

Minutes of Regular Meeting, August 11, 2025

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, August 11, 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, Ron Boxell, Michelle Schweikhardt, Jeremy Rufener; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Dennis Spitler; Dustin Fortney, others.

President Buzzard called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and opened a Public Hearing related to property at 324 Hendricks Street. Representatives of the Department of Community Development (DCD) reported on findings from inspection and recommended demolition of the property. Discussion held. With no comment from the public, the hearing was closed.

Buzzard moved, seconded by Rufener, to accept the findings of the DCD. Motion carried unanimously. DCD will move forward with bidding the project. The demolition will be paid through the Town CCD fund and lien placed if not repaid by the owner of the property.

Marshal Spitler submitted monthly report and also reported that candidate to fill the Deputy Marshal position had passed the physical agility testing.

In the absence of Fire Marshal Poulson, Morrison reported that three additional volunteers had been added to the department and that a full roster would be submitted to Council at the next meeting.

Utility Manager Fortney reported that along with daily work loads, a water leak at SR 218 and First Street had been repaired and the street cut paved. A metering issue at Heritage Pointe had been corrected.

The public hearing on Ordinance 2025-11, Electric Utility Rates, has been set for September 8th at 5:00 pm.

A report from the Veterans Park committee was reviewed noting the folloing:

- Benches and Placards donated by the DeWeese Family in honor of John R. DeWeese and the Bolinger Family in honor of John Paul Bolinger.
- Bronze Plaque donated by Glancy Funeral Homes.
- Signage donated by Citizens Telephone.
- Center rock donated by local farmer.

The Indiana Finance Authority has announced that the Warren Municipal Water Utility has been approved for funding in the amount of \$1,170,378 for a PFAs water testing program through the Environmental Protection Agency. In 2023 the Town Council had accepted an offer to be part of a pilot program for that process. Step 1 is in the amount of \$325,000 with additional steps only if necessary. Eleven utilities in the State have been approved with nineteen utilities initially in the program. The testing program will be administered through Commonwealth Engineering.

Communication had been forwarded to ERA Railroad concerning the state of railway crossings within the Town. No reply has been received.

Austin Oswalt has accepted an offer to fill the position of Deputy Marshal with his start date being August 25. Schweikhardt moved, seconded by Buzzard, to consider Ordinance 2025-12, Wage and Benefit Ordinance for Law Enforcement, at the same meeting as introduction. Motion approved unanimously. Boxell moved, seconded by Schweikhardt, adoption of Ordinance 2025-12. Approved unanimously.

Claims Register in the amount of \$381,000.13 approved by consensus.

Payroll Vouchers in the amount of \$49,448.12 approved by consensus.

Development of Park Plan through Region 3-A, will be delayed until 2026.

The remainder of the meeting was discussion pertaining to the 2026 Municipal Budget.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for September 8th with Public Hearing scheduled for Ordinance 2025-11, Electric Rates.

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting, August 11, 2025

Submitted

Marilyn Morrison

Clerk-Treasurer

Steve Buzzard

President

Michelle Schweikhardt

Vice President

Jeremy Rufener

Member

Ron Boxell

Member