

TOWN OF FERDINAND

REGULAR MEETING

December 16, 2025

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, in the Ferdinand Town Hall. Present were Council President, Ken Sicard; Vice-President, Debbie Johnson; Council Member, Ron Weyer; Attorney, Shāron Bohnenkemper; and Clerk-Treasurer, Tamara Miller. Also in attendance were Forest Park High School Students: Caysen Montgomery, Carson May, Amber Cunningham, Noah Whitehead, Xander Fleig, and Kalan Kilburn.

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 November 18, 2025, Town Council Meeting. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Rob Randle, Police Chief, stated his report now includes a four-year history of calls. Randle requested permission to attend the Indiana Association Chief of Police Conference in Indianapolis on January 27th, 28th, 29th. For \$350, hotel for \$399, use of a vehicle and meals. Assistant Chief Seffernick will attend the summer conference, so they are both not gone at the same time. Randle requested permission for Officer Winston Glenn to attend an Indiana Breath test instrument training school on January 14th, 2026, in Indianapolis for a cost of \$300, use of a vehicle, and 1 meal. Randle requested permission for Officer Cole Meyer to attend an Indiana breath test instrument training school on February 11th, 2026, in Indianapolis for a cost of \$300, use of a vehicle, and 1 meal. Randle requested permission for Officer Chase Snider to attend the Indiana Law Enforcement for firearms pre-qualification testing on January 8th in Plainfield at the Academy. This testing is free, but it is mandatory to be able to get into the firearms instructor school at a later time. Randle requested the use of the vehicle and 1 meal. Ron moved to approve the requests. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, stated Ben Hayden decided to leave the fire department after 5 years of service and Jake Lindauer decided to retire from the department after 20 years of service. Hoppenjans and the Council expressed their thanks to both for their service to the Town.

Debbie moved to authorize the Fire Department Chief, Town Council President and Clerk

Treasurer to sign off on the Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement for Fire Protection with the St. Anthony Fire Department. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Bohnenkemper reported for Todd Fischer the Electric Superintendent, she stated that Fischer would like permission to accept a quote for a company to do preventative maintenance on substation #5 at a cost of \$21,235 that would take approximately one week. This would be done this Spring before the storm season. Ron moved to authorize Todd to sign the quote. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Eric Rahman, Street & Property Superintendent, stated that leaf pick-up ends December 23rd and after that date, leaves can be taken to the complex at West 23rd street. The trash truck was taken to the dealer in Vincennes for emissions recall service and should be returned by Friday.

Ben Brinkman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, requested permission for Brian Hoffman to attend the cram course at Dubois on January 8th for his Water Distribution License Test on January 12th, for a cost of \$100. Debbie moved to approve. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Brinkman solicited quotes from three companies for replacement steel doors, with reinforced glass windows and frames, 2 at the lab, and one for the generator room. Two companies responded, Keusch \$14,932 and Thomas Glass \$11,386.80. Ron moved to accept the Thomas Glass quote for \$11,386.80. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sicard paused the meeting to recognize Don Foerester, who passed away on December 2, 2025. Don was an integral part of the Town for 40 years, since 1985, serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Plan Commission and as Zoning Administrator. He was truly committed to making Ferdinand better. There was a moment of silence in memory of Don; he will be missed.

Matt Weyer, Park Board President, stated the annual major lease meeting will be on January 14, 2026 at 4:30 PM. Matt and the Council thanked Mike Steffe for his four terms on the Park Board. His replacement has not been named as of this meeting.

Sicard stated that the Redevelopment Commission met on December 16th. The Town is still in the process of working through the READI 2.0 grant to keep things moving; nothing solidified yet.

Town Council President Sicard, appointed the 3 council members, Ken Sicard, Debbie Johnson and Ron Weyer, to the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) for 2026. Ron moved that the Town Council re-appoint Tamara Miller and Dan Collignon as RDC members with a one-year term. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The school board member, Nate Schuler, doesn't need re-appointment until next year.

Sicard moved that the Council appoint Beverly Schulthise as the Representative of Ferdinand

to Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission for another 1-year term. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Dan Collignon is willing to serve another term on the Economic Development Commission as nominated by the County Council. The Town Council accepted the nomination and appointed Dan to another four-year term.

Sicard stated Mark Dilger has agreed to another term on the Plan Commission (PC) and Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). The PC will appoint him as their representative on the BZA.

Sicard, President of the Town Council, appointed Kyle Lechner to the Board of Zoning Appeals and Plan Commission to complete the terms of Don Foerster, ending 12/31/2026.

Sicard appointed Robert Randle to a second term on the Dubois County 911 Advisory Board.

