

TOWN OF FERDINAND  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 21, 2026

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, in the Ferdinand Town Hall. Present were Council President, Ken Sicard; Vice-President, Debbie Johnson; Council Member, Ron Weyer; Sharon Bohnenkemper, Attorney; 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.

Ron moved to approve the Minutes of the March 17, 2026, Town Council Meeting and the April 8, 2026, Special Meeting. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, requested permission to run an ad for new candidates for the fire department. Debbie moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie moved to approve the request of Todd Fischer, Electric Superintendent, to enter into a consulting agreement with Alpha Engineering for a Cost of Service & Rate Design Engineering Services at a cost not to exceed \$42,700. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Fischer stated it was important to conduct this in-depth study with the upcoming rate increase, to be as fair as possible to each classification of electric customer.

Eric Rahman, Street Superintendent, stated the Town clean up went well. There have been items, including scrap wood and 2x4's lumber, dumped at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Street limb and yard waste site. The collection site is for tree limbs only and yard waste only. He stated that no grass clippings should be blown into the street, as it will clog the drains.

Ben Brinkman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, stated his department has completed 340 feet of the 5<sup>th</sup> Street water main, and they have rented a jackhammer for one month to get through sandstone. Ron moved to approve Brinkman's request to send Colin Leinenbach, Mike Tobin and Kyle Lechner to free WTH GIS training in Vincennes on May 13. They will need transportation, and meals are provided. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Debbie moved to approve Brinkman's request to send Becher, Ryan, Brinkman, Oeding, Hoffman, and Werner to the Water Alliance Expo

in Huntingburg on May 14 for a cost of \$1,050. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Ron moved to approve transportation to Evansville for Ryan Oeding to take the Wastewater Class II Operator License test. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie Johnson stated the Redevelopment Commission will meet next week. The RDC is moving forward on the grant preapproval process with ROI and IEDC. There will be an RDC Public Meeting on Monday night at 5:00 PM.

Kathy Tretter requested 12<sup>th</sup> Street be closed between Main and Maryland on the following dates: July 10 for Mid-Summer Night Event, October 10 during Walktober Fest, and November 20, 21 & 22 during Christkindlmarkt. Ken moved to approve the request, contingent upon approval by Police Chief, Rob Randle. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Framing Ferdinand (FF) board member, Lori Klem, informed the Council that FF has applied for a grant to beautify two crosswalks: 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Kundek Street. FF will know if the grant was awarded by July 1. Global Asphalt estimated it would take two days to complete the project and would require the road to be closed during that time. Klem will request the road closure if the grant is awarded.

Ron moved to adopt Resolution 2026-04, a Resolution authorizing Ken Sicard, Town Council President, to sign the INDOT LPA Contracts and CCMG agreements. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Debbie Johnson stated that some members of the SS4A committee did a three-hour walking audit of streets and intersections with HWC representatives today. The final draft of the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan should be ready for review in May.

At 7:00 PM the water rate increase public hearing was held. Miller stated that this rate increase is necessary due to Patoka Lake's (our water supplier) rate increase of 28 cents per 1,000 gallons on April 1, 2026 and rising infrastructure and operating costs. The internal rate study was conducted using the current budget and 5-year capital improvement budget for water lines to create a projected cashflow through year 2029. Effective May 10, 2026, the proposed ordinance provides for a \$1.20 increase per 1,000 gallons, a 9.6% increase. The 4,000-gallon usage customer will see an increase of \$4.80 on their bill. The minimum user of 2,500 gallons will see a \$3.00 increase. On May 10, 2027, there will be a .40 increase per 1,000 gallons. The last water rate increase was in December of 2022. Debbie moved to close the hearing. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Ron moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-06, An Ordinance Amending the Schedule of Rates and Charges

for Use of and Services Rendered by the Municipal Water Utility of the Town of Ferdinand. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Cybersecurity plan - nothing new to report.

Debbie stated that we received an invoice for \$16,500 from UDA for preliminary engineering for a sidewalk/trail from High School property to Old Town Lake. This design was needed for a grant application. Ken moved to approve the UDA invoice for payment. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sicard stated AIM is working on Local Income Taxes. There are AIM meetings on Monday. Every county must have a Municipal Unit Strategic Task Force (MUST), per SEA Bill 1, made up of members from the Towns, Cities, County Council and County Commissioners. There will be an AIM resource guidebook coming out. There are changes still being made by the State legislature.

The ADA Transition Plan will be presented at the May meeting.

