

TOWN OF FERDINAND

REGULAR MEETING

September 16, 2025

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, in the Ferdinand Town Hall. Present were Council President, Ken Sicard; Vice-President, Debbie Johnson; 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 August 19, 2025, Town Council Meeting and the September 8, 2025 Special Town Council Meeting. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, stated there is currently a burn ban in place.

Debbie moved to approve Todd Fischer, Electric Superintendent, to seek quotes for metal replacement on the roof and exterior of the utility complex building. Quotes will be opened on October 28, 2025 at 7:15 PM. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to have IMEA conduct a safety program for Town employees for \$2,000 annually beginning in 2026. This will cover all required training by OSHA. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Tom Lueken, Street & Park Superintendent, stated the lowest bid for upfitting the 2025 Chevrolet 2500 HD pick up truck with a SnowDogg, SaltDogg, back rack, and light bar was \$14,955.98 from IMPCO Truck Equipment. The lowest bid for the SaltDogg spreader was \$5,177.00 from IMPCO Truck Equipment. Debbie moved to accept the lowest bids as recommended by Lueken. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Ben Brinkman, Water and Wastewater Superintendent, stated the water is back on for West 9th Street. One fire hydrant still needs to be replaced. Brinkman stated that the crane truck should be delivered by October 31, 2025.

Debbie stated there is nothing new to report for the Redevelopment Commission.

Sicard stated that Peyton Nalley will start with the Town of Ferdinand as our marketing person. Her start date will be on September 22, 2025.

The Council congratulated Eric Rahman as the new Street & Property Superintendent

beginning on October 3, 2025.

Mike Steffe requested approval of the 2025 Monster Dash 5K route to be held on October 25, 2025 at 10 AM. The route will be the same as it has been for the past 3 years. Debbie moved to approve the current 5K route as presented. Steffe requested the police assistance with traffic if available. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Mike Steffe thanked the Town for the repaving of East 16th Street that leads to the YMCA. It is greatly appreciated.

Colten Pipenger, Executive Director for Dubois Strong, provided an update on current programs, policies, projects, and partnerships.

At 7:00 PM the Budget Adoption 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 was available at www.budgetnotices.in.gov. The 2026 budget hearing meeting was held Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. There being no further discussion. Sicard moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-12, An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates as presented. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Lori Weyer and Diane Hoppenjans, with Ferdinand Tourism, reported the Christmas Pyramid has arrived and they thanked Todd Fisher and the electric department for their help with the delivery. The police will provide traffic control and barricades to route traffic for the Christkindlmarkt weekend and November 2, the opening ceremony for the Pyramid. Ferdinand Tourism is still in fundraising mode due to unanticipated pyramid costs including tariffs.

At 7:15 PM the bids for the 1994 Ford Truck were opened:

- 1) Ben Frick \$4,850 for the 1994 Ford Truck
- 2) Best Home Furnishings \$8,500 for 1994 Ford Truck, SaltDogg spreader hopper and 7-foot Western plow attachment.

Council agreed with Lueken's recommendation to accept the bid from Best HF. The unsold item, spreader, Western Hopper Serial No. 3961, will be put back into inventory.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-15, An Ordinance Amending the Town of Ferdinand Municipal Code to Chapter 4.08 Entitled "Trash Collection Services and Charges". The Ordinance amends trash collection services and changes including the price of trash stickers which will increase

from \$1.50 to \$2.00 effective November 1, 2025 to help cover the increased expenses of trash collection. The \$1.50 price had been in effect since 2013. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

CCMG 2024-02, Lueken stated he is working with Brett Schipp to put together a punch list of open items including raising manhole covers, striping, speed bumps, and cross walk markings.

Miller stated that Lueken is working on the CCMG 2025-02 application with Universal Design. The call will open on October 1, 2025. Miller requested up to \$200,000 for the Town Match (20% of the application projected cost). Debbie moved to allow Miller to create a financial commitment letter from the Town for up to \$200,000. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to approve Brinkman's request to replace the 80 years old water main from Georgia Street to Main Street. Cost of materials to be purchased of \$117,912.48 is within the budget. Brinkman stated it would take approximately three months to complete and would be completed before the CCMG 2025-02 paving, if awarded. The main replacement is approved regardless of the CCMG award status. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

At 7:30 PM Ken moved to open the additional appropriation public hearing. There being no questions from those in attendance, Debbie moved to close the hearing. Miller requested the following additional appropriation in excess of the budget for the current year:

CCMG	Capital Outlays	\$564,452.52
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Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-13. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Sicard moved to extend a conditional offer of employment to Cole Meyer. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Sicard moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-16, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2024-22 Regarding Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees of the Town of Ferdinand, at the meeting it was introduced. Full-time Patrolman, Cole Meyer, night shift, \$25.00 per hour and an extra \$1.14 night shift differential; 168 hours per work period. Employment to commence during the pay period when the favorable test results have been obtained. Full time is 168 hours per work period. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Resolution 2025-09, A Resolution of the Town Council Temporarily Amending the Town of Ferdinand Employee Handbook as to Full time Employees who are Members of the Ferdinand Police Department Concerning Vacation and Comp Time. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-17, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2024-22 Regarding Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees

of the Town of Ferdinand, at the meeting it was introduced. Eric Rahman, change rate to \$32.24 per hour – Street and Property Superintendent, effective October 3, 2025. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0. The Council thanked Eric for assuming the supervisor duties.

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

Brinkman stated we are waiting to hear back on 1 water survey.

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 nothing new regarding the sidewalk/trail from the High School property to the Old Town Lake.

Daryl Schmitt, Indiana State Senator, spoke to the Council. Schmitt covered topics including SB-1, the 7-year plan for 2027-2031, property taxes, and the County Local Income Tax (LIT) changes. He welcomes an open dialogue between local, county and state government entities. The Council thanked him for coming to explain the upcoming changes.

Debbie reported the Town will change our health insurance provider to SIHO effective October 1, 2025. There was no increase in the health premium over last year.

The Annual Fall Clean Up will be on October 14th, 15th, and 16th.

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

Debbie moved to authorize the Town to participate in the Purdue Pharma Sackler Opioid Settlement. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Resolution 2025-10, Town Council of Ferdinand, Indiana Adopting Indiana Code 5-23. The Council authorizes and directs the Town Council President and Town department directors to use RSPQ's under Indiana Code 5-23 to study the development, construction, financing, operation, and/or transfer of Projects at any date hereafter and to make recommendations for consideration by the Council at future public meetings. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Sicard moved to approve Halloween Trick or Treating hours from 5 PM – 7:30 PM EST on Friday, October 31, 2025. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

The Council thanked Tom Lueken for 24 years of service to the Town as Park and Street Superintendent.

Debbie moved to allow the Knies claim for CCMG 2024-02, that is expected to be received soon, to be paid if approved by Universal Design and Lueken and routed to all Council members and no one objects. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to pay regular claims. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

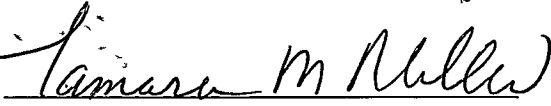
Redevelopment Commission	Tuesday	October 28, 2025 at 5:00 PM
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	October 28, 2025 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	Sept. 24, 2025 at 6:30 PM Cancelled
Plan Commission	Wednesday	Sept. 24, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Park Board	Wednesday	October 8, 2025 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Commission	Monday	October 27, 2025 at 6:00 PM

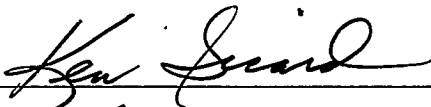
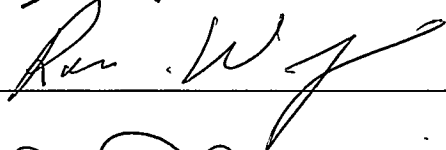
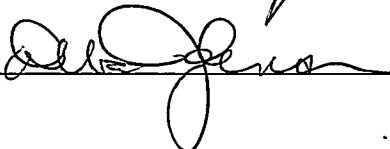
A full video archive of the meetings is available for viewing under the Public Notices Tab for 90 days at <https://ferdinandindiana.org>.

As there was no further business to discuss, Debbie moved to adjourn. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

ATTEST:

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL


Clerk-Treasurer

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



August 2025 Departmental Report:

Officer Zander Poole has turned in his 2-week resignation, with his last working day September 5, 2025.

I am pleased to announce that Detective Rayce Jones and Officer Josh Clouse completed their Intoxicology training and are certified for 2 years.

The entire department has completed their annual CPR/AED training. This was much easier now that Officer Josh Clouse is a certified trainer. Officer Clouse will also be helping Town Hall, and other departments with their annual training coming up.

The entire department completed phase 1 of our yearly Defensive tactics training at the department. Phase 2 will be done in October. Again, this was made easier with the department having our own defensive tactics instructor Officer Steffen Zink.

