

TOWN OF FERDINAND

REGULAR MEETING

August 19, 2025

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 19, 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.

Sicard stated, this meeting is being recorded. This is a reminder this meeting is being live streamed and recorded. Your attendance at this meeting is your consent to be live streamed, recorded and rebroadcast on the Town's website. If you have any electronic devices, please put them on airplane mode. Thank you for your cooperation.

Debbie moved to approve the Minutes of the July 15, 2025, Town Council Meeting. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Rob Randle, Police Chief, requested permission to send Joshua Clouse to a 3-day training on September 9, 10, & 11th for Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in Ellettsville. This program is working to eliminate child predators. The federal government covers the cost of the class, but Randle requested that Clouse's hotel stay, meals, and use of the police car be covered by the Town. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Chief Randle stated MasterBrand has completed adding a new stop sign at Industrial Park Road and the entrance to the MasterBrand trailer parking lot.

Ron moved to approve the Ferdinand Police Department to escort the pilgrims on their Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation journey, from Sunrise Drive to St. Meinrad Archabbey on September 6, 2025. Randle approved the route that was presented. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to approve Officer Rayce Jones and Officer Joshua Clouse to attend a one-day training in Indianapolis on August 13th, and Officer Chase Snider on September 10th, to become certified breath test operators. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, thanked everyone for their support of the Fireman's Ball held July 26th. Ron moved to approve Hoppenjans' request to advertise for volunteer firefighter openings until the end of October. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to approve Todd Fischer, Electric Superintendent's, request to declare 3

transformers as surplus and for them to be sold. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to approve Fischer's request for two electric department employees to attend the IMEA business meeting on October 15th & 16th in Florence, IN for a cost of \$675. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to approve Fischer's request to purchase a recorder, a high-voltage SensorLink product, to help with troubleshooting problems on high-voltage poles. The cost is \$13,832.55 and is in the 2025 budget. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Tom Lueken, Street & Park Superintendent, stated he is talking with the County Engineer regarding the zoning on Industrial Park Road. When the land was zoned as within Town of Ferdinand Limits, the speed limit went from 45 to 35. The County did not have this in their GPS system, but they are working on finding the proper documentation to change it on their end. Lueken ordered trucks entering signs for the north and south side of the MasterBrand trailer parking lot.

Ben Brinkman, Water and Wastewater Superintendent, stated valve replacement on West 9th Street has been rescheduled to take place the week of September 15th.

Ron moved to approve Ben Brinkman, Brian Hoffman, Ryan Oeding, Clint Meyer, & Kyle Lechner to attend a Mueller fire hydrant service and operations training at Utility Supply on October 13th. The cost of the course is free. The only cost is transportation. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Kim Fischer, Marketing Coordinator, stated her last day will be August 21, 2025. She thanked the Town for the opportunity. Debbie thanked Kim for her work with starting Framing Ferdinand, revamping the website, and working on the Town's social media. Fischer stated the Community Banquet will be on Wednesday, August 20th.

Sicard recognized Sister Mary Carmel Spayd for her 100th birthday on August 16th.

Debbie stated that HWC Engineering recommended that the Town have 10-12 people on the SS4A sidewalk committee. Debbie is reaching out to people she sees walking and biking around town. Debbie moved to appoint Dr. Jamie Pund, Mike Steffe, John Schipp, and Sherri Schipp to the SS4A Grant Committee. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Kelly Gardner, Apprenticeship Program Coordinator with the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water, recognized Austin Ryan for receiving his Wastewater License. This involved 4,000 hours of work, 288 hours of related technical instruction, and passing an exam. Gardner thanked Ben Brinkman for being Austin's mentor and thanked Austin's family for supporting him during all of his time studying. The Council congratulated Austin.

Sicard recognized Eric Rahman for earning his Paser certification. Eric will be able to sign off on the road inventory and help with the CCMG application process. The Council congratulated Eric.

