



Town of North Judson Redevelopment Commission
Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

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: Commission President Rowe, Commission Vice President Brown, Commissioners Lewandowski, Banks, and Windbigler. Town Manager Leszek and Clerk-Treasurer Rowe were also able to attend as well.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commission President Rowe asked for approval of the agenda. Commission Vice President Brown moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion, and all council members present concurred.

Commission President Rowe asked for approval of the Minutes from the Meeting Minutes on January 20, 2025. Commission Vice President Brown moved to approve those Minutes. Commissioner Banks seconded the motion, and all Commission members present concurred.

Business

Town Park Improvements Project – Phase II

Town Manager Leszek explained that he had given everyone a copy of the initial proposal from Troyer Group for the second phase of the Town Park Project. He stated that they would not need to accept the proposal now, but with the deadline in August it will take some months to put together. He explained that they do have some time and plans to reach out to other firms and solicit proposals. There had been discussions about revamping the Hidden Diamond area or adding a skate park/amenities area. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe suggested that they could put sunshades in Norwayne Field or disc golf in the wooded area south of the Hidden Diamond.

Commission President Rowe stated his concerns with Troyer Group and Phase I going overbudget as much as it did, ultimately. He did not feel that Troyer Group defended the Town when another consultant on an MVH project blamed everyone else for cost overruns for which the Town was not at fault. He stated that they would need to be stricter about the estimated cost going forward and possibly stretch the projects out for longer periods. Leszek stated that, if we are awarded, the next LWCF Grant Application then they won't be able to apply for that funding for another eight years. He explained that if they applied for the grant this August then construction would not begin until 2027.

Leszek also mentioned that the Little League has been working on getting new dugouts and are planning on starting some painting projects. They want to get new dugouts for the Tee-Ball Field and are looking to partner with Kankakee Valley REMC or NIPSCO in order to get new poles and light fixtures.

Commission President Rowe explained that since the Little League is working on the Hidden Diamond then it gives the Town more room to focus on other section of the Park. He mentioned that they might want to look into adding more pickleball courts since the original court is so well-loved and utilized by the community. The Commission agreed that the biggest costs at the Hidden Diamond would be if they wanted to add a press box, bleachers, lights and paving for access and parking. Leszek stated that if they are able to turn Arloa Lane into a public road, we'll be eligible for CCMG paving grants through INDOT, which means that that Town's match would be 20%, not the 50% required with the DNR LWCF Grant.

2025 Redevelopment Master Plan & Spending Plan Projects

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented everyone with part of the Annual Financial Report. He explained that last year the Redevelopment Commission Fund started with around \$2.5m and ended the year with (+/-) \$1,650,000.00. The Redevelopment Commission Fund would grow an additional \$55,000.00 after the last LWCF Grant reimbursement.

Leszek went to say that they have several projects coming up this year including the hill garage rehabilitation, installation of picnic tables at the Town Park, various signage projects, and new downtown banners. Leszek stated that those projects are going to cost around \$60,000 to \$80,000. Clerk-Treasurer Rowe mentioned planting shrubs to put in front of the dog park to add more landscaping beautification to the area as well as signage to honor Jane Ellen Felchuk. Leszek mentioned that Weninger Street would be repaved this spring with new sidewalks coming in 2026 to further beautify and improve walkability.

Additional Business Deemed Necessary by the Commission:

Clerk-Treasurer Rowe presented the following Purchase Orders for Council Approval:

P.O. 2757 to Starke County Economic Development Foundation for Platinum Sponsorship for Starke Tank 2025 – The Countywide Business Pitch Competition, in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Commission Vice President Brown made a motion to approve the following Purchase Order:

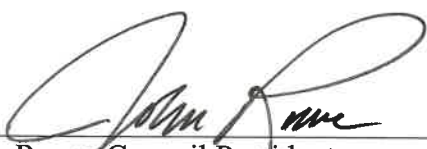
P.O. 2757 to Starke County Economic Development Foundation for Platinum Sponsorship for Starke Tank 2025 – The Countywide Business Pitch Competition, in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Commissioner Lewandowski seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

Adjournment

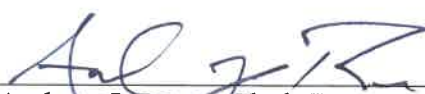
Commissioner Lewandowski moved to adjourn the meeting. Commission Vice President Brown seconded the motion, and all members present concurred.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 P.M.



John Rowe, Council President

Attest:



Andrew J. Rowe, Clerk-Treasurer

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