

TOWN OF FERDINAND
REGULAR MEETING
July 21, 2026

The Ferdinand Town Council met for a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, 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 June 16, 2026, Town Council Meeting and July 8, 2026 Special Meeting. Ron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Rob Randle, Police Chief, reported Officer Dylan Massie started July 10, 2026. The new 2024 Dodge Ram Truck is being upfitted. Randle requested permission to send Officer Josh Clouse to a basic detective school in Bloomington, IN at IU September 21st through September 25th for cost of \$400.00 for the class. The hotel will be \$440.00 for 4 nights, plus meals and use of the police vehicle. He also requested permission to send Sgt Chase Snider to ILEA for firearms instructor course. The course is free with all the credit hours we have at the Academy, but we will need to pay for lodging at the Academy at \$25.00 per night for 4 nights, plus meals and use of the vehicle. The Council did not approve Randle's requests at this time.

John Hoppenjans, Fire Chief, stated that the Fireman's Ball is July 25, 2026, at the Ferdinand Community Center, with meals starting at 5 PM and music by the Andy Hagedorn Band starts at 7 PM. John requested permission to advertise for quotes for a new fire rescue truck to replace the 2000 Freightliner rescue truck. Bohnenkemper stated the RFQ will be published twice in the paper, it will be on the website, and sent to designated vendors. Bohnenkemper requested sealed quotes be opened at 6:45 PM at the August 18, 2026, Council meeting. Sicard moved to approve the request. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie thanked the electric department for the quick response to recent electric power outages.

Ben Brinkman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, gave a flow number correction reflected in the wastewater department report attached. Kyle Lechner will be leaving the department after five years of service. Ben requested permission to purchase a jackhammer for \$8,850. The jackhammer

is currently being rented by the water department for \$4,725, which will be applied to purchase price. The remaining cost of \$4,125 will be split between the water, wastewater, street, and electric departments. Debbie moved to approve the purchase. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Lori Klem, representing Framing Ferdinand, stated the READI grant for the crosswalks was not approved, but they do have donations for the planters along Main Street. The Merchants sponsored Walktober Fest is October 10 from 10-2 with an opening ceremony at the mural on Fleig's Café. She requested closing 9th Street West of Main Street where food trucks would be located. She will review the street map and the road closure request and send a redraw to the Council along with the requested road closure timeline.

Eric Rahman, Street Superintendent, gave an update of the CCMG 2026-02 project. Vienna Drive is being prepped for curb and storm sewer. Milling and paving will follow and Vienna Drive should be open before school starts. Work on Alabama Street from East 5th to South of Caesars Court will be next, followed by 5th Street.

Brinkman gave an update of the waterline replacement on 5th Street. The sanitary waste rework bids are due next Tuesday, and he has had vendors contact him with interest in the project.

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

Cybersecurity – nothing new to report.

Debbie stated the Redevelopment Commission met today, and we are still working through the READI Grant process.

Debbie stated there is nothing new to report on the Trail Grant to the Old Town Lake.

Sicard stated that AIM is providing guidance regarding the Municipal Unit Strategic Taskforce Process “MUST” meetings to determine the allocation of the Local Income Tax distribution. He stated there are more changes coming from the legislature in January.

Electric Rate Study - Miller stated Ben Huckaba, with Alpha Engineering, is preparing information to share with the Council at the budget meeting. The electric rate ordinance will be introduced at the August 18 meeting, adopted in September, new rates effective September 10, bills mailed October 25, and due November 10. Debbie stated the rate increase is necessary because our electric provider contract expired and the new contract rates are higher.

Debbie stated the health insurance committee is waiting for additional health insurance provider options from our agent.

Debbie moved to allow Sicard and Miller to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Legion. The MOU states that the Town will contribute to the electric service for the lighting at the Veterans Memorial on the North side of Ferdinand in the amount of \$720 per year, effective July

1, 2026. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-11, an Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2025-25 Regarding Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees, at the meeting it was introduced. Firefighter Clothing Allowance: \$250 per person according to State Statute; and Firefighter Auto Allowance: \$250 per person according to State Statute effective July 1, 2026. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-12, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 9.08 of the Ferdinand Municipal Code Regarding Designated Stop Streets, at the meeting it was introduced. Section 9.08.020 of the Ferdinand Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows. All other provisions remain unchanged.