Ron moved for Tammy Miller and Ken Sicard to sign the Street Lighting Modification 2025 contract with Dubois REC. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lueken stated that the Knies crews are still working on CCMG 2024-02 road projects. The demo has been completed on 16th Street.

At 7:00 PM the Budget Hearing was held. Miller stated the Advertised 2026 Budget is \$2,803,090 (2025 was \$2,918,425) with an adopted tax rate of .6480 (2025 adopted rate was .6438, the actual tax rate for 2025 ended up being .5386.) per \$100 of assessed value of \$164,888,044 (2025 was \$159,656,614). The Maximum Levy is \$1,082,988 (2025 was \$1,041,988) an increase of 4%. The 2026 Budget Form 3 was posted on Gateway and is available at www.budgetnotices.in.gov. The 2026 budget adoption meeting will be Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. The proposed Ordinance was given the number Ordinance 2025-12. There being no further discussion. Debbie moved to close the budget hearing. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lueken is working on the CCMG 2025-02 application with Universal Design. The call will open on October 1, 2025.

Ron moved for Ken Sicard to sign the Universal Design fee proposal for their work with the CCMG 2025-02 application. The grant planning and application process fee is \$18,000 and the final design and bidding phase is \$10,000. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Brinkman stated we are waiting to hear back on 2 water surveys.

Sicard stated there is nothing to add to the cyber security update.

Debbie stated there is no news regarding the READI 2.0 Grant.

Debbie stated she spoke to Brett Schipp, with UDA on the preliminary engineering for the sidewalk/trail from the High School property to the Old Town Lake. He is compiling cost estimates based on possible grant funded trail specifications vs. town trail specifications.

Sicard stated that he is working with AIM to host a legislator to talk about tax reform and go over budgets.

Debbie stated we are waiting for health insurance quotes from Anthem and UHC. SIHO would be a 0% increase in cost.

Ken stated the Annual Fall Clean Up will be on October 14th, 15th, and 16th.

Miller stated, at the May 20, 2025 Council meeting, when accepting Field View “Court” into inventory, the minutes said Field View “Drive”. Tom Lueken wants to correct this and accept Field View Court, Fawn Hill Court, and parts of Missouri Street in the Hidden Meadows subdivision into inventory. Debbie moved to accept the streets into inventory. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to adopt Resolution 2025-06, a Resolution encouraging use of John Deere quantity purchase agreement for Town equipment purchases. Indiana Code 5-22-10-5 allows local governments to use special savings programs if they will result in savings to the departments within the governmental unit. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 7:15 PM quotes were opened for the COOP building. Mullis Custom Homes Inc. submitted a quote for \$24,910, with a start and finish date between September and October 2025. B&A Construction submitted a quote for \$23,414, with a completion date of October 30, 2025. Debbie moved for Tom Lueken to take the bids under advisement, choose the best quote, and go forward with the project. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to adopt Resolution 2025-07, a Resolution instructing road improvements to alert drivers of upcoming stop signs and conditions. Bohnenkemper read the Resolution in its entirety. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie stated the Town needs to update the Indiana 15 Project Prioritization List by September 12th. Some of the projects on our current list have been completed this year. The department heads will update the list to include additional projects.

Debbie moved to deem the 1999 Ford F250 pickup truck, Salt Dogg Spreader Hopper, Westerner Plow, and Western Hopper as surplus equipment and to advertise for sealed bids to be opened at 7:15 PM at the September 16, 2025 meeting. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ken moved to approve the Ingress and Egress Easement with German Holdings, LLC, as it was presented, and allow Sicard and Miller to sign off on the document. Ron seconded. Debbie recused herself from the vote. Motion carried 2-0.

Ken stated the Folk Fest will be held on September 20, 2025.

Debbie moved to approve the demo permit submitted by WRE Inc. at 233 W 8th Street. Sicard seconded. Ron recused himself from the vote. Motion carried 2-0.

