

Wingate Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 2025

ROLL CALL

The Wingate Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Council President Kyle Campbell and Council Members Andrew Lorenz and Curt Hadley responded to Roll Call. Shyana Busse introduced herself and explained that she was serving as recording secretary and clerk of this meeting in Janet's place.

Jay Busse and Shyana Busse of Busse Excavating, Troy Elless of UMAC, and Town Marshal Jared Kirby were also present at this meeting. Janet Alexander and Suzy Bass of Local Government Services were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The approval of the December and January meeting minutes was tabled until the March meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident Paul England voiced his concern about the house's condition directly across from his home. Harry owns the house as a rental. He asked the Council if anything was being done to correct the problems. The Council told him that ordinance violation letters had been sent to the property owner.

Bar owner Wes Null asked for copies of the December 29, 2024, meeting minutes. After a discussion, Shyana told him she would call Janet and find out when they would be ready. He also asked when he could begin cleaning up the site around his bar. He asked if there had been any contact with the owner, John Wilkerson. Kyle Campbell said that the attorney, Stu Weliever, was going to notify Wilkerson. There was a conversation about where to dump debris. Jay Busse explained that it had to go to a landfill or a transfer station. Wes Null also asked about the clean-up estimates for the Cording Hall site. Jay reached out to several companies, including Seymore Excavating, Price Excavating, and Conner Excavating, and they are not interested. Fisher Excavating is waiting on pricing.

The Nulls also asked whether the Town had secured funding (grant funding), and Curt Hadley explained how the grant funding works. They then asked what happens when the building gets cleaned up, whether it goes back to the owner, or what happens to it.

Wes Null's brother, Travis Null, came into the meeting and introduced himself. He provided a written quote for \$42,000, but no action was taken.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Park Advisory Board- No one from the Park Improvement Committee was present, and there was no report offered.

Town Maintenance Supervisor, Jay Busse- Jay reported that INDOT—the Indiana Department of Transportation—had employees in town recently performing a site survey for a proposed 2027 road & sidewalk project. He explained that this does not mean that the project will happen.,

He also reported that the gas station is getting new pumps and tanks. There is also a grease trap there, but it is not hooked up to anything. Jay was not sure what, if anything, the Town would have to do with that project.

Indiana 811 now requires that the utility reports what it finds when a locate order is issued. He believes this will create a lot more work than in the past and suggests that the Town consider hiring private locator services. A discussion was held. Andrew Lorenz moved to proceed with looking into alternative locating companies. Kyle Campbell seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

UMAC Water and Sewer Operations Report, Troy Elless Troy reported that the new PFAS regulations regarding drinking water standards required sampling twice yearly. He is in the process of getting quotes for this chemical testing. He cautioned the Council that this testing would be expensive. Regarding the wastewater plant, Troy stated that there is quite a bit of ammonia, but that is to be expected in the wintertime. Troy then talked about the lead and copper survey. The town used Sherri Winters to prepare the first survey. She will provide a quote to assist the Town with the next phase of lead service line reporting to keep us compliant.

Town Marshal Jared Kirby - The Marshal reported that he responded to thirty (30) calls in January, sixteen (16) were related to traffic stops. Letters regarding ordinance violations were mailed to Harry concerning his property, giving him 15 days to clean it up. We can obtain a court order if he fails to comply within that timeframe.

Coal Creek Fire & Rescue—Fire Chief Darren Foreman of Coal Creek Fire and Rescue reported that the department responded to nineteen (19) calls for service in December. Eighteen (18) were for medical services, and one (1) were for fire. Six (6) calls came from New Richmond addresses, and thirteen (13) came from Wingate addresses.

FINANCIAL REPORTING:

Shyana Busse presented the town's financial reports. The reconciled financial reports for January 2025, including the Fund Report, Appropriation Report, Bank Statement, and Bank

Reconciliation, were presented and reviewed. Kyle Campbell motioned to approve the reports as presented; Andrew Lorenz seconded. The motion was put to a vote, and it carried.

The accounts payable docket for \$30,356.20 was presented. Kyle Campbell motioned to approve the claims as presented, and Andrew Lorenz seconded. The motion was put to a vote, and it carried.

Shyana presented a list of three stale dated checks from 2022. She explained that after two years, if a check is not cashed, the checks are voided. The total of the three checks came out to \$2,626.65. Kyle Campbell made a motion to approve. Andrew Lorenz seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Coal Creek Fire & Rescue Inc – Annual Service Contract – The fire services contract was presented. The new contract is for \$6,000.00 for 2025. Andrew Lorenz made a motion to approve the proposed contract approved. Curt Hadley seconded, and the motion was put to a vote, and the motion was carried.

Wingate Recreational Boosters—Ball Field Contract—Tyler Wilson provided the contract for using the park's ballfields. Kyle Campbell made a motion to approve the contract as presented. Andrew Lorenz seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote, and it was carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Park Pavilion – Read 180 Project – Proposed Work Order from DES Civil & Environmental Engineering to prepare the creation of bid documents and complete the advertisement for \$3,000.00. Kyle Campbell moved to accept the work order, and Andrew Lorenz seconded it. The motion was put to a vote, and it carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Wes Null asked if the town financials were a public record. The council members stated that Town financial information is available on the Indiana Gateway.

ADJOURNMENT:

Curt Hadley motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Kyle Campbell seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Campbell
Council President & Acting Clerk-Treasurer