

TOWN OF FERDINAND

REGULAR MEETING

January 21, 2025

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 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 December 17, 2024, Town Council Meeting, Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, reported that proposed House Bill 1233 would eliminate Township Trustees and eliminate fire districts and fire territories. He has contacted our state representative Steven Bartels and expressed concern that these proposed changes to the fire districts and territories would increase emergency response times. Sicard added that Bartels, at the Legislative Breakfast, stated that the proposed bill will likely be changed.

Rob Randle, Police Chief, stated two new officers started at the Police Academy and will be there for the next 17 weeks. The new radios have been delivered and will be up and running by Thursday afternoon.

Todd Fischer, Electric Superintendent, stated the winter ice storm caused a power outage for about three hours due to a Vectren power issue. The outages could have been considerably worse if the department had not done tree trimming proactively. Sicard stated we received a number of compliments how quickly the power was restored. Fischer requested the purchase of three new transformers for \$55,800. One is for the high school baseball remodel and two for Scenic Drive. The rebuilt transformers cost was \$55,500. Debbie moved to approve the purchase of three new transformers for \$55,800. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Tom Lueken, Street Superintendent, stated that due to the ice storm the street department will do a special tree limb pick up on February 5th, 6th and 7th if needed. Limbs should be placed curbside and limbs should be no longer than 10 feet long and 4 feet high.

Ben Brinkman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, stated Brinkman and Sicard would be attending the Indiana Rural Water Alliance Leadership Summit in Indianapolis on January 29-30, 2025. Ron moved to approve Brinkman's request for permission to seek bids for a new crane truck for water and wastewater departments. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Debbie moved to

approve Brinkman's request to purchase a new blower for the sludge thickener for \$9,600. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-01, an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No 2024-22 Regarding Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees of the Town of Ferdinand adding Ryan Oeding; Water/Wastewater Laborer/Apprentice; first 1,000 hours \$22.58 per hour; Additional \$0.50 per hour upon completion and passing CDL training; the next 1,000 hours \$23.49 per hour; the next 1,000 hours \$24.40 per hour; the next 1,000 hours \$25.31 per hour; upon completion and passing operator's license \$26.22 per hour; and 2 hour minimum at straight time for weekend lab testing effective upon passage, at the meeting it was introduced. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Matt Weyer, Park Board President, reported the Park Board is looking for a member to fill the open Park Board position. The major lease meeting will take place at 4:30 PM on February 12, 2025.

Dan Collignon, President of the Redevelopment Commission, stated some of the RDC members will be attending the ROI meeting on February 18, 2025, at French Lick.

The election of officers was conducted. Motion to appoint Ken Sicard as Town Council President was made by Debbie Johnson and seconded by Ron Weyer. Motion carried 3-0. Motion to appoint Debbie Johnson as Town Council Vice-President was made by Ron Weyer and seconded by Ken Sicard. Motion carried 3-0.

Colton Pipenger, Dubois Strong Executive Director, introduced himself and distributed a pamphlet to the Council and reminded them of the February 6th luncheon at the Parklands in Jasper.

Sicard accepted the Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure form from Ron Weyer and will sign the form on behalf of the Council. Miller will file the form with the Dubois County Clerk and upload it to Gateway.

In September of 2024, the Town was awarded an SS4A Planning Grant. Jessica Condra with the Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission has been working with the Town and the Department of Transportation and had previously presented the SS4A Grant Agreement to the Council for their review. Bohnenkemper stated the agreement was reviewed and is in order. Ron moved to approve Ken signing the SS4A Grant Agreement. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Jessica will deliver the signed agreement to the DOT to be fully executed.

Local Safety Tax Initiative – Ken is gathering more information.

Cyber Security Update – Nothing new to report

An SS4A Engineering Services RFQ/RFP was received from Burgess & Niple from Indianapolis. An SS4A Grant Administration Proposal was received from Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission for grant administration services totaling \$5,000. Bohnenkemper stated both packages appear to be full and complete. Debbie moved to allow the committee of Bohnenkemper, Miller (and Condra with the Engineering proposal only) to review for compliance and move forward. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

CCMG 2024-01 - Bid Awarded 6/18/2024 C & R Construction. Lueken stated he will contact C& R to coordinate start dates for Northview Drive and the streets included in CCMG 2024-01.

CCMG 2024-02 – Awarded \$776,949.30 - Bohnenkemper requested permission to advertise for bids for CCMG 2024-02 projects and open the bids at 7:00 PM on February 18, 2025. Debbie moved to approve. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Ron moved to advertise for bids for two lot paving projects and open bids at 7:15 PM on February 18, 2025. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Debbie moved to open bids for the crane truck at 7:30 PM on February 18, 2025. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

CCMG 2025-01 – Miller stated after discussion with Lueken, Bohnenkemper and Universal Design the decision was made to not submit an application for this round. Lueken is looking into crack sealing some streets in the future.

