

310 LANE STREET
NORTH JUDSON, IN 46366

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Town Council of the Town of North Judson
Regular Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2025 – 6:30 PM

The North Judson Town Council met in Regular Session at the North Judson Town Hall, 310 Lane Street, North Judson, IN on the above date and time with the following present: Council Vice President Brown, and Councilmember Lewandowski, Banks, and Windbigler, and Clerk-Treasurer Rowe present as well.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Vice President Brown asked for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Lewandowski moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all Councilmembers present concurred.

Council Vice President Brown asked for approval of the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on April 7, 2025. Councilmember Lewandowski moved to approve those Minutes. Councilmember Windbigler seconded the motion, and all Councilmembers present concurred.

Old Business:

-Town Ordinance Proposals for Zoning Modifications Update

- Town Ordinance No.2025-01: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Dwellings

Building Inspector Jackson presented Town Ordinance No.2025-01: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Dwellings.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve Town Ordinance No.2025-01: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Dwellings. Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

- Town Ordinance No.2025-02: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Accessory Structures

Building Inspector Jackson presented Town Ordinance No.2025-02: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Accessory Structures.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve Town Ordinance No.2025-02: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Accessory Structures. Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

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- Town Ordinance No.2025-03: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Solar Energy Systems Standards

Building Inspector Jackson presented Town Ordinance No.2025-03: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Solar Energy Systems Standards.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve Town Ordinance No.2025-03: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Solar Energy Systems Standards. Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

- Town Ordinance No.2025-04: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Commercial Solar Battery Energy Storage System Standards

Building Inspector Jackson presented Town Ordinance No.2025-04: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Commercial Solar Battery Energy Storage System Standards.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve Town Ordinance No.2025-04: Ordinance Establishing Definitions & Criteria for Commercial Solar Battery Energy Storage System Standards. Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

- Town Ordinance No.2025-05: North Judson Horizontal Drilling Policy // HDD Permit Application

Building Inspector Jackson presented Town Ordinance No.2025-05: North Judson Horizontal Drilling Policy // HDD Permit Application.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve Town Ordinance No.2025-05: North Judson Horizontal Drilling Policy // HDD Permit Application. Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

New Business:

Nothing Presented.

Recognition of Guest

Donna Henry was present on behalf of the Mint Festival Committee. She stated that the committee has been meeting biweekly since February, and that the extra meetings have been very helpful. Henry thanked everyone for their participation in helping the community move forward with this year's festival. Rowe mentioned that he would be working on getting pictures of the Town employees and Council to send to her for the Green Paper. Henry went on to say that vendor space will be along the 200 to 300 blocks of Keller Avenue and Main Street. She mentioned that they would also be able to use the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church parking lot. Henry stated that the festival run route has been updated and will now go through local streets, avoiding highways, with routes for one mile, two mile, and 5K options. The route will start and end at the Water Tower. Overall, things are progressing well and there's a lot of community excitement.

Graham Max was present on behalf of the North Judson Baseball and Softball Program. Max informed the Council that their baseball and softball season would begin in two weeks. There are 221 children registered for the 2025 season. He stated that they did have some kids from nearby towns join the league. Max went on to discuss some facilities and equipment updates. T-ball dugouts are being redone, with concrete work happening soon. Some field resurfacing has been completed. Old scoreboards from storage

are being refurbished and should be installed this season. Electrical power may need to be pulled from a nearby light pole for the scoreboards. There are currently 20 teams but only 2 fields ready for use. Games are scheduled Monday through Friday, with three games per night. Rainouts will be hard to reschedule due to lack of field availability. Saturday morning games may be necessary, which aren't ideal for families. Max asked if the Council would be interested in the possibility of installing lights at the basketball court. He shared a proposal to share poles and power between the baseball fields and the basketball courts. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe informed him that there would be a Redevelopment Commission meeting scheduled for the following week and suggested that it would be a good time to present lighting needs and explore funding options. Rowe stated that they are currently working on Phase Two of the Park Project and are hoping to address some of the League's needs within the timeframe. He encouraged Max to attend the Park Board meetings for long-term planning.

Bill Ramp complimented the Fire Department and Utility Crew for their efforts during the recent storms. He also asked Kapp if the Christmas decorations at Norwayne Field were still up. Kapp informed him that the decorations were taken down last week. She stated that she is waiting to hear from the school to see when they would like the Santa House to be delivered.

Department /Representative Reports

Clerk-Treasurer - Andrew Rowe

Rowe stated that the Appropriation Reports show that the Town's funds are currently between 70-85%, which is above the expected 66%, indicating healthy financials. No funds are below 69%, and the outlook for the year is good. He mentioned that they had drafted a letter to Railroad Heights Incorporated after receiving their proposed conveyance for a work order. The letter was sent out earlier in the day for the priest property over by the Hoosier Valley and Simmons Street. Rowe mentioned that he had included the current schedule of fees from the last publication and Public Hearing announcement. The fees are currently part of the most recent ordinance that they will be discussing in the coming weeks.

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented the following Special Event Permit Application for Council Approval:
A Run to Remember: Pregnancy & Infancy Loss Support at Norwayne Field on Saturday, September 6th.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve the following Special Event Permit Application and waive the \$50.00 fee for the Run to Remember: Pregnancy & Infancy Loss Support at Norwayne Field on Saturday, September 6th. Councilmember Windbigler seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

Rowe presented the following Purchase Orders for Council Approval:

P.O. 2785 to Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC for Monthly invoice for BT+ per agreement dated December 2, 2024, Invoice BTMA31908, in the amount of \$3,852.45.

