

TOWN OF FERDINAND
REGULAR MEETING
September 21, 2023

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM on Thursday, September 21, 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 August 15, 2023 Council Meeting. Ron seconded. Ken recused himself from the vote because he was not in attendance for the August 15, 2023 meeting. Motion carried 2-0.

Sicard requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Jim Treat, a Ferdinand Town Council Member for four years. Sicard expressed gratitude for Jim's service to the Town.

Sicard requested a moment of silence for Leroy Haug, a veteran who lived just outside of the Town, passed away at the age of 101.

Sicard presented a proclamation that declares and proclaims the Week of September 18, 2023 as Sister Mary George week as she celebrates her 100th birthday. Ron moved to approve the proclamation. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, reported Sylvester Voges, a 25-year member of the fire department, passed away. The Council expressed condolences to the family and expressed gratitude for Sylvester's service to the Town.

Todd Fischer, Electric Superintendent, reported Mitch Konerding attended training last week and will now be included in the on-call rotation. Fischer requested permission for the water, wastewater, electric and street departments to attend the trade show in Louisville for \$79 per employee, on either September 26th or 27th, with transportation and meals. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ben Brinkman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, stated he attended a Utility Management Seminar in Indianapolis on Tuesday, September 12th. The seminar focused on utility regulation and finance. Debbie moved to approve the purchase of water pipe and supplies needed for the Vienna Drive and 21st Street water main project for approximately \$11,500 and \$1,000 for sand for backfill.

Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Matt Weyer reported the Park Board and the Soil and Water Conservation District are hosting a Weed Wrangle at the Old Town Lake on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 9:00 am. Matt thanked Jill Schipp for spearheading the effort to help control the invasive species at the OTL.

James reported the Folk Fest went well and thanked the Town employees for their help with the event.

Kim Fischer, representing Traditional Arts, requested 120 feet of Missouri Street be closed to traffic during the Traditional Arts event on September 23, 2023, from 8 am – 4 pm. The neighbors have been notified. Ron moved to approve the request. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Mike Steffe requested approval of the 2023 Monster Dash 5K route. Debbie moved to approve the current 5K route as presented and to give Chief Blessinger the right to approve an alternate route, if necessary, due to street work. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Steffe expressed thanks to the police department on behalf of the Heartland Half Marathon committee for their help on September 16, 2023.

Lueken reported Jumpstart Communications started work before obtaining the proper permit for Excavating in a Public Right-of-Way from the Town and that Jumpstart did not follow the Conditions and Stipulations and Sanctions (Jumpstart Excavation/Cable boring project 2023) agreement signed by the owner of Jumpstart. Lueken stated he would red-flag the company and not allow them to do work in Ferdinand again. A bill will be sent to Jumpstart for the pavement repair and yard repairs completed by the Town necessary to restore the property to its original state. Sicard stated a letter should also be sent to the company that employed Jumpstart to provide the fiber service to inform them of the situation.

Bohnenkemper stated as a result of the Jumpstart experience, two new ordinances have been provided to the Council for consideration. One ordinance amends the standards required for Excavating in a Public Street Right-of-Way requiring Council approval for excavating permits and a bond to be provided to the Town. The second ordinance updates the procedure for temporary water users requiring a fee of \$40 fee in addition to the fee for water used. The Council suspended this discussion for the 7:00 pm hearing.

At 7:00 PM the Budget Adoption Hearing was held. The 2024 Budget Form 3 was posted on Gateway and is available at www.budgetnotices.in.gov. The 2024 budget hearing was held on August 15, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. Miller stated the Advertised 2024 Budget is

\$2,423,164 (2022 was \$2,297,790) with an adopted tax rate of .7205 (2023 adopted rate was .7527) per \$100 of assessed value of \$142,443,065 (2022 was \$124,606,109). The Maximum Levy is \$1,038,997 (2023 was \$948,881) an increase of 9.5%. There being no further discussion. Ken moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-17, An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates as presented. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-18, an Ordinance Amending Title 8 of the Ferdinand Municipal Code Regarding Requirements and Standards for Excavating in a Public Street Right-of-Way, at the meeting it was introduced. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-19, an Ordinance Amending Section 10.02.050 of the Ferdinand Municipal Code Entitled Temporary Users, at the meeting it was introduced. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The close-out documentation for CCMG 2022-01 has been submitted. We are waiting for the close-out letter from INDOT.