Lauren Tretter representing Framing Ferdinand (FF), requested the balance of the 2025 donation of \$8,734.73 (\$10,000 – \$1,265.27) be disbursed to Framing Ferdinand. Sicard requested the 2025 FF Budget be given to the Council. For a 2026 donation request, Framing Ferdinand will submit a donation request during the 2026 budget planning which is July-August 2025. Debbie moved to approve disbursing the \$8,734.73 upon Sicard receiving the 2025 FF Budget. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

7:15 PM sealed bids for the 2002 Ford F250 Pick-Up, salt spreader and snow plow were opened. Bids were received from:

Ben Frick	\$3,500
Dillon Warren	\$5,111
Gary Schertzer	\$2,150
Lake Helmerich Property Owners Association Inc.	\$8,000

Ron moved to accept the bid from Lake Helmerich. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Miller distributed the accounts receivable report to keep the Council informed.

Brinkman stated 180 water surveys are still outstanding. His department is willing to help homeowners complete the survey.

READI 2.0 Grant – Sicard stated the applications are being reviewed and we are waiting on notification of grant awards.

Johnson stated TSW is meeting with the Comprehensive Steering Plan Committee on January 22, 2025 from 6:30 PM-8:00 PM at the Mobel Room to present the information they have gathered to date and show us the next steps. The survey link is available on the website and on Facebook.

Lueken stated the 2025 MVH Ton Truck accessories are expected to be completed very soon.

Universal Design Associates is working on the Preliminary Engineering for a sidewalk/trail from the High School property to the Old Town Lake. Nothing new to report.

Bohnenkemper is working out an equitable plan on the change out of aged out utility poles as part of the Street Lighting Agreement Modification 2024 with Dubois REC.

Ron moved to adopt Resolution 2025-01, a Resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to make the necessary end of the year fund transfers to balance the 2024 Budget for the Town of Ferdinand, Resolution 2025-02, a Resolution Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to make the necessary end of the year fund transfers between utility operating, utility depreciation & utility bond funds for the Town of Ferdinand, and Resolution 2025-03, a Resolution to Encumber Funds from the 2024 Budget. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to allow Ken Sicard and Tamara Miller to sign off on the contracts with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission for Codification of Ordinances for \$1,150 and Updating the Town of Ferdinand Zone Map for an amount not exceed \$650. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to approve Miller to sign off on the Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center Contract with the Town for the optional annual employee health screening.

Miller and the Council wished Marge Ruhe a Happy 100th Birthday.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Redevelopment Commission	Tuesday	February 18, 2025 at 5:30 PM
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	February 18, 2025 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	January 22, 2025 at 6:30 PM Cancelled
Plan Commission	Wednesday	January 22, 2025 at 7:00 PM Cancelled
Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee	Wednesday	January 22, 2025 at 6:30-8:00 PM FCC
Park Board	Wednesday	February 12, 2025 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Commission	Monday	January 27, 2025 at 6:00 PM

As there was no further business to discuss, Ron moved to adjourn. Debbie seconded.
Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

ATTEST:

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL


Tamara McMillan

Clerk-Treasurer

Ken Seaid

Ron Wyz

Debbie Jensen

Ferdinand Est. 1905

Police Department

243 West 10th Street Ferdinand, Indiana 47532

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

Chief of Police: Robert H. Randle Assistant Chief:



December 2024 Departmental Report for the Police Department:

The department is now at full staff, at 8 officers.

Chase Snider and Alfred Braunecker both completed a brief F.T.O. program, and are now on their own.

Winston Gleen and Zander Poole both completed I.L.E.A. 40 hour pre-basic and passed. They then started the F.T.O. process while riding with Officer's.

All equipment and uniforms have been ordered for all 4 Officer's and will take time to all come in.

All equipment had been ordered for the 2 guys attending the SWILEA Academy in January 20, 2025. Both will graduate on May 23, 2025.

The 2010 Jeep had emergency light remote go bad. Harmonic Electronics was able to get a used remote to put in and get them working again.

The 2015 Dodge Charger had an alternator and belt tensioner go out, ruining the belt. The car was fixed at Weyers Garage and issued back out.

I requested and paid the SILETC training dues for next year.

Completed the I.L.E.A Acadis Portal year training report for the department, All Officer's had plenty hours and are in good standing.