At 7:15 PM, Debbie moved to adopt the Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2026-07, SS4A Fund 2430, an additional \$77,534.79 for Other Services and Charges, and Park Fund 2204, an additional \$89,918.75 for Capital Outlays. Ron seconded. Roll call vote: Ken Sicard – aye, Ron Weyer – aye, Debbie Johnson - aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Miller presented 2027 budget meeting dates to the Town Council. The dates are for Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 6AM with department heads; Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> budget hearing at 7 PM; Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> budget adoption at 7 PM.

Debbie requested permission to form the 2026 health insurance committee. Ken moved to approve the request. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Todd Fischer stated the employees appreciate the insurance committee and the extra work by Debbie, who heads the committee.

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

Sicard stated the First Mass Celebration will be tomorrow at 6 PM on Highway 162.

Miller stated the CCMG 2026-2 (previously called 2026-01) paving contract was awarded to Knies Construction in the amount of \$832,733.01. The grant is 80/20, the Grant \$666,186.40 and the Town's portion is \$166,546.61. The paving contract consists of portions of 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Alabama Street and Vienna Drive.

Fischer stated that INDOT will be installing street lights by the interstate exchange.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

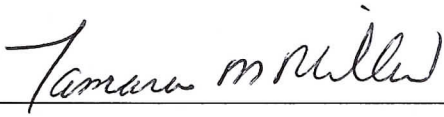
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	May 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	April 22, 2026 at 6:30 PM Cancelled
Plan Commission	Wednesday	April 22, 2026 at 7:00 PM Cancelled
Park Board	Wednesday	May 13, 2026 at 4:30 PM
Redevelopment Commission	Monday	April 27, 2026 at 5:00 PM
Public Hearing		
Economic Development Commission	Monday	April 27, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Public Hearing		
Town Council Special Meeting	Monday	April 27, 2026 at 6:30 PM

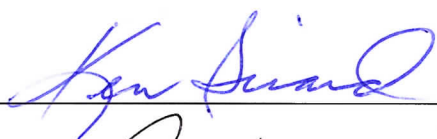
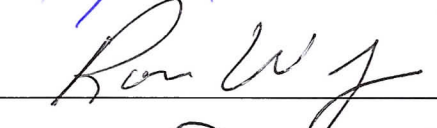
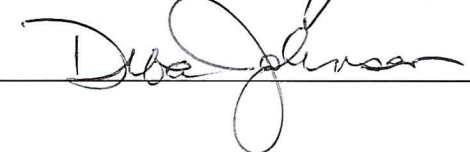
A full video archive of the meetings is available for viewing under the Public Notices Tab for 90 days at <https://ferdinandindiana.org>.

As there was no further business to discuss, Debbie moved to adjourn. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk-Treasurer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
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**Ferdinand** Est. 1905

**Police Department**

243 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street Ferdinand, Indiana 47532

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

Chief of Police: [Robert H. Randle](#) / Assistant Chief: [Brian Seffernick](#)



March 2026 Departmental Report:

Have had several Officers needing their annual IDACS training done and passed.

I was contacted by Flock cameras that our newest camera should be installed sometime in April 2026.

Had an officer got hurt on duty, and is on light duty till mid-April 2026, or released by IPEP doctor.

# 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	364	<b>March 2026 Calls For Service Report</b> 	
2026 Year to Date	<b>949</b>		
Complaint Type	Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm	5	Missing Person Adult/Child	
Animal Complaint	4	Parking Violation	1
Assist Other Agency	17	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	
Battery/ Assault		Protective/Restraining Order	
Burglary (attempted)		Prowler (report of)	
Burning Complaint		Report to Station	4
Child Abuse/Neglect		Return Messages	23
Civil Matter /Dispute	2	State Dispatch	23
Citizen Assist	2	Scam	1
Debris in Roadway		Security Check	24
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle	5	Suicide/or a Suicidal Person	
Disturbance/Disorderly Person		Suspicious Person/Vehicle	9
Drug Complaint		Theft	1
Domestic Problem	2	Traffic Control	13
Escort	4	Traffic Warnings	152
Eviction		Traffic Tickets	16
Extra Patrol	1	Trespassing	1
Fight		Threats/ Intimidation	2
Finger Printing		Vandalism	1
Fire	2	Vehicle Accident	8
General Information	17	Vehicle Check	6
Gun Permit		UTV	
Harassment	1	Warrant	4
Investigation	4	Welfare Check	9
Identity Theft		911 false calls	5
Illegal Dumping		Pursuit	
Intoxicated Person		<b>Year End Totals</b>	
Juvenile Incurrigible/Runaway		2022 Calls Year End Totals	<b>2593</b>
Lines/ Poles Down		2023 Calls Year End Totals	<b>3054</b>
Lost/ Stolen License Plate		2024 Calls Year End Totals	<b>3736</b>
Mental Subject	1	2025 Calls Year End Totals	<b>4950</b>
ICAC Investigation		2026 ICAC Investigation Totals	
Public Relations		2026 Detective Case Totals	7