I attended the Dubois County Chiefs meeting held at the Dubois County EMA department.

The Ferdinand Folk Fest 2025 safety plan was completed, and I am in process of getting all signatures and send it to the Dubois County EMA for final approval.

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: Brian Seffernick

Total Calls For Service	778	August 2025 Calls For Service Report 	
Complaint Type	Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm	6	Missing Person Adult/Child	1
Animal Complaint	2	Parking Violation	2
Assist Other Agency	26	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	
Battery/ Assault		Protective/Restraining Order	
Burglary (attempted)		Prowler (report of)	
Burning Complaint		Report to Station	2
Child Abuse/Neglect		Return Messages	35
Civil Matter /Dispute	1	State Dispatch	16
Citizen Assist	10	Scam	
Debris in Roadway	4	Security Check	69
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle	7	Suicide/or a Suicidal Person	
Disturbance/Disorderly Person	3	Suspicious Person/Vehicle	4
Drug Complaint	1	Theft	2
Domestic Problem	3	Traffic Control	11
Escort	1	Traffic Warnings	278
Eviction		Traffic Tickets	24
Extra Patrol	1	Trespassing	
Fight		Threats/ Intimidation	1
Finger Printing		Vandalism	
Fire	1	Vehicle Accident	12
General Information	20	Vehicle Accident Leaving the Scene	
Gun Permit		Vehicle Check	5
Harassment		UTV	3
Hazardous/ Not Chemical		Warrant	
Investigation	6	Weather Related Problems	2
Identity Theft		Welfare Check	
Illegal Dumping		911 false calls	6
Intoxicated Person		Pursuit	
Juvenile Incurrible/Runaway	2		
Lines/ Poles Down			
Lost/ Stolen License Plate			
Mental Subject	1		



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	10	14		24
SEPTEMBER				
OCTOBER				
NOVEMBER				
DECEMBER				

ISO audit is coming up on October 7.

Electric Department Report

September 16, 2025

- Two unplanned outages
 - Equipment failure
- Pole change outs
 - Prep for new service settings
 - West side of main
- 4kv conversion on Missouri
 - 7 transformers approx. 40 customers
- Permission to seek bids for metal siding replacement on “old shop” storage building.



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

September 16, 2025
Departmental Report:

We did a lot of brush cutting we cleared out the big area in front of Casey's along 162 after clearing we sprayed the rip rap areas. We cut trees and brush on the east side of pine Dr. Cleared the brush off the corner of east 6th. and Florida St. Then went to the east side of the Comfort Inn alongside W. Southview Dr. along with the brush cutting we are mowing road right-of-ways.

We placed all of the street signs requested and removed the two stop signs at 9th and Virginia Street. We need to place some stop bar markers had some damaged material and had to reorder.

We are working on replacing a wheel rutted area of pavement on Scenic Hill Dr. near Industrial Park Rd.

Repaired a storm tile and added an inlet on the west side of Kimberly Ct.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE REQUEST

We received 3 quotes for up fitting our 20225 Chevy 2500 HD pickup truck a snow plow, spreader, back rack, light bar and other needed emergency lighting.

IMPCO Truck Equipment of Madisonville, Kentucky had the lowest bid (\$14,955.98)

We are also needing to replace the spreader that at the last meeting we declared surplus. We also received 3 quotes and IMPCO Truck Equipment had the lowest bid of (\$5,177.00)

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
Phone 812-367-2280
Fax 812-367-1303
townofferdinand@psci.net

Water:

MROs filed with IDEM

Monthly Water Treatment	
Total Gallons	8,037,000
Max. Day	482,000
Min. Day	154,000
Avg. Daily	259,258

East Tank by the Monastery back on line August 24th

Finishing up dirt work from previous projects and leaks.

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

2 new services installed

2 meters moved outside

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER, Member

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

Wastewater:

Monthly IDEM reports are submitted

Solids discharged 7.1 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)
Percent Removal	BOD5	S.S.	Ammonia	Phosphorus	11.32
Primary Treatment	NA	NA			Percent Capacity (actual flow/design) 52%
Secondary Treatment	NA	NA			
Tertiary Treatment	NA	NA			
Overall Treatment	98.9	95.7	99.6	86.4	
Phosphorus limit would be 80 % removal. (compliance achieved)					

4 new sewer taps

4 sewer inspections

1 sewer tap removal

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.

Benjamin J Brinkman

Ben Brinkman

Water/Wastewater Superintendent

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER, Member

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney