's class members are: Rayce Jones, Jane Chambers, Evan Englert, Alison Neal, Payton Mattingly, Joyce Murrell, Zach Brosmer, Henry Calderon, Rob Clark, Emily Small, Brittany Dunlop, Brock Bawel, Kellie Le Fevre, Rikkie Oser and Anna Gadau. Many thanks to their supportive employers: Town of Ferdinand, City of Jasper, Old National, Jasper Engines, Kimball Electronics, SVB&T, Dubois County Community Corrections, German American, Kimball International, DC Broadcasting, MasterBrand Cabinets and Meyer Distributing.

2 – The artist line-up for the 2023 Ferdinand Folk Festival has now been set. We are excited to announce the following performers will be on the Main Stage September 16: The BurmaShavers, Will Scott, Shawn Mayer, March to August, Jack Schneider, Sway Wild and our headline artist- MIPSO! More details on the performers and all things Folk Fest are available on [www.ferdinandfolkfestival.com](http://www.ferdinandfolkfestival.com). Potential vendors can find the vendor application on-line as well.

3 – Dubois Strong is beginning work on an updated county-wide housing study, in an effort to see how things have progressed since the last study was conducted in 2015. I sat in on a listening session May 4,

*Visit us for a day. Join us for a lifetime.*

KENNETH SICARD, President  
TAMARA M. MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Member  
SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member  
CHRIS JAMES, Town Manager

along with other municipal officials, and was able to discuss what has happened in Ferdinand since the last study occurred- which includes both of the Kerstien's subdivisions plus the revamping of the old Scenic Hills Care Center into apartments. RDG Consultants are doing this study. They also did the 2019 Radius Indiana regional housing study, which was beneficial but did not do a deep enough look at Dubois County specifically. This study will rectify this situation.

4 – Ken and I attended the AIM southern Roundtable at the Gasthof in Montgomery. This was the first in-person event AIM has held for a while and it was good to see and hear from neighboring communities on their successes and challenges, which only served to highlight how well things are in Ferdinand.

*Visit us for a day. Join us for a lifetime.*

**KENNETH SICARD, President**  
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