

TOWN OF FERDINAND  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 22, 2022

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, in the Ferdinand Town Hall. Present were Council President, Ken Sicard; Vice-President, Debbie Johnson; Council Member, Ron Weyer; and Clerk-Treasurer, Tamara Miller. Also in attendance were Forest Park High School students: Hailey Pund and Gabrielle Englert.

Ron moved to approve the Minutes of the October 18, 2022 Council Meeting. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

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

Kerri Blessinger, Police Chief, requested permission for Blessinger and Gogel to attend the Mid-Winter Conference in Indianapolis on January 24-26, 2023 at a cost of \$300 per person plus two hotel rooms for two nights at \$146 per night and parking at \$47 per night. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, recognized Art Sonderman, a 25-year member of the fire department, for his service as he recently passed away.

Brinkman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, requested permission for various water/wastewater employees, Debbie Johnson, Chris James and Steve Becher to attend sessions at the AWWA Conference for Water and Wastewater at French Lick on December 6-8, 2022, at a cost of \$150 for the full session or \$50 per day. Ron moved to approve the request. Debbie seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Matt Weyer, Park Board President, reported the Old Town Lake Restroom will be opening in the next couple of days and Weyer thanked the electric, water/wastewater and street/park departments for their work getting the building and landscaping completed.

James thanked all of the departments for their help with the Christkindlmarkt. He and Kayla Hoffman attended an IOT (Indiana Office of Technology) cyber security session and he will be looking into obtaining IN.gov email addresses for Town emails.

At 6:45 PM the Text Amendment Hearing was held. The amendment to the text of the Zoning Ordinance includes standards for solar installations; no ground stormwater detention fronting Main Street; except for Single Family Residential and Industrial zoning districts, any new construction or development shall have no ground-mounted HVAC equipment visible from the street it fronts and a

requirement for concealing permanent dumpsters and commercial trash containment areas. The Plan Commission of the Town of Ferdinand did, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022, hold a public hearing to consider the adoption of the herein amendments to the text of the Zoning Ordinance and were considered and certified with a favorable recommendation by the Plan Commission 8 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining and 1 absent. Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2022-39, An Ordinance Adopting Amendments to the Text of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Ferdinand. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Adam Steckler, owner of Bettag Plumbing, was in attendance and asked if this ordinance applied to existing units. The council informed Steckler the ordinance was intended for new installations and if a variance is needed, the Board of Zoning appeals could address specific situations.

Water tower maintenance is on hold for now.

Brinkman is working with John Wetzel with Midwestern Engineers on the non-potable water permit renewal.

Ron moved to approve Ordinance 2022-40, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2021-22 Regarding Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees, at the meeting it was introduced. The ordinance approves the pay differential for Brian Mullis, temporarily assisting the Street Department, at a rate of \$20.00 per hour to be paid from the MVH fund effective October 31, 2022. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lance Boeglin and Lizzy Kirkoff with the Forest Park Builders Club, along with their sponsors, Eric Evitts and Nettie Boeglin were in attendance. Boeglin and Kirkoff gave an Honor and Remember presentation, a project to support Gold Star Families. They requested that the Town fly an Honor and Remember Flag at the Town Hall. Ron moved to purchase five Honor and Remember Flags, at a cost of \$100 each, for Town properties. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

A conditional offer of employment was to be offered to one of the interviewees for the vacant street department position. Debbie moved to approve Ordinance 2022-41, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2021-22 Regarding Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees, at the meeting it was introduced. The ordinance approves the pay for Mike Tobin, Street Laborer, at a rate of \$23.00 per hour, plus an additional \$.50 per hour upon obtaining CDL License; 2 hour minimum at time and a half for emergency calls and two hour minimum for non-emergency call outs to service parks, effective December 1, 2022, at the meeting it was introduced. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The Salary Ordinance agenda item will be addressed at the next meeting.

Miller stated that today the London Witte Group emailed the Ferdinand Municipal Water Utility Study on Water Rates and Charges. Tomorrow at 1:30 PM there will be a zoom session with Robert Reynolds with LWG to walk through the report. Johnson, Brinkman and Miller will attend the zoom session and the recording will be sent to Sicard and Ron Weyer.

The 2023 ADA Plan Amendment agenda item was moved to the next meeting.

Ron moved to adopt Resolution 2022-08, a Resolution Amending the ARPA Plan Adopted by Ordinance No 2022-17 on March 15, 2022. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to adopt Resolution 2022-09, a Resolution Providing a Procedure for Implementing Premium Pay. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

All nepotism forms have been received by Miller.

The Fire Protection Contract with Ferdinand Township was approved for \$43,000 on a motion by Ron and seconded by Debbie. Also, in motion, Sicard and Miller to sign the contract. Motion carried 3-0. The contract is to be paid in two installments: \$21,500 payable on June 30, 2023, and \$21,500 on December 30, 2023.

The Use of Municipal Public Parks Contract with the Ferdinand Township was approved for \$33,000 on a motion from Ron and seconded by Debbie. Also, in motion, Sicard and Miller to sign the contract. Motion carried 3-0. The contract will be paid in two installments: \$16,500 on June 30, 2023 and \$16,500 on December 30, 2023.

Debbie moved to approve Brinkman's request to advertise for a Water/Wastewater job opening beginning December 1, 2022. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sicard is working on getting in touch with a potential new member of the Economic Development Commission and there is a vacancy on BZA to fill the remainder of Matt Widolff's term ending 12/31/2023.

Miller gave an update on the outstanding utility accounts receivables and stated she is enrolling the Town in the TRECS program to help collect outstanding balances.

The MVH Appropriation Transfer agenda item was moved to the December meeting.

Ron moved to approve the 2023 Water, Electric and Sewer budgets as previously distributed by Miller. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lueken stated the CCMG Grants 2021-02 and 2022-01 projects are complete and we are awaiting the final bills. The awards for CCMG 2022-02 will be announced on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

The UTV ordinance will be considered at the January 2023 meeting.

Ken moved hold to Special Town Council Meeting on November 30, 2022 at 5:00 PM at Town Hall to approve of the 2023 Salary Ordinance and to review of the Water Rate Study by LWG CPAs-Advisors and to introduce a Water Rate Ordinance. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie Johnson reminded everyone that the Community Christmas Party will take place at the Mobel Room on December 5, 2022 from 6 PM- 8 PM and she thanked the numerous groups and businesses that are providing support for the event.

Ken reiterated the importance of implementing a cyber security program using the IOT (Indiana Office of Technology) guidance.

The Attorney & EMS Building Renovation plans from Universal Design are being reviewed. Lueken will gather costs associated with the proposed renovation.

James has relayed the updates to be incorporated into the employee handbook to New Focus and he requested a draft to review prior to year-end.

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


**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

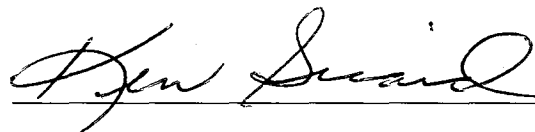
Special Town Council Meeting	Wednesday	November 30, 2022 at 5:00 PM
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	December 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	December 21, 2022 at 6:30 PM
Plan Commission	Wednesday	December 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM
Park Board	Wednesday	December 14, 2022 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Comm.	Monday	January 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 8:50 PM.

ATTEST:

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL

  
Clerk-Treasurer









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. The Ferdinand Police Department has completed the ammunition and firearms inventory. We are currently in the process of performing a complete inventory and review of maintained records for our equipment. We have also completed the review of the State required training hours for 2023. All required hours will be completed in the beginning of December.
2. Officer Rayce Jones recently applied for and obtained a grant from the Dubois County Substance Abuse Council. The \$1,916.00 will be utilized to purchase portable breath testers. Officer Jones will continue to participate with and complete the needed grant requirements. Great Job Rayce!
3. The Purchase Order was sent to Washington Chrysler Center to hold the budgeted police vehicle for next year. The price is the State negotiated that is utilized for law enforcement statewide.
4. I have recently joined the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police. This organization's mission is to promote professionalism, training and networking for the law enforcement executive and to enhance public awareness of law enforcement and public safety issues. I would like to attend, along with the Assistant Chief, the Mid-Winter Conference January 24-26, 2023. This conference will feature the State Mandated In-Service Training hours. This will provide two of us 14 credit hours each. The cost is \$300.00 per person including the hotel costs which is given at a reduced rate of \$146.00 per night. There is also an additional \$47 per night parking cost (one vehicle). The cost of this training is within the Police Department budget.
5. The Ferdinand Police Department has recently joined the Dubois County Local Emergency Planning Committee. There are currently over 35 community members. This group focuses on Emergency preparedness and provides additional resources for our community regarding disasters.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kerri Blessinger, Chief of Police



## FERDINAND FIRE DEPT.

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

Ferdinand, IN 47532

### 2022 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>4</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>11</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>MAY</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>11</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>JULY</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>29</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
<b>DECEMBER</b>				

**We did our annual road side clean up along 264.**

**Winston Glenn and Ben Hayden took and completed a Fire Officer, Strategies, and Tactics class put on by the Dubois County Firetrainers.**

**Would like to recognize Art Sondermen he had 25 years on the department and passed away last month.**

## **Electric Department Report**

Nov. 22, 2022

- 1 unplanned outage
  - 16<sup>th</sup> street area 7 hours
- Pole change outs east side of main street area
- Christmas decorations installed
- Mitch will start CDL training on Nov. 28 lasting 4 weeks



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)

---

# Town Council Meeting

November 22, 2022

Working on completing our ADA projects we committed to for 2022.

We are finishing up a drainage and curb and gutter project on Virginia street between 3rd and 4th.