CCMG 2022-02 Culvert Project is underway.

CCMG 2023-01 Project was awarded to Calcar and work will begin this fall in combination with the CCMG 2022-02 road paving projects.

The Valley One Apartments agenda item was tabled until the October meeting.

The property owner of 1305 Main Street has committed to cleaning up the property.

Sicard stated there is a meeting scheduled in October with the municipal police and fire chiefs regarding the Local Safety Tax Initiative. The Municipals have 51% and the County has 49% of the Tax Committee Vote. It appears all five of the municipals are in favor of the tax and plan to move forward.

At 7:15 PM the adoption hearing for the Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2023-13 was held. Miller requested the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year:

ARPA	Capital Outlays	\$99,703
Economic Dev Income Tax (LIT-ED)	Capital Outlays	\$46,200
Cumulative Capital Development	Capital Outlays	\$21,300
Casino Riverboat	Capital Outlays	\$110,000

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-13. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Miller distributed the accounts receivable report to the Council. Miller stated usually there are no disconnections because payment is made before the cut-off date.

Bohnenkemper stated there will be additional information regarding CISM - Critical Incident Stress Management at the next meeting.

Debbie stated Universal and Brosmer Surveying are working on the Main Street sidewalk project preliminary engineering reports.

Lueken is working on the road inventory paperwork to add 18th Street and Mississippi Street. The curb and gutter have been installed on Georgia Street as requested by the residents. The curb installation was paid for by the residents.

The Council thanked Caseys for cleaning up the State Right-of-Way in front of Caseys on Highway 162 even though it is the State's responsibility to maintain.

Miller stated the water customer surveys are being sent out and surveys are being returned.

At 7:30 pm a hearing to vacate a public street was held. Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-16, An Ordinance to Vacate Public Street (Part of the unimproved portion of 7th Street). Ken seconded. Ron recused himself. Motion carried 2-0. After 30 days, if there are no remonstrances the Ordinance will be recorded and the real estate records will be updated.

Tom Lueken, property and street superintendent, stated the fall clean-up will take place according to the flyer given to Council: October 10th for the west side, October 11th for the east side and October 12th if needed. Ron moved to approve the fall clean-up dates. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Evan Hassfurther requested water service for a new residence he will build at 10 Alabama which is outside of corporate limits. Sharon prepared the necessary agreement for service which states Hassfurther agrees not to remonstrate in the event the Town would choose to annex the property. Debbie moved to approve Ken and Miller to sign the Agreement Regarding Utility Service Extension and Annexation Waiver between the Town and "Hassfurthers", Evan Hassfurther and Orange Hills, LLC, subject to any changes that might be recommended by Council. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lueken will get with Bohnenkemper to prepare the paperwork to solicit quotes for the Senior Citizens Center roof.

Lueken stated that he received two bids to replace the flooring at the Attorney and EMT Building at 202 E. 3rd Street. The lowest bid was for the original flooring specifications from Knies Flooring and Wall Covering. There was also an alternate bid for \$3,588.21 for a good quality substitute from Knies Flooring and Wall Covering. The other bid was from Beckman Furniture for

\$6,060. Debbie moved to approve the \$3,588.21 alternate bid for the flooring from Knies. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lueken received three quotes for the white door with ADA-approved hardware for the Attorney and EMT Building 202 E. 3rd Street. The lowest bid of \$2,769.01 was from Thomas Door and Glass, Tell City. Ron moved to approve the purchase from Thomas Door. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lueken recommended the Town allow Kerstiens to apply the top coat surface to the pavement, install the pavement markers and signage at the Hidden Meadows Subdivision. Ken moved to approve that the Kerstiens Hidden Meadows performance bond proceed as most subdivisions in the Town. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

James stated that Dollar General has addressed the high grass in the retaining areas on the East and South side. Lueken stated the bank was not mowed. James will contact the owner regarding mowing the bank.