(23) Vienna Drive at Fourteenth (4-way)

(159) 14th Street, both directions at Vienna and Alabama (4-way)

(160) Alabama at 14th Street (4-way)

There will be stop bars and LED lighting on the new stop signs. Sicard stated he spoke with Superintendent Pund explaining the reasoning behind the 4-way stop and she agreed. Sicard stated we are open to looking at the intersection again after the improvements to the high school are complete. Bohnenkemper added there was public notice that stated the July 21, 2026 Council meeting included an agenda item to address traffic safety concerns near Forest Park High School, including potentially making a 4-way stop. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0. The adopted Ordinance will be published in the Ferdinand News to alert drivers.

Sicard moved to allow execution of the Generations one-year lease at Station 313 for the entire kitchen area, effective July 12, 2026, and expiring July 11, 2027. Generations has agreed to the terms and has signed the lease. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Rahman, Street Superintendent, requested the Council accept Georgia Street from East 5th Street to East 3rd Street into the Town's Road Inventory. Ken moved to accept Georgia Street from East 5th Street to East 3rd Street into the Town's Road Inventory. Debbie seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to accept the proposal from Universal Design Associates for the September 2026 CCMG Application. The proposal is \$20,000 for the Grant Planning and Application Phase and \$14,000 for the Final Design, Bidding & Construction Phase Fee, for a total of \$34,000. Ken seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Debbie moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-13, an Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2025-25 Regarding Salaries, Compensation and Wages for Elected Officials, Appointees and Employees,

at the meeting it was introduced. Part-time deputy clerk: Stephanie Brinkman, while providing coverage due to another co-worker's absence from the office, 40 hours per week, and additionally, any of the Town's paid holidays during the term of that coverage will be paid holidays. There is no change to the hourly wage. Coverage expected to begin around September 1, 2026, for at least 12 weeks. This amendment effective upon passage. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

The Council approved the \$1,000 Platinum Sponsorship for the Ferdinand Annual Community Banquet on August 19, 2026, at the Ferdinand Community Center.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Redevelopment Commission	Tuesday	August 18, 2026 at 5:00 PM
Town Council Meeting	Tuesday	August 18, 2026 at 6:30 PM
BZA	Wednesday	July 22, 2026 at 6:30 PM Cancelled
Plan Commission	Wednesday	July 22, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Park Board	Wednesday	August 12, 2026 at 4:30 PM
Economic Development Commission	Monday	July 27, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Town Council Budget Meeting (to be held at Station 313)	Tuesday	July 28, 2026 at 6:00 AM
Town Council Budget Hearing	Tuesday	August 18, 2026 at 7 PM
Town Council Budget Adoption	Tuesday	September 15, 2026 at 7 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. Sicard seconded. Motion carried 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

FERDINAND TOWN COUNCIL


Tamara M Miller
Clerk-Treasurer

Don Sicard
Ron Wey
Deba Johnson

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



June 2026 Departmental Report:

During June we continued our search for the next officer. In total we had 11 applications turned in, 3 applicants being lateral officers. We held agility testing and written testing, which 2 failed out of the process. From that we continued with doing background checks, interviews, and in July will present a person with a conditional offer to the council.

Our newest Officer Dylan Massie started on July 10th and has quickly picked up everything since he came as a lateral Officer. This brings our department back to full staff.

We picked up our new 2024 Dodge Ram police truck. We have scheduled the truck for striping and equipment to be installed once all of that comes in.

Attended an INDOT meeting in Jasper, after speaking with some engineers hopefully they will be coming to Ferdinand in person to meet with Ken, Eric, and myself to look at State Road 162 and State Road 264.

I am seeking permission to send Officer Josh Clouse to a basic detective school in Bloomington, IN at IU September 21st through September 25th for cost of \$400.00 for the class. The hotel will be \$ 440.00 for 4 nights, plus meals and use of the police vehicle.

I am seeking permission to send Sgt Chase Snider to ILEA for firearms instructor course. The course is free with all the credit hours we have at the Academy, but we will need to pay for lodging at the Academy at a cost of \$25.00 a night for 4 nights, plus meals and use of the vehicle. We have been waiting for over a year for this class to open up.

