

TOWN OF FERDINAND

SPECIAL MEETING

November 30, 2022

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Special Meeting at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 30, 2022, in the Ferdinand Town Hall. Present were Council President, Ken Sicard; Vice-President, Debbie Johnson; Council Member, Ron Weyer; Town Attorney, Sharon Bohnenkemper and Clerk-Treasurer, Tamara Miller.

Ken Sicard congratulated Benjamin Brinkman for passing the Class II Wastewater Operator exam.

Miller requested permission to include in the November 22, 2022 Town Council meeting minutes that “a conditional offer of employment was to be offered to one of the interviewees for the vacant street department position”. Ron moved to approve. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Robert Reynolds with London Witte Group (LWG) joined the meeting by telephone. The Council received the Ferdinand Municipal Water Utility Study on Water Rates and Charges prepared by the LWG dated November 29, 2022. Reynolds also recorded a Zoom presentation explaining the study and how the report was prepared and this was distributed to the Council. Miller read the attached memo. The Council discussed the reasoning for the rate increase including the Patoka Water rate increase, transmission costs and tower maintenance. The proposed Ordinance 2022-42, An Ordinance Amending the Schedule of Rates and Charges for Use of Services Rendered by the Municipal Water Utility of the Town of Ferdinand, was introduced. Debbie moved to hold the Public Hearing at 7:00 PM on December 20, 2022, during the regular Town Council Meeting at the Town Hall. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The proposed Ordinance will be posted at the Town Hall.

The Salary Ordinance agenda item was tabled until the December 20, 2022 Council meeting.

Sicard moved to sign the Certificate of Appointment designating Bev Schulthise as the Representative of Ferdinand to Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission for another 1-year term. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

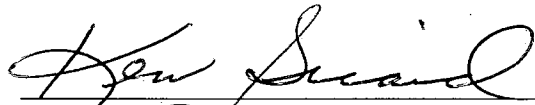
As there was no further business to discuss, Ron moved to adjourn. Debbie seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

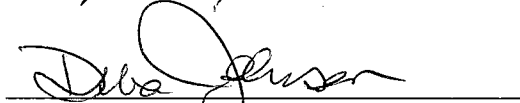
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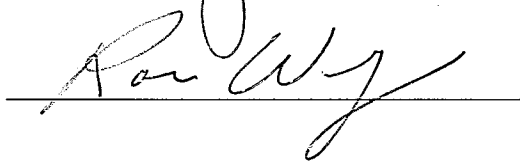
FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL



Clerk-Treasurer







# Memo

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Tamara Miller *TMM*  
**Date:** November 30, 2022  
**Re:** LWG Water Rate Study 2022

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London Witte Group has conducted a water rate study for the Town of Ferdinand.

LWG used the test year of July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022 for actual data and the 2023 budget to prepare their report along with input from the water superintendent and the Clerk-Treasurer.

**Their report shows our water utility is currently in a very good financial position.**

**To remain in good financial standing, the tracker is needed for the increased purchased water cost.**

**The additional increase is needed for the anticipated increased capital and maintenance cost, for going the increase will create a need for a larger increase in the future.**

The new rates will include a \$.44 cent tracker that reflects the increase in our water rate paid to Patoka Water. The new Patoka rate will be effective on The January 2023 usage. The tracker will allow the town to pass on any future increases from Patoka to customers without undergoing a rate study.

The other part of the rate increase is due to increased operating costs including chemicals, repairs or replacement of aging water mains, and ongoing water tower maintenance.

We feel the new rate is in line with communities of similar size.

We are doing our best to manage costs while providing safe reliable water service to the community.

If the new rates are passed:

The 2,500-gallon minimum user will pay \$32.13 which is a \$1.10 increase per month.

The 3,000-gallon user will pay \$38.12 which is a \$1.92 increase per month.

Exhibit G shows the dollar increase based on gallons consumed.

Ex. The 30,000-gallon user will pay \$346.85 which is a \$38.80 increase.

For users greater than 10,000 gallons, the increase is 8.3% plus the tracker.

(See the additional exhibit G not part of the report)

The wholesale rate minimum user will pay \$283.80 which is a \$15.40 increase for 35,000 gallons.

The new Ferdinand rates will be reflected on the February 25, 2023 bill. That bill that reflects usage from January 10 – February 10, 2023. This would line up with the higher rate the town will be paying to Patoka Water.