Council considered trick-or-treating hours for this year. Debbie moved to allow Halloween Trick or Treating during the hours of 5 PM-7 PM on Tuesday, October 31, 2022. Ron seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Bohnenkemper stated the Sisters of St. Benedict have requested Eclipse Special Parking in 2024. The Council has requested more information to be able to consider the request at a future meeting.

Brinkman requested permission for 3-4 employees from the water/wastewater department to attend the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water Fall Conference in Ft. Wayne on October 18-19, 2023 for a cost of approximately \$2,000 for room, meals and travel. Ron moved to approve the request. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to pay regular claims. Ron seconded. Motioned carried 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	October 17, 2023 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	September 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM (Cancelled)
Plan Commission	Wednesday	September 27, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Park Board	Wednesday	October 11, 2023 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Comm.	Monday	October 23, 2023 at 6:00 PM

As there was no further business to discuss, Debbie moved to adjourn. Ron seconded. Motion

carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

ATTEST:

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL

Tanara McMillin

Clerk-Treasurer

Ken Seard

Ron Wy

Dale Jensen

Ferdinand Est. 1905

Police Department

243 West 10th Street Ferdinand, Indiana 47532

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

Chief of Police: Kerri Blessinger Assistant Chief: Christian Gogel



The month of August was filled with training for the Ferdinand Police Department. Officers Rob Randle, Brian Seffernick, and Tom Merkley attended the New Detective/Investigator Training held by the Public Agency Training Council. This class covered a variety of types of crimes such as property crimes and person crimes, death investigations, as well as how to handle them. It educated the officers about initial arrival, crime scene control, gathering of necessary evidence, preservation, and integrity of scenes, and interview techniques. This training explained the importance of documentation and properly handling and assessing incidents.

Officers Rayce Jones and Josh Clouse attended the Medicolegal Death Investigation School held in St. Louis, Missouri. This three-day school explored the methods and manner of death of adults, children, and infants as well as investigation techniques including evidence preservation and interview skills. The training further educated them on the natural versus homicide scenes.

The Officers had very positive things to say regarding the training and I feel this training gives them skills to serve the citizens of Ferdinand. I have attended both trainings and felt the education offered was invaluable.

On August 4th, I was at the Indiana Law Enforcement academy to teach the current recruit class about Sudden Unexplained Infant Death and Elderly Abuse. These training hours not only gives the Ferdinand Police Department training credit hours but also assists me in maintaining my current instructor certification.

On August 21st, I attended the Chiefs meeting in Ireland, Indiana. This meeting allows the Chiefs of police and fire departments as well as dispatch, EMA, and Memorial Hospital to meet to discuss issues, goals, and follow up.

On the 22nd, I attended the District 10 meeting in Evansville, Indiana. The District 10 is the current assigned district of Dubois County. This allows networking, discussions regarding emergency services, and keeps the lines of communication open for all of the district agencies.

Finally, several meeting were held during the month regarding Crisis Intervention, emergency detention of those suffering from mental illness, as well as meeting with Jasper Memorial Hospital to continue to grow and educate our programming for the mentally ill in our community.