Ferdinand Police Department

243 W 10th Street, Ferdinand Indiana 47532

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

Chief of Police: Rob Randle

Assistant Chief:

Total Calls For Service		December 2024 Calls For Service Report	
	373		
Complaint Type	Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm	6	Missing Person Adult/Child	
Animal Complaint	5	Parking Violation	
Assist Other Agency	8	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	
Battery/ Assault	1	Protective/Restraining Order	
Burglary (attempted)		Prowler (report of)	
Burning Complaint		Report to Station	3
Child Abuse/Neglect		Return Messages	33
Civil Matter /Dispute	2	State Dispatch	13
Citizen Assist	4	Scam	
Debris in Roadway	1	Security Check	107
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle	4	Suicide/or a Suicidal Person	
Disturbance/Disorderly Person		Suspicious Person/Vehicle	
Drug Complaint	1	Theft	1
Domestic Problem	1	Traffic Control	2
Escort	5	Traffic Warnings	62
Eviction		Traffic Tickets	
Extra Patrol	42	Trespassing	
Fight		Threats/ Intimidation	
Finger Printing		Vandalism	
Fire		Vehicle Accident	13
General Information	23	Vehicle Accident Leaving the Scene	
Gun Permit		Vehicle Check	6
Harassment			
Hazardous/ Not Chemical		Warrant	1
Investigation		Weather Related Problems	
Identity Theft		Welfare Check	7
Illegal Dumping		911 false calls	7
Intoxicated Person		Pursuit	1
Juvenile Incurrigible/Runaway	1		
Lines/ Poles Down	1		
Lost/ Stolen License Plate			
Mental Subject			



FERDINAND FIRE DEPT.

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

2024 Summary of Incidents

	FIRE	EMR		TOTAL
JANUARY	3	11		14
FEBRUARY	8	17		25
MARCH	3	14		17
APRIL	6	7		13
MAY	4	9		13
JUNE	4	12		16
JULY	8	13		21
AUGUST	3	14		18
SEPTEMBER	6	7		13
OCTOBER	3	13		16
NOVEMBER	3	19		22
DECEMBER	4	9		13

We had a total of 200 runs in 2024.

If anyone gets the chance to check out House Bill 1233, please reply to your state representative that you are not in favor of it.

Electric Department Report

Jan, 2025

- Winter storm
 - 3 individual out over night because of house service repair
 - Entire system was down 3 hours Sunday night into Monday morning because of transmission supply issue
 - 1 hour outage on Monday for south east side of town to repair a line that fell down because of ice load
 - Sporadic small outages because of trees
- Pole change outs west of Main St
 - 4 kv conversion prep on west side of Main St
- Budgeted purchases
 - Transformer for high school upgrade at baseball field has a long production lead time.
 - Transformers for two locations on scenic industrial drive that are currently platform settings and we are going to change them to pad mount and underground.

January 21, 2025

Department Reports:

We just finished sucking up all the leaves out of the curb and drain inlets in Town before the snow and ice hit.

Because the last two winter snow and ice events were longer and bigger amounts than normal we used a lot more road salt leaving the salt storage about empty. We may be able to get through one more normal removable process. With that being said with Kayla's help we ordered our contracted amount for 2025 we should receive 45 ton untreated salt from Compass minerals and 25 ton treated salt from Cargill salt. Kayla received confirmation for the orders however they now contact a trucking company for shipment which in the past it took some time for me to hear a delivery date and time we should be good but you can never know for sure.

We set December 17th for last week curb side leaf pick up but went a week or so longer.

We patched a couple potholes before the snow and ice and I am sure we will need to do the same after all the snow is gone until spring when asphalt plants are open to do hot mix repairs.

We completed the installation of guard rails on Scenic Hills Dr. near Holy Creek.

I am working on the Town of Ferdinand 2025 ADA Self – Evaluation Commitment Schedule.

Due to all the snow and ice a lot of trees and limbs are down all through Town including the Parks and Town Lake. We have already started clean up on Town Property's mainly clearing trails and limbs causing safety concerns for foot traffic. The limb drop off site is and will continue to have a lot of people dropping off tree limbs. We will need to monitor our cameras trying to make sure only Town residents are using the site and what is being dropped off.

LIMB AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM CHAPTER 4.09

Limbs due to a winter storm will be collected curbside depending upon Town Council approval a collection date or dates will be posted, residents are asked to consult Town Hall, and Town's website or face book page for details all limbs must be curbside, cut and stacked no longer than 10 feet and piled no higher than 4 feet.