Miller stated an additional appropriation is needed to spend the CCMG 2024-02 money. The amount is \$564,452.52. It will be advertised in the paper and the hearing was set for 7:30 PM on September 16, 2025. The Ordinance was given the number Ordinance 2025-13.

Bohnenkemper stated SEA 95 statute was given to us from the legislator that affords us more

opportunities with regard to police officers training. This will be an ongoing project in the coming weeks.

Ron moved to adopt Resolution 2025-08, allowing all members of the Police Department who either reside in Dubois County, or reside in a county which is contiguous to Dubois County, and their residence is within a 40-mile radius of the intersection of 9th St. and Main St. in Ferdinand, will be allowed to take home their commissioned police vehicle. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to have an Executive Session regarding individual employees on August 27, 2025, at 3 PM. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ken Sicard and Kathy Tretter attended the Indiana State Fair and received two Historic District Certificates, one for State and one for Federal. This deems part of Ferdinand as a historic district and will allow homeowners to receive tax credits for improvements and businesses to receive grants to renovate buildings.

The Council congratulated Mitch Konerding for completing all requirements for an electric journey lineman.

Darin Hubble, with Small Business Administration, requested Miller to relay that the SBA provides relief to flood victims and have low interest loans to those affected. All information about the relief can be found on the Town's website.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Redevelopment Commission	Tuesday	September 16, 2025 at 5:00 PM
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	September 16, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Town Council Executive Session	Wednesday	August 27, 2025 at 3:00 PM
BZA	Wednesday	August 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM <small>Cancelled</small>
Plan Commission	Wednesday	August 27, 2025 at 7:00 PM <small>Cancelled</small>
Park Board	Wednesday	September 10, 2025 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Commission	Monday	October 27, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Town Council Budget Adoption	Tuesday	September 16, 2025 at 7:00 PM

A full video archive of the meetings is available for viewing under the Public Notices Tab for 90 days at <https://ferdinandindiana.org>.

As there was no further business to discuss, Debbie moved to adjourn. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

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: Brian Seffernick



July 2025 Departmental Report:

SGT. Chase Snider to attend a SFST (standard field sobriety test) instructor course at the Lawrence Police Department July 21 -25. I am pleased to announce that he successfully completed the class, and now can train our officers, and Officer's from other departments.

Det. Rayce Jones completed his detective school in Avon, In. Since making a detective position the department has had 8 detective cases, and 4 DCS cases.

With assistance of the Indiana Department of Toxicology, the Ferdinand Police department now has a certified breath test instrument at our facility. This tool will not only help our Officer's but is able for any law enforcement department to use. At this time, we have only 1 Officer Steffen Zink, but I will be asking to send more when schools open.

I also have been working with the Spencer County Sheriffs Office to assist us with the sister's walk on September 6th. I will have more information as it comes available.

We have been approached by the Dubois County prosecutor's office, and ISP to join the Dubois County ICAC (Internet crimes against children task force) this is a task force to bring internet child sex crimes to a group of agencies to help and work together to get these people arrested. All training for this task force is free through grants. I believe this would be great and have appointed Officer Josh Clouse in this role, this Officer was mentioned by the prosecutor's office as who they wanted.

With that I'm seeking permission to send Officer Josh Clouse to Ellettsville, In for a 3-day training. Again, the training and supplies are free. I'm requesting a 3 day hotel stay, meals, and use of a police car.

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: Brian Seffernick



I am requesting permission to send Detective Rayce Jones and Officer Josh Clouse to Indianapolis on August 13th and Sgt Chase Snider on September 10th for a 1-day class costing \$300.00 an Officer to become certified breath Test operators. Once they complete the class, their certification is good for 2 years and recertification only costs \$40.00, which is done on line. requesting use, the cars for the day.