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



Calls For Service Report August 2023

Total Calls For Service		250		
Complaint Type		Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm	6	Missing Person Adult/Child	1	
Animal Complaint	3	Parking Violation	2	
Assist Other Agency	13	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	1	
Battery/ Assault	1	Protective/Restraining Order	1	
Burglary (attempted)	1	Prowler (report of)		
Burning Complaint		Report to Station	9	
Child Abuse/Neglect		Return Messages	30	
Civil Matter /Dispute	1	State Dispatch	10	
Citizen Assist	8	Scam		
Debris in Roadway	2	Security Check	18	
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle	3	Suicide/or a Suicidal Person		
Disturbance/Disorderly Person		Suspicious Person/Vehicle	6	
Drug Complaint		Theft	1	
Domestic Problem	6	Traffic Control	1	
Escort	3	Traffic Warnings	21	
Eviction		Traffic Citations	6	
Extra Patrol	24	Trespassing		
Fight		Threats/ Intimidation		
Finger Printing		Vandalism	3	
Fire	2	Vehicle Accident	13	
General Information	17	Vehicle Accident Leaving the Scene		
Gun Permit		Vehicle Check	3	
Harassment		Vehicle Lock Out		
Hazardous/ Not Chemical		Warrant		
Investigation	3	Weather Related Problems		
Identity Theft		Welfare Check	6	
Illegal Dumping		911 false calls	6	
Intoxicated Person	3	Ordinance violation	1	
Juvenile Incurrigible/Runaway	2			
Lines/ Poles Down				
Lost/ Stolen License Plate				
Mental Subject				



FERDINAND FIRE DEPT.

221 E. Fourth St. P.O. Box 31
Ferdinand, IN 47532

2023 Summary of Incidents

	FIRE	EMR		TOTAL
JANUARY	2	12		14
FEBRUARY	2	13		15
MARCH	4	14		17
APRIL	2	4		6
MAY	5	18		23
JUNE	3	15		18
JULY	3	8		11
AUGUST	8	10		18
SEPTEMBER				
OCTOBER				
NOVEMBER				
DECEMBER				

As of today we are still waiting on our truck. They were having issues getting in some of the lights.

We will be accepting applications to become a fire fighter till October 31, 2023. Applications can be picked up at Town Hall, the Fire Station, or ask any fire fighter.

Electric Department Report

September 21, 2023

- 1 unplanned outage
 - One customer one hour tree limb
- Pole change outs east side of main street area
- Mitch attended year two apprentice training workshop and will start in the on call rotation



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

Town Council Meeting

September 21, 2023

Did asphalt patching on settled utility cuts and added a radius shoulder on the west side of the intersection of 3rd and Virginia also removed a stone shoulder on the of Caesar's Ct. and replaced it with asphalt to prevent the stone washing out on 3rd St.

Cleaned grass and debris out of storm inlets preparing for fall leaves, I don't have an exact date when we start curbside pickup when we do start it will be our normal routine on Tuesdays pick up start one complete trash route pick up if not through on **Tuesday** continue next day until ONE complete route is done. This service will continue until further notice.

Straighten up some street signs and trimmed some tree limbs that blocked the sign.

Installed the requested no parking signs along 3rd street.

Graded and rolled 7th street between Illinois and Delaware a non-improved street used by some picking up students from the elementary school.

Helped pave back the utility cuts on East 10th street.

Continuing mowing and spraying along street rights-of-way

Did some mid-season service and cleaning on some seasonal equipment due to the heavy use from all the storms and rain.

Worked on some ditch areas where some more rip-rap needed to be added to stabilize the flow line and areas that needed to be redirected towards the flow line.

New Business

Jump Start is planning to begin work again Monday **September 18th**.

CCMG 2022-01 did our part just waiting close out letter.

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

CCMG 2022-02 and CCMG 2023-01 in the works Knies Construction has been waiting on Ohio Valley gas to complete their moving of gas line for over two weeks this is starting to put them in bind for completing their projects.

Senior Center roof I was told to hold off on getting quotes until spring. If this not the case let me know and can move forward with soliciting quotes.

Flooring quotes we had two companies showing interest, but at this time September 15,2023 I have not received any.

Door quote we have received three Thomas Glass and More Tell City, Indiana has the lowest quote. I recommend going with.

From my understanding talking to individual Council members, it would be ok for them to finish the top layer of asphalt like in the past however after the surface is apply all required signage and pavement marking are installed according to the subdivision plans.