P.O. 2786 to Kirby Built, LLC for Benches (6), Trash Receptacles (6), Rain Bonnets (6), Olympia Planters (10), Message Center (2), Wall Mount (1), and Picnic Tables (20) for the Park and Downtown Area, Invoice #SOKSA14649, in the amount of \$35,731.55.

P.O. 2787 to Pulaski Memorial Hospital for Employee Alcohol and Drug Testing, in the amount of \$903.90.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve the following Purchase Orders:

P.O. 2785 to Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC for Monthly invoice for BT+ per agreement dated December 2, 2024, Invoice BTMA31908, in the amount of \$3,852.45.

P.O. 2786 to Kirby Built, LLC for Benches (6), Trash Receptacles (6), Rain Bonnets (6), Olympia Planters (10), Message Center (2), Wall Mount (1), and Picnic Tables (20) for the Park and Downtown Area, Invoice #SOKSA14649, in the amount of \$35,731.55.

P.O. 2787 to Pulaski Memorial Hospital for Employee Alcohol and Drug Testing, in the amount of \$903.90.

Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

School Board – Doug Wilde

Nothing presented.

Building Inspector – Todd Jackson

Building Inspector Todd Jackson stated that he had followed up with Attorney Schramm with an unsafe property that was submitted before he was hired as the Building Inspector. Attorney Schramm informed him that he would be looking into sending out another letter and seeing what kind of documentation they would need to file for the unsafe structure.

Code Enforcement – Town Marshal Frank Thomas

Town Marshal Frank Thomas stated that they have been taking care of removing vehicles or having owners fix them up. He informed Bill Ramp that he would need to air up the tires on the vehicle placed on his property. Council Vice President Brown asked what was being done a property on the Keller and Central Avenue regarding the junk placed in the yard. Billing Clerk Lewandowski obtained information from the property owner regarding the property. The owner confirmed he had taken the renters to court where the judge gave the current occupants until Sunday to vacate the property. If the occupant doesn't remove the items, the property owner plans to bring in a dumpster to clean it up. Lewandowski confirmed the situation is being actively addressed.

Unsafe Hearing

Nothing presented.

BZA/Planning Commission

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe stated there is interest in increasing involvement in the comprehensive planning process, especially from Radtke and other members of the Park Board. Rowe and Leszek have been speaking with a developer regarding a potential housing project – possibly multi-story or single-family – near Mint Valley apartment complex. The developer has shown strong interest and has met with Rowe and Leszek as well as the property owner to review data and grant opportunities. They're aware of the necessary approval process through the Planning Commission and Town Council. Jackson is available to assist with guidance as needed.

Redevelopment Commission

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe stated that the next meeting would be Monday, April 28th.

Park Board – Nick Radtke

Nick Radtke stated that they have moved the Park Board meeting from Thursday nights to Wednesday nights due to their busy schedules. He also mentioned that they would be welcoming their new board member soon and that he was excited to see what ideas he would have for the Park Board.

Police Department – Town Marshal Frank Thomas

Thomas informed the Council that he would like to start providing updates similar to Jackson's Fire Department reports. He started off by listing three tiers of public interactions: Informal citizen contacts (not logged with dispatch), logged dispatches, and serious calls that get case numbers. He stated that in the past 30 days, there were 475 dispatches including 148 business checks and 105 extra patrols. He explained that extra patrols were house checks from when residents are away. Thomas stated that future updates will include more consistent sharing of stats, including ordinance violations, fire/EMS, welfare checks, and other incidents.

Ramp asked if there had been any reports of gunfire near Vine Street. Thomas informed him that there is no need to worry since there were no complaints or signs of danger near that area.

Fire Department – Fire Chief Todd Jackson

Nothing Presented.

Utility Department – Utility Supervisor Kimberly Kapp

Utility Supervisor Kapp explained that the crew is continuing to storm clean-up efforts, with debris still surfacing. Materials like pea gravel have been picked up to improve areas around park signs, and work on that will resume mid-week.

Utility Supervisor Kapp presented the following Purchase Orders for Council Approval:

P.O. 2782 to Peerless Midwest for Tested & Serviced Well & High Service Pumps, Invoice 82952, in the amount of \$1,300.00.

P.O. 2783 to Menards for Park Materials out on Credit Card, Sign Boxes and Material to mount Two Ride Toys, Invoice 19870, in the amount of \$836.91.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to approve the following Purchase Orders:

P.O. 2782 to Peerless Midwest for Tested & Serviced Well & High Service Pumps, Invoice 82952, in the amount of \$1,300.00.

P.O. 2783 to Menards for Park Materials out on Credit Card, Sign Boxes and Material to mount Two Ride Toys, Invoice 19870, in the amount of \$836.91.

Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

Town Manager – Joe Leszek

Nothing Presented.

Legal Updates – Town Attorney Justin Schramm

Nothing Presented.

Additional Business Deemed Necessary by the Council:

Nothing Presented.

Payment of Claims:

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to pay Payment of Claims in the amount of \$136,472.18. Councilmember Windbigler seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

Councilmember Lewandowski made a motion to adjourn, Councilmember Banks seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 P.M.



John Rowe, Council President

Attest:



Andrew J. Rowe, Clerk-Treasurer

Next regular scheduled meeting – Monday, May 5, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.