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	647	July 2025 For Service Report 	
Complaint Type	Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm	14	Missing Person Adult/Child	
Animal Complaint	6	Parking Violation	2
Assist Other Agency	19	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	
Battery/ Assault		Protective/Restraining Order	
Burglary (attempted)		Prowler (report of)	
Burning Complaint		Report to Station	3
Child Abuse/Neglect		Return Messages	29
Civil Matter /Dispute		State Dispatch	15
Citizen Assist		Scam	
Debris in Roadway		Security Check	86
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle	8	Suicide/or a Suicidal Person	
Disturbance/Disorderly Person	3	Suspicious Person/Vehicle	7
Drug Complaint		Theft	3
Domestic Problem	4	Traffic Control	1
Escort	2	Traffic Warnings	318
Eviction		Traffic Tickets	38
Extra Patrol	1	Trespassing	
Fight		Threats/ Intimidation	1
Finger Printing		Vandalism	
Fire	2	Vehicle Accident	18
General Information	27	Vehicle Accident Leaving the Scene	
Gun Permit		Vehicle Check	5
Harassment		UTV	4
Hazardous/ Not Chemical		Warrant	
Investigation		Weather Related Problems	
Identity Theft		Welfare Check	10
Illegal Dumping		911 false calls	10
Intoxicated Person		Pursuit	
Juvenile Incurrigible/Runaway			
Lines/ Poles Down			
Lost/ Stolen License Plate			
Mental Subject			



FERDINAND FIRE DEPT.

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

Ferdinand, IN 47532

2025 Summary of Incidents

	FIRE	EMR		TOTAL
JANUARY	8	19		27
FEBRUARY	1	11		12
MARCH	10	6		16
APRIL	5	11		16
MAY	11	14		25
JUNE	5	14		19
JULY	10	14		24
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER				
OCTOBER				
NOVEMBER				
DECEMBER				

Would like to thank everyone for their support at our Firemens Ball!

Patrick Recker and Dakota Wiltbank started Firefighter 1&2 classes.

Electric Department Report

August 19, 2025

- No unplanned outage

- Pole change outs
 - Prep for new service settings
 - Prep for pad mount replacements
 - Four locations digging finished
 - Cable pulled on two of them

- Permission to send two guys to the Annual IMEA business meeting in Florence.



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

Town Council Meeting
August 19, 2025
Departmental Report:

We performed our annual storm water retention inspections.

We put back an invisible fence for a property owner, it was removed during the Vienna Dr. culvert project we agreed to put back after project was completed and he would contact us when he wanted it reinstalled, he called and asked about putting it back a few days before we installed it.

We dug out and placed asphalt in a utility road cut on west 13th street.

We removed a failed area of pavement and replaced it with new asphalt on the corner of E4th and Michigan St.

Removed a portion of wheel rutted pavement on E10th St. near Michigan St. and replaced it.

We reconstructed 2 drain inlet structures North side of E14th St. between Michigan St. and Vienna Dr.

Note Worthy Eric Rahman passed his PASER Certification Exam this is valid for 2 years he should receive an email from Indiana LTAP with his certification number.

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

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Member
SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member



Town of Ferdinand
2065 Main Street
PO Box 7
FERDINAND, IN 47532-0007
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Water :

MROs filed with IDEM

Monthly Water Treatment	
Total Gallons	6,794,000
Max. Day	354,000
Min. Day	137,000
Avg. Daily	226,467

Work on East Tank by the Monastery finished as of Friday August 15th

Daunhauer Water main project was completed.

Finishing up dirt work from previous projects and leaks.

Lead and Copper Yearly samples have been completed and been found with in range of IDEM

Valve replacement on W 9th St by trailer courts will be planned to take place the week of the 25th.

1 service line leak

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER Member

AMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER Attorney

Wastewater:

Monthly IDEM reports are submitted

Solids discharged 8.1 mg/l per day average

Phosphorus levels of .6 mg/l out of a limit of 1 mg/l average

MONTHLY REMOVAL SUMMARY					Total Monthly Flow, (million gallons) 8.588
Percent Removal	BOD5	S.S.	Ammonia	Phosphorus	Percent Capacity (actual flow/design 41%
Primary Treatment	NA	NA			
Secondary Treatment	NA	NA			
Tertiary Treatment	NA	NA			
Overall Treatment	98.7	97.7	99.8	82.5	
Phosphorus limit would be 80 % removal. (compliance achieved)					

Plant Issues:

Working on getting more solid pricing for launders and safety rails for clarifier. As well as looking into other options that have been brought to my attention.