Georgia Street Residents (GSR), Mark Oser, 410 Georgia Street; Scott Bateman, 315 Georgia Street; and Jon Marshall, 425 Georgia Street, attended to get information and stated their concerns with the condition of Georgia Street from 5th Street to 4th Street. Marshall stated the GSR would like a timeframe of when they might be added to the Town's street inventory and see improvements to their street. Marshall stated traffic has increased after the paving of 3rd Street and GSR are concerned about the safety of Georgia Street and 5th Street intersection. Oser asked, what does it take to get on the inventory. Oser stated other streets have been placed into inventory and improved, GSR have added curbs to their property, and the street was platted in 1875. Sicard clarified that a platted street does not mean the street was accepted by the Town. Bateman stated vehicles traveling 5th Street are exceeding the speed limit of 30 MPH and he is concerned about potential accidents. Bateman added, does there need to be a cul-de-sac on Georgia Street? Marshall stated, could speed strips or rumble strip be added? The GSR are will to do their part to make this happen. Sicard stated the road was never improved and dedicated to the Town. Bohnenkemper clarified that the street would probably need to be dedicated to the Town as part of a recorded legal document if the Town wanted to and it was feasible to accept and then improve it. Whether the improvement could be part of a future CCMG grant request is unknown. Ron Weyer suggested getting the cost estimates to fix the road. The steep hill leading to 5th Street is also a concern. Oser stated the water service has improved after the water line replacement and requested more rock to fill in where settling has occurred. Rahman stated that grating the rock could be done. Sicard stated we need to find out how to get the street into the inventory. Bohnenkemper stated the first step might be to get cost estimates for the road to bring it into compliance to see if it is financially feasible. Marshall is willing to have a survey done and give a portion of his property to the Town to widen the entrance onto 5th Street if needed. Sicard stated the Town does not have the funds to cover 100% of a new

road. The Town continues to apply for CCMG funds (that would cover 80% of the cost) when available. Bohnenkemper clarified, the Town would look at improvements subject to looking at the potential cost. Sicard added it would have to be addressed at a future Town Council meeting.

The Tax Abatement public hearing was held. Steve Leibering, representing Leibering Properties and Leibering Dimensions, was in attendance and described the new building plans and personal property equipment additions at 514 W 8th Street to the Council. Ron moved to adopt Resolution TA 2025-1C, Confirmatory Resolution Designating an Economic Revitalization Area within the Town of Ferdinand. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Debbie moved to allow Sicard and Miller to sign the Statement of Benefits for Real Estate Improvements (Leibering Properties LLC) and Personal Property (Leibering Dimension, Inc.) for an 8-year abatement for each. Debbie moved to allow the correction of the name on the Personal Property SB-1 to say Leibering Dimension, Inc. instead of Leibering Properties LLC. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie Johnson stated she will be contacting local businesses, schools, and nonprofits to have SS4A focus group meetings during the day at the YMCA on January 22nd. There will be an evening SS4A public meeting at a location to be determined.

Eric Rahman stated that Knies has finished the problem areas and the CCMG 2024-02 road projects are complete. Miller stated the invoice from Knies for \$134,177.24 is included in the claims register. Miller requested permission to pay the retainage if the invoice is received before year end. There will be a 2026 invoice for a change order for \$49,288 that are valid charges per Brett Schipp and Eric Rahman. Ron moved to pay the retainage in 2025 if an invoice is received by year end and pay the change order in 2026 if received before the January Council meeting. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The Town was not awarded a CCMG 2026-01 grant. We plan to reapply, with possible modifications, if there is another round in 2026.

Ron stated he will talk to Ben Brinkman and Eric Rahman regarding the work on the 5th street water line.

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

Sicard stated there is no new information regarding cyber security.

RDC/READI grant - no additional update.

UDA Preliminary Engineering met with Debbie and Eric Rahman for sidewalk/trail from High School to Old Town Lake. We received preliminary designs from UDA and are communicating with the Sisters of St. Benedict. The Town may have a grant opportunity opening in January. Debbie will give an update at the January Town Council meeting.

Sicard attended an online meeting regarding the property tax reform update with AIM. The Department of Revenue is still working on the effect of the reform. Sicard will continue to give updates.

Debbie stated that the Community Christmas had a great turnout for the December 1st event. She thanked Kathy Tretter and the Ferdinand News for the publicity. She also thanked the street department, all of the participants and volunteers. Sicard thanked Debbie for all she does for the event.

Bohnenkemper, the Title VI Coordinator, presented the Title VI Implementation Plan for 2026. Title VI states no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance from the Town of Ferdinand on the grounds of race, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, national origin, religion, income status or limited English proficiency. Ron moved to adopt Resolution No. 2025-11, A Resolution Approving Title VI Coordinator's Implementation Plan. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Any Title VI Complaints should be directed to Sharon Bohnenkemper, Title VI Coordinator, for investigation.

Agenda item #21 Electric/Net Metering – will be moved to the next meeting.

Ron turned in his nepotism form to Miller.

