

Minutes of Regular Meeting, July 14, 2025

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, July 14, 2025 in a Regular Meeting at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne St, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Council Members, Steve Buzzard, Michelle Schweikhardt, Jeremy Rufener; Ron Boxell: Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Dennis Spitler, Dustin Fortney, Fire Chief Lee Poulson; others.

President Buzzard opened the meeting at 5:00 pm and announced the opening of a Public Hearing on Ordinance 2025-10, Solar Energy Standards. Review of Ordinance held. Opening to public input and hearing none, the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion made by Buzzard, seconded by Schweikhardt, to consider adoption of Ordinance 2025-10, Solar Energy System Standards, at the same meeting of introduction. Yes: Boxell, Schweikhardt, Buzzard. No, Rufener. Motion carried

Buzzard moved adoption of Ordinance 2025-10, seconded by Schweikhardt. Yes: Boxell, Schweikhardt, Buzzard. No: Rufener.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 14, Special Meeting of July 1, approved as submitted.

Representatives of Historic Warren requested Council consider a letter in support of a grant application for Phase 3 of Riverside Park, installation of a brick walkway on East side. Council concurred.

Marshal Spitler submitted June Activity report and noted that the Salamonie Festival was uneventful. Schweikhardt and Council commended the committee and volunteers for their work.

Fire Chief Poulson submitted the Department's June activity report. Council, by consensus, approved the addition of Blake Randall to the Department. Additional applications are being accepted. Fire Truck Chassis expected to arrive in August

Utility Manager Fortney updated on projects noting that Primary Lines at Heritage Pointe need to be updated, street lights wiring problems in two areas. Also reported was that mowing of the property purchased from the School Corporation was needing mowed and working with Purdue Extension office, an estimate was given of \$550. Council concurred. Fortney also requested Council consider placement of sponsorship signs on the baseball diamond fences at Tower Park and reported that AT&T had scheduled placement of addition antennas on Eleventh Street Tower.

Ordinance 2025-9, Animal Control, was submitted for consideration of adoption. Buzzard moved, seconded by Buzzard to adopt. Yes: Boxell, Schweikhardt, Buzzard, Rufener.

Electric Rate Ordinance 2025-11 was introduced with Public Hearing scheduled for August 11. Increase of \$5.00 to service rate. Also, \$5.00 each year until January of 2030 due to increase in cost of purchase of power through Wolverine.

A Task Order from Commonwealth Engineering, following discussion which was held at June meeting and covering Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Study in the amount of \$40,000 leading to development of a ten year financial plan to update to meet current and projected needs and, an Asset Management Study in the amount of \$36,000, was submitted for consideration. Schweikhardt moved, seconded by Boxell to approve. Yes: Boxell, Schweikhardt, Buzzard. No: Rufener.

Morrison reported that approximately seventy bricks have been sold for placement at the Veterans Park. Flags will also be replaced. Dedication set for Veterans Day, 2025.

Submitted for Council Review was Town Code: Park Chapter for update to language and to specify all park areas instead of only Tower Park. Ongoing project.

Department of Community Development Inspection Report:

319 Matilda Street – Owner given until October to address issues.

324 Hendricks Street – Order of Enforcement being issued.

312 W. Eleventh Street – 90 days to remove house or Order of Enforcement.

Complaint filed by citizens regarding residence at Main and Fourth Street with chickens and more being an issue was revisited with Marshal Spitler directed to make contact with owners to move current pens to a different location on the property and away from any property lines.

Annual Task Order from Commonwealth Engineering for General Consulting was submitted in the amount of \$25,000 for the next twelve month as service is provided. Buzzard moved, seconded by Schweikhardt seconded, to approve the Task Order. Yes: Boxell, Schweikhardt, Buzzard. No: Rufener.

Minutes of Regular Meeting, July 14, 2025

Morrison requested a wage of \$16.50 per hour, part time pay rate, for Utility Clerk as certain transitions in the office are ongoing. The position has been offered to an individual with flexibility of hours, computer skills, and experience in dealing with the public. Noting that three Council Members expressed support, an ordinance will be prepared.

A Special Meeting has been set for July 16 at 9:45 am for Council consideration of a request for rezoning.

An Executive Session has been set for July 16 at 10:00 am.

Claims Register in the amount of \$592,186.54 was approved by consensus.

Payroll Allocation report in the amount \$39, 928.58 was approved by consensus.

Morrison submitted information in regard to development of the 2026 Municipal Budget noting that not all numbers have been received from the State and Assessed Value will not be available until August. The annual meeting with a representative of the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance is scheduled for August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Morrison reported that 3A Development, hired to prepare a park plan so that a grant application can be filed for a DNR grant for upgrades within the Town's Park system, had been contacted regarding the supplied schedule in the contract had not been kept to meet requirements. Current Director noted that a changeover in staff had resulted in the delay but a new schedule will be developed which will meet the deadline for filing in 2026.

A citizen questioned the parking of a large service truck on Third Street which is making entry onto Third from Main dangerous. Council requested that the owner be instructed to move the truck and offered the Utility Garage Parking area.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting of Council scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Morrison Clerk-Treasurer

Warren Town Council:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Buzzard  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Schweikhardt  
Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeremy Rufener  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Boxell  
Member