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	346	June 2026 Calls For Service Report 	
2026 Year to Date	1615		
Complaint Type	Total	Complaint Type	Total
Alarm		Missing Person Adult/Child	1
Animal Complaint	8	Parking Violation	1
Assist Other Agency	18	Property Lost/Found/Recovered	
Battery/ Assault		Protective/Restraining Order	
Burglary (attempted)	1	Prowler (report of)	
Burning Complaint		Report to Station	4
Child Abuse/Neglect		Return Messages	40
Civil Matter /Dispute		State Dispatch	17
Citizen Assist	1	Scam	1
Debris in Roadway	5	Security Check	44
Disabled/Stranded Vehicle	6	Suicide/or a Suicidal Person	1
Disturbance/Disorderly Person		Suspicious Person/Vehicle	4
Drug Complaint	1	Theft	3
Domestic Problem	1	Traffic Control	10
Escort	3	Traffic Warnings	83
Eviction		Traffic Tickets	12
Extra Patrol		Trespassing	
Fight		Threats/ Intimidation	1
Finger Printing		Vandalism	1
Fire		Vehicle Accident	7
General Information	23	Vehicle Check	15
Gun Permit		UTV	2
Harassment		Warrant	1
Investigation	6	Welfare Check	7
Identity Theft		911 false calls	15
Illegal Dumping		Pursuit	1
Intoxicated Person		Year End Totals	
Juvenile Incurrigible/Runaway	1	2022 Calls Year End Totals	2593
Lines/ Poles Down		2023 Calls Year End Totals	3054
Lost/ Stolen License Plate		2024 Calls Year End Totals	3736
Mental Subject		2025 Calls Year End Totals	4950
ICAC Investigation		2026 ICAC Investigation Totals	
Public Relations	5	2026 Detective Case Totals	4



FERDINAND FIRE DEPT.

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

2026 Summary of Incidents

	FIRE	EMR		TOTAL
JANUARY	4	8		12
FEBRUARY	1	12		13
MARCH	6	8		14
APRIL	3	16		19
MAY	2	13		15
JUNE	4	16		20
JULY				
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER				
OCTOBER				
NOVEMBER				
DECEMBER				

Firemens Ball is July 25 at the Ferdinand Community Center, with fried chicken dinners starting at 5. Andy Hagedorn and company will be this years entertainment starting at 7.

Electric Department Report

July 21, 2025

- Multiple unplanned outages
 - Storms over a couple weeks
- Pole replacements
 - South side circuit
 - East side of main street
- New service installations and prep
 - High school
 - Underground loop to 14th street from 18th part of reliability improvement plan
 - Sawmill
- Voltage conversion
 - Conductor upgrade prep in Missouri st area



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

Street and Park Department

Doing blacktop patching on cut outs

Sprayed curbs and rip rap areas

Worked on sprinklers on ballfields

Working with Knies Construction on detours and planning for road construction

Helping mow and weed eat when needed

Started digging out new water line trench on E 5th St and filling with blacktop base, will save money doing it

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

Water:

MROs filed with IDEM

Monthly Water Treatment	
Total Gallons	6,478,000
Max. Day	321,000
Min. Day	82,000
Avg. Daily	215,933

5th Street Project

- At intersection of 5th and Michigan on West side of 5 ft storm Culvert
- All services moved over to new main between Michigan and Georgia
- Alabama St connection completed and boil advisory lifted

FPHS Project

- Main filled and waiting on Bacteria Samples to come back

Meter reads

- 13 failed meters this month

KENNETH SICARD, President

DEBBIE JOHNSON, Vice President

RONALD WEYER, Member

TAMARA MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer

SHARON BOHNENKEMPER, Attorney

Wastewater:

Monthly IDEM reports are submitted ^{1.3}
Solids discharged ~~2.7~~ mg/l per day average
Phosphorus levels of .5 mg/l out of a limit of 1 mg/l average
Flow 12.2 Million Gal.

Grit removal system

- All specs and work for project sent out and waiting turn in deadline.

Education:

Brian Hoffman starting cram session for wastewater next week

Ryan Oeding started last semester of wastewater classes this week

Permission to purchase jack hammer for skid loader, over half is paid in rent this as of this month from water main project where it has been used every block.

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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twnofferdinand@psci.net

Marketing Dept – Peyton Englert
July 2026– Town Council Meeting

Social Media Posts

Random website updates

Discussions about getting a new billboard on the interstate.

Attended Ferdinand Folk Fest meeting --- discussing/preparing for 2026 folk event. Preparing for fest social media rollout

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