Debbie moved to approve Miller's request to transfer \$40,000 from the General Fund to the SS4A Grant Fund. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to approve the Ferdinand Housing Services Agreement, between the Town and the Ferdinand Housing Development, for trash pick-up. Based on the increased number of trash bags being picked up and the increase in the cost of residential stickers from \$1.50 to \$2.00, the agreement is being revisited to more accurately reflect the trash service being provided. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Bohnenkemper stated, the Town holds a performance bond for storm water detention in the Scenic Hills Development Second Addition. October 1, 2025, was the date of completion which would indicate, barring any unforeseen circumstances, after the one-year warranty period, the performance bond could be released at the September 2026 Council meeting.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-24, an Ordinance Authorizing Investment of the Town Funds with Certain Approved Depositories, at the meeting it was introduced. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to approve the 457 (b) deferred compensation plan for the Town. For 2026, the Town will contribute 5% of normal wages to a full-time employee's retirement account and no

match is required from the employee, the same as the 2025 contribution. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Ron moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-25, An Ordinance Establishing Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees of the Town of Ferdinand, at the meeting it was introduced. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

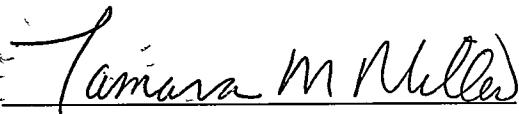
Redevelopment Commission	Tuesday	January 20, 2026 at 5:00 PM
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	January 20, 2026 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	December 17, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Plan Commission	Wednesday	December 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Park Board	Wednesday	January 14, 2026 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Commission	Monday	January 26, 2026 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. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL


Tamara M Miller

Clerk-Treasurer


Ron Seward


Ron W J


Debbie Jensen



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

December 2025 Departmental Report:

I would like to first bring your attention to the Police department numbers paperwork. To keep you more informed we have added a few categories. At the top you will see 2025 to date totals. Next, we added in the lower right corner ICAC, and Detective cases so you can see those Officer's usage. Next in that area you will see we now list the last 4 years total calls. I hope this gives you more information.

The Police department survived Christkendmarket. We did notice a larger traffic volume than in the past. We were able to move signs around to help with some parking issues but will need to adjust some things for next year, looking at possible needing more signs too, but we are already making those adjustments.

I attended an INDOT workshop for accidents. While there I was able to talk with INDOT engineers about the frustrations with S.R. 162 and S.R. 264 and S.R. 162 and North Industrial Road, and all the accidents and complaints we work and receive. I am happy to announce that INDOT did place traffic cameras up at those locations as they are doing a study. I hope they will get back with us, after studying the traffic flow.

The Ferdinand Police Department hosted a training course on Standard Field sobriety testing refresher at the Ferdinand Community Center. After the training the Officer's that attended were actually able use those skills on person's that had been drinking. All the people signed a waver and were given rides home, per the training requirements. It was a huge success, and I plan on doing it yearly. The Ferdinand Police department would like to thank the Ferdinand Community center, Homestead Pizza, and Bob's liquor for their donations for the training.

Officer Zink provided training on Defense Tactics to Tell City P.D, Perry County Sheriff's Office, and the Spencer County Sheriff's Office, Rockport P.D.



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



Officer Zink completed Evidence school. He will now work with Assistant Chief Seffernick to complete his training and take over the Evidence room. During his class we learned some things needed updated to bring the department to higher standards. That equipment has been purchased.

Sgt Snider did a school for Dale police Department to bring their department up to date on their Standard Field Sobriety testing.

Assistant Chief Seffernick attended a leadership and school safety course at Jasper High School.

I am seeking permission for the following:

I am asking permission to attend the Indiana Association Chief Police Conference in Indianapolis on Jan 27th, 28th, 29th. For \$350.00. I will need a hotel for \$399.00. and some meals possible as the conference does have some provided. I will need use of the car also please. Assistant Chief Seffernick will attend the summer conference, so we are both not gone at the same time.

I am seeking permission for Officer Winston Glenn to attend an Indiana Breath test instrument training school on Jan 14th, 2026, in Indianapolis for a cost of \$300.00. He will need use of a car and 1 meal. This is a one-day class

I am seeking permission for Officer Cole Meyer to attend an Indiana Breath test instrument training school on Feb 11th, 2026, in Indianapolis for a cost of \$300.00. He will need use of a car and 1 meal. This is a one-day class.

I am seeking permission for Sgt Chase Snider to Attended the Indiana Law Enforcement for firearms pre-qualification testing on Jan 8th in Plainfield at the Academy. This testing is free, but it is mandatory to be able to get into the firearms instructor school at a later time. Asking for use of the car, and 1 meal please.