Trying to keep up with a very heavy curb side leaf pick-up.

Fall is also a busy time for limb and yard waste drop off we are trying to keep half way caught up with hauling it off.

Adding stone along some road edges where new CCMG paving was done.

Worked with the electric department to put up the Town [Christmas](#) tree.

## OLD BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

Approve 2023 ADA Transaction plan at the December meeting.

CCMG update 2021-02 and 2022-01 are completed working on final billing before we can close it out.

CCMG 2022-02 update awarded projects will be announced [December 6th](#) at 10 am.

*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

1 Water leak this month totaling 500,000 gals lost  
November 14<sup>th</sup>; 8<sup>th</sup> and Delaware  
Fire Hydrant lead broken off

New Fire Hydrant put in at 8<sup>th</sup> & Delaware with First Storz fitting for the town

3<sup>rd</sup> Street 500ft of main is in and connection from 3<sup>rd</sup> to Maryland is in as well

**Wastewater:**

Monthly IDEM reports are submitted

4 exceedances reported week of October 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> due to chemical line being clogged

1 Phosphorus levels to high  
3 Ph levels being too low

Monthly plant flow 6.917 Million gallons  
32% capacity  
Solids discharged 4.3 mg/l per day average

Completed 5 sewer lateral inspections over the last month.

Old Town Lake

Sewer lateral is installed  
Pump will be connected this week by flygt

**In a separate note,**

Ben will be taking his Class II Wastewater Exam Wednesday November 30<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at Ivy Tech in Evansville

Clint has received his letter from IDEM to take his Class II Wastewater exam with the next 90 days

**Education:**

Send employees to:

Dec 6-8 at French Lick there is an Indiana AWWA conference for water and wastewater hours.

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>; Ben & and Clint -Wastewater IDEM Updates Session

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>;

Ben & Chris James -Utility Manager session;

Steve Lechner, Steve Becher and Scott- General Session

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>; Ben & Clint- General morning session & after noon IFA Southwest Regional Meeting

**Open Position:**

Asking to put adds out on open position starting December 1<sup>st</sup>

Post position as apprentice

Ben Brinkman

Water/Wastewater Superintendent



## PARKS DEPARTMENT TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

*November 2022*

### **General Park Report**

- The park board met on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Ferdinand Town Hall.
- The board reviewed the remaining funds within our budget and are considering any remaining projects for the year. We are working on several offseason projects at the parks. More information to follow in coming months.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Street Park
  - The board approved the planting of trees along the north-south service road at the MasterBrand Complex. Trees will be planted still this year.
- Old Town Lake
  - The restroom and storage building is now complete. The town will be hooking up the sewer and water soon. Following that hookup, the restroom facilities will be opened.

Matthew Weyer  
November 19, 2022



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)

---

## TOWN MANAGER TALKING POINTS FOR NOVEMBER 22, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING

1 – Recently attended the AIM Idea Summit in French Lick on November 2-4. It was another excellent conference, with over 1000 persons from various municipalities and government agencies. There were many interesting workshop sessions, with topics ranging from Asset Management Plans, Leveraging ARPA Funds, Grant Opportunities and a very topical item right now – Cyber-Security! This will most likely prompt additional measures to make the Town more secure in its operations.

2 – Speaking of Cyber-Security, Kayla and I attended a gathering on November 15 at the Dubois Branch Library, hosted by IOT (the Indiana Office of Technology) and Department of Homeland Security. This session offered a somewhat expanded version of their AIM presentation and highlighted ways communities become vulnerable as well as options for becoming more secure. These methods include cyber-security training sessions to become more aware of email scams and phishing efforts as well as developing more IN.gov email addresses. As part of my responsibilities as the Town's cyber incident report, I look to incorporate some of these programs as we move into 2023.

3 – I took part in a virtual session for DOT DER (Designated Employer Representative) training, offered by DISA, who is the Town's drug testing facilitator. I gained a lot of insight and information on what information to maintain and for how long, in the event of an audit, as

*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

well as which entities require what type of testing and documentation levels.

4 – The next session of the Dubois County Childcare Task Force has been set for Tuesday December 6 from 11:30 to 1:00 at the VUJ CTIM Building. The last gathering occurred in late August and this current get together was delayed so that a seven-county child care study could be completed and submitted. Most employers recognize the need for new and/or improved options of child care to help bolster the work force.

5 – Finally, I would like to thank all of the Town employees who assisted with set-up/preparations for this year's Christkindlmarkt. The Electric Department hung the new Main Street decorations and assisted the Street Department with the Town Christmas Tree at Town Hall. The Street Department also utilized almost every cone in their inventory to be used at the multiple Markt sites and collected a total of 198 bags of trash for the weekend. The Water/Wastewater Department delivered the Glockenspiel to Forest Park High School and graciously allowed the Police Department to clean out their cones to set up no parking zones along Michigan and East 10<sup>th</sup> Streets.

*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**