Also working on pricing and contractor information for the liner on the Equalization Basin that is starting to fail, it has reached 18 of its 15-year life expectancy.

Education:

There is a class at Utility Supply in Huntingburg on Monday October 13th from 8 am to 3 pm. The class covers service and operations of Mueller Fire Hydrants. The Class is Free and Lunch is provided. These Hydrants make up 98% of our systems fire suppression. I would like to send the department to this training:

Brian Hoffman

Clint Meyer

Ryan Oeding

Ben Brinkman

And Kyle Lechner if released

Benjamin J Brinkman

Ben Brinkman

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER, Member

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney



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August, 2025 - Town Council Meeting Kim Fischer - Marketing

VIV – Website Maintenance – continuing clean -updates – zoom meetings-analytics

West Bound & East Bound – Working with Ferdinand Tourism on new Christkindlmarkt billboard designs featuring pyramid.

Main Street Program - Liaison between the town and Framing Ferdinand.
Framing Ferdinand Board Meetings – Community Agendas
Framing Ferdinand PR Meetings – promotions and planning on continued events
Website – Framing Ferdinand. maintenance and additions & analytics
New Event – Researching and meeting regarding event Feb of 2026

Continue to work with Ferdinand Merchants monthly- planning–promoting
Confirming vendors and activities for Walktoberfest 2025.

Meetings with Visit Dubois County as part of their board of directors.
Working with them on proposals that involve town of Ferdinand- AI information.

Working with Tourism committee on new pyramid project/literature

Community Banquet – committee member & promotions

New Christmas Wreaths – Working on bows

Nations 250th Celebration planning is underway!

Social media & Instagram Posts – Newspaper & Radio

Resignation – Submitted August 7th – Last day August 21st.

Over the past two years, I believe I've helped create meaningful value for the Town of Ferdinand by strengthening its public presence, revitalizing communication, and fostering a renewed sense of community pride. Through this work, I've built strong relationships with local merchants, regional board members, and partner organizations, many of whom have been instrumental in supporting grants and community initiatives. With key systems now in place and momentum established, I feel this is a natural time to step away.

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

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Member
SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member

Life looks a little different these days, and my new role as a grandparent has superseded all others. It's a chapter I've been looking forward to, and I'm excited to give it the time and attention it deserves.

I gave my official two-week notice on August 7th, with my last day as August 21st. It has truly been an honor to work alongside each and every one of you. I'm deeply grateful for the opportunities, collaborations, and experiences I've had in this role.

As I move on, I sincerely hope the town finds just the right person to step into this position...someone who is ready to roll up their sleeves and continue building upon this foundation. I ask that the town continue to support a dynamic and energized individual who will work hand-in-hand with the merchants, Framing Ferdinand, tourism partners, and the many passionate groups that make this community so special. Together, I know Ferdinand can continue to grow, thrive, and showcase the heart of who we are.

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

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Member
SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member



**PARKS DEPARTMENT
TOWN COUNCIL REPORT**

August 2025

General Park Report

- The park board met on August 13, 2025.
- The board is considering multiple quotes to remediate the 18th Street playground surfaces. Currently being considered is the full scope of the remediation. Additionally, the board is looking at repairing the damaged areas at 5th Street.
- The progress on the 18th Street Park curbing and repaving is nearly complete. We appreciate everyone's patience during the construction, which will dramatically improve the roadway and parking conditions at the 18th Street Park.
- The sprinklers on the football and soccer fields are ready for use.

Matthew Weyer
August 16, 2025