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

473

2025 Year to Date

4575

November 2025 Calls For Service Report



Complaint Type	Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm	2	Missing Person Adult/Child	1
Animal Complaint	3	Parking Violation	
Assist Other Agency	18	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	
Battery/ Assault		Protective/Restraining Order	1
Burglary (attempted)	1	Prowler (report of)	
Burning Complaint		Report to Station	4
Child Abuse/Neglect		Return Messages	33
Civil Matter /Dispute		State Dispatch	9
Citizen Assist		Scam	1
Debris in Roadway	3	Security Check	118
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle		Suicide/or a Suicidal Person	
Disturbance/Disorderly Person		Suspicious Person/Vehicle	4
Drug Complaint		Theft	1
Domestic Problem	1	Traffic Control	8
Escort		Traffic Warnings	150
Eviction		Traffic Tickets	34
Extra Patrol	2	Trespassing	
Fight		Threats/ Intimidation	
Finger Printing		Vandalism	
Fire	1	Vehicle Accident	15
General Information	27	Vehicle Check	
Gun Permit	1	UTV	1
Harassment	2	Warrant	1
Investigation	4	Welfare Check	
Identity Theft		911 false calls	4
Illegal Dumping		Pursuit	1
Intoxicated Person		Year End Totals	
Juvenile Incorrigible/Runaway		2021 Calls Year End Totals	2722
Lines/ Poles Down		2022 Calls Year End Totals	2593
Lost/ Stolen License Plate		2023 Calls Year End Totals	3054
Mental Subject		2024 Calls Year End Totals	3736
ICAC Investigation	1	2025 ICAC Investigation Totals	4
Public Relations	3	2025 Detective Case Totals	10



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	1	13		14
OCTOBER	5	18		23
NOVEMBER	6	9		15
DECEMBER				

Received \$2,500 Grant from IDHS for the use of new AED.

Automatic Aid agreement is ready for approval.

Ben Hayden, 5 years, has decided to leave the department.

Jake Lindauer, 20 years, has decided to retire off the department, would like to thank them for their years of service to the Fire Department.

Electric Department Report

Dec. 16, 2025

- No unplanned outage
- Pad mount transformer installations
- Tree pruning to start this week
- Testing substation #5 (older one)
 - Budgeted for this year
 - Complete shutdown test
 - Work to be done Spring before storm season



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

Street and Park Department

Busy with leaf pickup

3500 HD Chevy
in shop [warranty]

Mulching leaves in parks

One weather event, spread salt on roads

October fall cleanup TVs, etc ... were picked up by Dubois Co. Solid Waste

Eric Rahman
Street and Property Manager



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

Water:

MROs filed with IDEM

Monthly Water Treatment	
Total Gallons	6,123,000
Max. Day	387,000
Min. Day	0
Avg. Daily	204,100

Work on 5th St is stalled, for weather

1 fire hydrant replace at 5th street park from failure

KENNETH SICARD, President

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

RONALD WEYER, Member

Wastewater:

Monthly IDEM reports are submitted

Solids discharged 2.2 mg/l per day average

Phosphorus levels of .5 mg/l out of a limit of 1 mg/l average

MONTHLY REMOVAL SUMMARY					Total Monthly Flow: (million gallons) 9.807
Percent Removal	BOD5	S.S.	Ammonia	Phosphorus	
Primary Treatment	NA	NA			
Secondary Treatment	NA	NA			
Tertiary Treatment	NA	NA			
Overall Treatment	99.2	98.0	99.4	89.6	
Phosphorus limit would be 1 mg/l. (compliance achieved)					

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Education:

Went to French Lick for AWWA conference, caught up on some regulation changes for lead and cooper effective November 2027, meet with supply reps on up coming price changes as well as ways to help with plant and equipment operations.

Permission to send Brian Hoffman to Scott Ham Course at Dubois for a refresher for his Water Distribution Liscense Test on January 8th for his test January 9th.



Ben Brinkman

Water/Wastewater Superintendent

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER, Member

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney



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Fax 812-367-1303
twnofferinand@pscinet.net

Marketing Dept – Peyton Nalley
December 2025 – Town Council Meeting

Attended Community Christmas & took pictures for the town Facebook.

Working on what can be improved/organized on website to make it easier to navigate.

Framing Ferdinand – created Reindeer food activity for Community Christmas.

Still thinking of ways to promote Station 313 in 2026.

Working on finishing the Park Board Facebook profile – they were wanting their own page

Various social media posts



**PARKS DEPARTMENT
TOWN COUNCIL REPORT**

December 2025

General Park Report

- The park board met on December 10, 2025.
- The park board will hold their annual major lease discussions at the next regular park board meeting on January 14th 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.
- The December meeting was the final meeting for Mike Steffe after dedicating 4 terms (16 years) to the board—a number as president of the board and numerous years interfacing with the sports leagues and scheduling tourneys and sports seasons. This board and the previous boards are grateful for his service.

Matthew Weyer
December 16, 2025