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

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TAMARA M. MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Member
SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member
CHRIS JAMES, Town Manager

Town Council Meeting September 21st, 2023

Water Report:

Total monthly Usage 7.565 Million Gallons

Daily Average usage .244 Million Gallons

Min Daily usage .131 Million Gallons

Max Daily Usage .310 Million Gallons

2 Leaks totaling 5 men 8 hrs

Vienna Drive has all tie ins complete, waiting on Knies to remove old culvert to connect in last section of new pipe.

Permission to go to Indianapolis for Utility Management Seminar from Indiana AWWA September 12, 2023, \$80 plus travel.

Wastewater:

Total Monthly Flow 13.47 Million Gallons

Capacity 62% average

Daily flow Average .435 Million Gallons a Day

Daily Average Suspended Solids 2.8 mg/L

Phosphorus Daily Average .7 mg/L

Sprinkler Usage 119,000 gallons

Days used 7

Average per day ran 17,000 gallons

Will be starting up the West Clarifier in October and Shutting down the East to prep for maintenance and keep the clarifiers in rotational use.

October will also be the last month for the Sprinkler system to run do to freeze chances being more significant in the end of October and November

Sewer main repair and inspection will be going underway in October at 623 13th Street due to a clay main starting to collapse.

Benjamin J Brinkman

Water/Wastewater Superintendent



PARKS DEPARTMENT TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

September 2023

General Park Report

- The park board meeting was held on September 13, 2023.
- The board discussed some planning of the Fifth Street sports fields and complex master planning for future improvements.
- The board discussed the possibility of some door security integrations for park door controls which have been on the docket for some time.
- The board received an update from Sharon on planning of the spring eclipse festivities.
- The Park Board and the Dubois County Soil & Water Conservation District will be hosting the Old Town Lake Weed Wrangle on Saturday, November 11th at 9:00 am. The board welcomes the community of all ages to assist in removing invasive plant species throughout the Old Town Lake property. Specialists from the SWCD will be on site to assist. More information to follow. All are welcome!

Matthew Weyer
September 17, 2023



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TOWN MANAGER TALKING POINTS FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

1 – The 2023 Ferdinand Folk Festival is in the books, and was another great success!! Our musical line-up was a home run from opening act to headliner. Major credit to our music committee for finding excellent performers all the way around. The vendors, especially in Food Row, saw steady business all day long, with very few gaps. Two, Sisters of St. Benedict and Wood Capital Pizza, both sold out by mid to late afternoon. Others kept cooking or serving until past 8pm. The merch tent did a booming business, especially with the introduction of the VENMO app this year (thank you Tammy and Stephanie!) making it easier for patrons to make purchases. I personally received countless compliments from the artists and other visitors about the beauty of 18th Street Park and how this is one of their favorite venues to attend. All credit was directed to the Park and Street/Property Departments for taking such good care of the premises!! Thanks to all the departments and their personnel for the work they put in last week (and this week) getting the park prepped and ready to go- it is greatly appreciated. Our core committee will meet for a de-brief session in early-to-mid October and review what worked as well as what we can fine tune for the 2024 edition- Saturday September 21st!!!

2 – Next Friday, September 29, the Town is hosting another I-PEP training session. This one will cover Blood Borne Pathogens and will be following by an in-house Narcan training offered by Chief Blessinger and the Police Department. Both of these sessions are very timely

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

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RONALD WEYER, Member
CHRIS JAMES, Town Manager

based, with special attention being given to the Narcan training. This serves a dual purpose for our workers: there are more and more instances of opioid overdoses and should we come upon such an incident, it is best to be trained. Also, particularly for the Street Department as they run their trash route, the possibility of coming into contact with some of these chemicals prompts the need for training.

3 – Earlier today the Town played host to the Indiana Finance Authority's quarterly meeting at the Mobil Room. Kudos for Ben offering the Town as a host site. We have been the recipient of considerable training and apprentice funds offered by the IFA over the past couple of years, specifically through the efforts of Kelly Gardner and her team with the AIRW (Alliance of Indiana Rural Water), so this was a nice way to showcase the Town.

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