

Dillsboro Town Council

June 9, 2025

The regular meeting of the Dillsboro Town Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on June 9, 2025 by Council President, Tim Benning, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council present: Tim Benning, Charlie Caldwell, Jerri Jackson and Dustin Kitchell. Council absent: Becky Fryman. Attorney present: John Watson.

CM Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on May 12, 2025 and the special council meeting on May 19, 2025. Seconded by CM Caldwell. All were in favor, and a motion carried.

Guest

County Commissioner, Kevin Turner, stated if council have any questions, he would be happy to answer them. Council did not have any questions at the present time.

Clerk-Treasurer – Rita Stevens

Two sewer adjustment requests were presented to the Council. Chad Goins (Michelle Lane Lot # 14) requested an adjustment of \$26.68 due to a leak under the trailer. And Charlie Caldwell (13185 E. Adams Street) requested an adjustment of \$296.29 due to a leak that is outside underground between the house and meter. CM Jackson made a motion to approve both sewer adjustments. CM Kitchell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Received a thank you from St. Elizabeth Healthcare Dearborn Cancer Center for the towns yearly pledge donation of \$5,000.

As of May 31, 2025, the fund balances are as follows: General Fund: \$2,307,730.59 (included CCMG of \$391,395.50). Water Utility Operating Fund: \$126,252.20. Sewer Utility Operating Fund: \$202,799.89.

Fire Department – Drew Tenhundfeld, Assistant Fire Chief

Presented to council the May Fire Total Incident Report of a total of 20.

Tenhundfeld ask any progress regarding the shelter for the truck that is sitting outside. Town Manager, Derek Walker, stated have got the specs and now getting pricing on the shelter. After receiving the pricing, then will need to discuss the funding for it.

Police – Josh Cady, Police Chief – nothing to report.

Main Street – Kami Hamilton, Executive Director – absent.

TM Walker stated Hamilton's report was that the Lunch-a-Munch had around 200 participants last week.

Legal – John Watson

The Dillsboro Emergency Unit (DEU), the courts have granted a change in venue to Ohio County and the Preliminary Injunction Hearing is set for October 31. DEU has breached their contract. DEU intends to bring in these certain individual parties and new parties that were the cause of them losing the contract. We need to ask court to go ahead and we need to go ahead and fight that this preliminary injunction move forward. The county could decide to go over the top of this since the county now has been allowed in. In our interest in everyone's interest to push these people and push them now and keep pushing them. County Attorney, Andy Baudendistel, is engaged and is communicating with the state and Attorney Watson has been copied with all the correspondences.

Regarding the Dennerline property on US 50. Attorney Watson and TM Walker met with Dennerline regarding the reasonable compensation that was in the contract when the water line went through their property. Dennerline is asking for the \$1,300 cost for a tap-in fee plus do a little work on a culvert which is his entry onto the property. The town could do that, and it could cost between \$200-\$500 in materials or could have a contractor do it. TM Walker did state will need to contact INDOT regarding the work and get approval. Once everything is in line, a signed agreement will be signed.

911 Agreement – The budget season is coming up, and not for sure what the county is doing. Attorney Watson has advise not to sign it yet, until we know what we are going to do. It is the county council decision. Commissioner Turner stated the PSAP, which is a public safety access point. 911 calls come in and it is dispatch as where you send fire trucks, policemen taking their radio calls, emergency or non emergency. This is not a PSAP, it is a dispatch center. The State law says you can only have one place set in the county. Historically, there was 4 dispatch centers, Aurora, Greendale, Lawrenceburg and Dearborn County. Dearborn County was the PSAP. But now it has been consolidated. The PSAP is only required to send out emergency calls. Turner did state the State Representative is meeting again with the Treasurer of the State.

Town Manager – Derek Walker

911 Dispatch Interlocal Agreement of paying \$32,046.70 for 2025 is tabled from the last meeting. A discussion that Attorney Watson and TM Walker discussed was if the county were to increase the LIT (Local Income Tax) to cover this, the town would consider basically taking that distribution and making that payment towards the services. Council agreed to this. CM Jackson made a motion to table the 911 Agreement, CM Kitchell seconded. All were in favor, and a motion carried.

The Community Garden is in at the Old Fellows lot, corner of front and north streets.

Going to be working on some valves on Western Row.

Possible posting another seasonal help. Budgeted 3 employees at 20 hours a week, only have 2. So there is excess money budgeted. But also want to see what is going to happen with the utility superintendent position. Council has already had an executive meeting and interviewed candidates and has decided on a candidate. Next procedure is TM Walker will contact the person and offer them the position, and will keep council updated.

Old Business

Stellar Pathways Update

Have gone through the scoring process on our two stellar projects and will begin negotiations on contracts with the highest scoring engineering firms. Clark Dietz was scored the highest for the North Street streetscaping project and HWC Engineering was scored the highest for the sidewalk improvement.

Water Rates

A public hearing for the water rate increase will be held at the July council meeting for any feedback.

CCMG Engineering

The engineering firm is Flies and Vandenbrink. Recently received notice that DNR has suspended the LWCF Grant project for 2025 which we were planning on reapplying for funds for the stage, I recommend pulling back on this project for a year so we can move some funds over to road engineering and take advantage of the grant funds that are available. Requesting a payment for the remaining Professional Fees. Phase IV – Bidding Assistance of \$3,530, Phase V – Construction & Closeout Assistant of \$4,000 and a Requested Inspection Site Visit of \$800. Total of \$8,330.00 is not paid. CM Kitchell made a motion to pay the contract amendment of \$8,330.00, seconded by CM Jackson. All were in favor, motion carried.

12827 Lenover Street Property

There has not been much interest in the Indiana Mentors Building. The Realtor, Jay Knowles, is proposing reducing the asking price from \$325,00 to \$299,00. Council agreed to lower the price.

12916 North Street Lease

The lease agreement with Navigate Tomorrow, Inc. is set to end on July 31, 2025. This has been a 3 year lease. Attorney Watson stated he has breached his contract of not being close to opening his coffee business. Attorney Watson and TM Walker will write a letter regarding the contracts date deadline and terms has not been met.

12926 Bank Street Site Access Agreement

Atlas Technical Consultants has been working under a grant in connection with the City of Lawrenceburg's US EPA Assessment to investigate brownfield/contaminated sites. By completing this assessments, if any contamination is found, the property will be eligible for grant funds for remediation and can include funds to rehab properties. TM Walker been meeting with Atlas on this program and about all our town properties, the Art Center and parking lot next to it has qualified for the program based on a prior gas station. Council agreed to get more information regarding this and the grant program.

Heavy Trash & Brush Pickup

Heavy trash is furniture, appliances & etc. Been picking them up every week. Council agreed to have this service every other week, the opposite week of recycling.

Other Business

CM Jackson had a concern about Lenover Street where the road has been dug up and filled with gravel. TM Walker stated the town is waiting on Rohe to pave it and will keep packing gravel in the hole.

With no further business, CM Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m., seconded by CM Kitchell. Motion carried unanimously.



Rita Stevens, Clerk-Treasurer