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

Water:

- MROs filed with IDEM
 - December Usage:

Monthly Water Treatment	
Total Gallons	6,665,000
Max. Day	301,000
Min. Day	139,000
Avg. Daily	215,000

- Lead Service Line Inventory
 - Calls being made with unresponsive property owners to get the information needed for the before digging up the yards this spring and summer
- Water Tanks
 - Waiting on contracts and bond forms to come back to start scheduling work start dates
- Northview Drive Water Main
 - 2 services connected
 - 1 fire hydrant
 - Waiting on weather to cooperate to continue working
- Royal Ridge/ Kerstiens town houses
 - All piping and meter pits are in and ready for use
- Patoka Scada issues
 - Our signal transfer is down that sends to the plant from both purchasing meter pits
 - Pit by interstate hit by lightning in mid-December
 - Pit by the Monastery went out in the ice and snow storm last week
 - New ones ordered \$825 a piece
 - Going with new company since Sensus discontinued service for our current system and has no replacement
- Two after hour call outs for water shut offs for leaks on customer side.

Wastewater:

- Monthly IDEM reports are submitted
 - Solids discharged 3.7 mg/l per day average

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER, Member

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

- Phosphorus levels of .7 mg/l out of a limit of 1 mg/l average
- 1 Sanitary overflow December 19, 2024
 - Lift Station 6
 - 5,000 gallons
 - Report sent to IDEM
 - Pumps failed due to PLC issue and failed relays
- 55.19 tons of dry Bio-Solids hauled to landfill

MONTHLY REMOVAL SUMMARY					Total Monthly Flow: (million gallons)
Percent Removal	BOD5	S.S.	Ammonia	Phosphorus	12.1
Primary Treatment	NA	NA			
Secondary Treatment	NA	NA			Percent Capacity
Tertiary Treatment	NA	NA			(actual flow/design) 56%
Overall Treatment	98.9	97.7	99.9	80.9	
Phosphorus limit would be 75 % removal. (compliance achieved)					

- Plant
 - Main Check Valve for pump 2 is failed at the headworks
 - Have temporary solution to keep plant operating
 - Waiting on parts \$1355 and labor estimated at \$4000.00
 - 2 men+ 1 Truck at \$308.50/hour estimated 12hrs including 2 hours of drive time.
 - Cost may be lower if they can fix faster than 1 day of work.
 - Switching to new Chemical in the next month for Phosphorus removal,
 - Will be cheaper price, less corrosive and more stable product

Education:

- Ryan Oeding
 - Take CDL Course this week
 - Start his Wastewater Apprentice Program 1st semester
- Brian Hoffman
 - Start Semester 2 of his Drinking Water Apprentice Program
- Ben and Ken
 - Going to Alliance of Indiana Rural Water Leadership Summit January 29th-30th

Equipment:

- Permission to seek bids on new crane truck for the Water and Wastewater Departments, budgeted for in 2024 and again for this year due to over extension in water projects last year.

Benjamin J Brinkman

Benjamin J Brinkman
Water/Wastewater Superintendent

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER, Member

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney



**PARKS DEPARTMENT
TOWN COUNCIL REPORT**

January 2025

General Park Report

- The park board met on January 8, 2025.
- Election of board officers were tabled until the next meeting due to the vacancy of one board member.
- 2025 possible projects were discussed. Further discussion on the budget will need to be understand before the board commits to any projects.
- Encumbrance of funds was discussed, but we will need to work with Tammy on that process.
- Tom provided an update on the park vandalism and has not observed any further damage as of the meeting.
- The park board will hold their annual major lease discussions at the next regular park board meeting on February 12th at 4:30 pm. All sports leagues and other interested groups are invited to meeting to discuss their league schedules and tourneys so that we can begin putting together an overall park event schedule. The location of this meeting will be at the town hall. A completed lease form, proof of insurance, and schedule must be provided to the town prior to the event and/or season starting.

Matthew Weyer
January 16, 2025



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

January 2025 Town Council Meeting
Kim Fischer - Marketing

VIV – website maintenance – Continuing clean -up/updates – working on additional proposal.

Main Street Program - Liaison between the town and this program –

Framing Ferdinand Board Meetings – Completing ODAN Application

Framing Ferdinand PR Meetings –

Review of Changes/Improvements for Next Years Decorating Contest and People's Choice Awards

Website – Moving forward with implementing website for Framing Ferdinand

Working on new March Event for Framing Ferdinand – to be announced
(Advertising for this event through different channels)

Billboard – Westbound contract signed and new billboard designed.

Continue to work with Ferdinand Merchants monthly- planning

Meetings with Visit Dubois County as part of their board of directors -

Visit Dubois County Year – Brain Storming Session – this is an all-day session.

Ken Sicard – will begin working with Dubois County Leadership Program

Social media & Instagram Posts – Newspaper & Radio

KENNETH SICARD, President
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