## FERDINAND FIRE DEPT.

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

### 2026 Summary of Incidents

	<b>FIRE</b>	<b>EMR</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>APRIL</b>				
<b>MAY</b>				
<b>JUNE</b>				
<b>JULY</b>				
<b>AUGUST</b>				
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
<b>DECEMBER</b>				

**We did our annual road side clean up along 264.**

**We did our driver training**

**We have received our new Lucas device and have it in service. Want to thank everyone that has made this possible!**

**Would like to permission to run an ad to advertise for some new recruits.**

## **Electric Department Report**

April 21, 2025

- No unplanned outage
- 4kv conversion
  - Missouri and virginia area
- Approval of rate design study



Town of Ferdinand  
2065 Main Street  
Ferdinand, IN 47532-0007  
Phone 812-367-2280  
Fax 812-367-1303  
E-mail: [twnofferdinand@psi.net](mailto:twnofferdinand@psi.net)  
[www.ferdinandindiana.org](http://www.ferdinandindiana.org)

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Street and Park Department

Restrooms at boys and girls fields are open for seasons

Finished landscaping at new concession at 5<sup>th</sup> St. Park

Mowing going well with Scott Berg and Deane Verkamp

Put down stop bars at YMCA and Library (people were not stopping at the STOP sign)

Eric Rahman  
Street and Property Manager

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](mailto:townofferdinand@psci.net)

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## Water:

### MROs filed with IDEM

Monthly Water Treatment	
Total Gallons	5,982,000
Max. Day	284,000
Min. Day	115,000
Avg. Daily	192,968

Leiberling water main project finished,

- The two new hydrants flow rate has increased fire flow from 600 gallons a min to 1,280 gallon a min.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Street Project

- 220 ft installed
- All 10" main installed
- We are between Delaware and Alabama St
- Renting a Jack Hammer from Hamlin rentals for the excavator, we are digging through 3 ft of sandstone at this time.

2 water meter change outs due to failure.

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 2.7 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) 7.598
Percent Removal	BOD5	S.S.	Ammonia	Phosphorus	Percent Capacity (actual flow/design) 40%
Primary Treatment	NA	NA			
Secondary Treatment	NA	NA			
Tertiary Treatment	NA	NA			
Overall Treatment	98.2	98.2	95.4	88.7	
Phosphorus limit would be 80 % removal. (compliance achieved)					

Had a pipe clogged on West clarifier,

- drained the clarifier and took 3 guys 1 day to unclog the pipe
- everything seems to be working better

**Education:**

Permission to send the Water and Wastewater Department as well as Steve Becher and Austin Ryan to Huntingburg on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 3:30 pm for Alliance Operator Expo.

Cost is \$1,225 total meal is provided would need transportation to and from.

*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



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**Marketing Dept – Peyton Englert  
April 2026 – Town Council Meeting**

*Random website updates.*

*Working on what can be improved/organized on website to make it easier to navigate. Creating a FAQ section on the website with VIV*

*Finding ideas for new flags for USA 250th*

*Created new billboard designs for Q2*

*Ferdinand Folk Fest – Halfway to Folk Fest Social Media Campaign,  
Folk Fest Lineup Launch Social Media Campaign, Vendor Spotlight  
Social Media Campaign*

*Looking for a good system when emergencies/warnings/advisories  
happen where we can notify more community members a lot quicker.*

*Various social media posts*



**PARKS DEPARTMENT  
TOWN COUNCIL REPORT**

*April 2026*

**General Park Report**

- The park board met on April 8, 2026.
- The board noted that construction on the new concession / storage building renovation is complete providing expanded concession space, additional league storage in the existing footprint of the concession/storage/restroom building and better viewing for those parents working the concessions. This expansion of the building was necessary due in part to the demolition of the aging two-story building opening up the pavilion between the Weyer and Art Ruhe baseball fields. This project was primarily funded by a very generous donation by the Möbel Foundation. The board is grateful for the continued support of the Foundation and the numerous projects they've assisted in funding over the years.
- The Weyer (baseball), Best Home Furnishings (softball), and MasterBrand (soccer) fields all will be equipped with new scoreboards this spring due to the donations of those three companies over the winter. A big thank you to the electric department for assisting in replacing the aging scoreboards with the new LED scoreboards.
- All restrooms for the parks have now been opened for the season.

Matthew Weyer  
April 17, 2026