

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JANUARY 27, 2025**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on January 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Andrews Town Hall in accordance with applicable law and pursuant to appropriate notice.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Laura Dillon, Roger Newsome, Jr., and Michael Dean Young were in attendance. Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell declared a quorum was present and the meeting would continue.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Roger Newsome, Jr motioned to approve council minutes for a Regular Session held January 13, 2025. Dean Young seconded the motion which was approved 3-0. Newsome next motioned to approve council minutes for a Storm Water Management Board Meeting held December 9, 2024. Laura Dillon seconded the motion which was approved 2-0. Young abstained from voting since he was appointed to the 2025 Storm Water Board that evening.

OLD BUSINESS

TWN Water Tower Lease Request: Powell said she spoke with Attorney Adrian Halverstadt about the process to lease town property and that he recommends an executive session for council members and himself to discuss several key areas of the request for proposals, such as the initial lease term, additional renewal terms, and rental payment increases. Council asked Powell to set up a meeting for Friday, January 31 at 2:00 p.m. with Halverstadt.

United With Love Mobile Food Pantry: Newsome stated that he expects a freezer and refrigerator to be delivered tomorrow and will then wrap up the last of the wiring. Other than that, the electrical work is ready to be inspected, and he plans to make several sets of keys for the building.

NEW BUSINESS

Alley Vacate Request: Karen Houlihan, 240 E Columbia St., asked for council's permission to vacate the entire alley along the west side of her home, north to south between Columbia and Virginia Streets. All adjoining property owners are in agreement with this request, which Houlihan has offered to pay the legal fees for, and all are aware of the water utility easement in the alley. Permission was granted by the Andrews Town Council for Houlihan to pursue her request.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Josh Platt said his department's new Facebook page is doing well with over 100 followers. Deputy Marshal Raber's car is back on the road after front bumper damage (deer strike) repairs have been completed. Platt will also seek quotes to purchase a new police vehicle in 2026. The oldest vehicle will be traded in towards the purchase, and he will remove any equipment that can be reused. Axon offers a no-cost transfer of dash cameras and equipment to a new vehicle.

Fire Department: Nobody was present to report.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock reported that the new water plant filter was inspected today by Peerless Midwest, and all is good. Looking at daily pumping logs over the weekend, they have also noticed a 55-60,000 gallon leak they are trying to track down.

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Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reported she rolled over 2024 successfully in Fund. She gave an update on the Winkler utility account and said she is planning an additional appropriation for the General Fund to make available unspent Police unappropriated expense money from last year's grant receipts in the amount of \$4,374.31. Finally, she shared Stantec would conduct air sampling tests at the town hall this week.

CLAIMS

Dean Young made a motion to approve the claims as presented, which was seconded by Roger Newsome. The Motion was approved 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

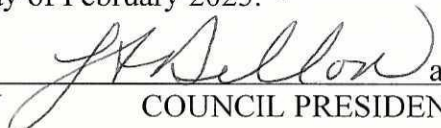
Hank Miller, The Huntington County Indiana News, asked where the Town stands on the water project. Dillon said they are waiting to see an engineering report Lochmueller is doing for the State IFA.

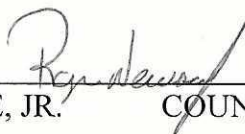
Michael Sarll reported that a contractor did camera and jet the septic line last Friday at the Karst residence, 31 N Jackson St. Discussion ensued with Bullock saying the clay line is broken, full of tree roots from the side of the road and into the yard. Sarll believes the weight of the road has crushed the clay line underneath it where it ties into the sewer main. He questions if all of that work and expense for working under the road is the homeowner's or the town's responsibility. Bullock said by ordinance here and in other communities he is aware of, that the customer is responsible from the sewer main to the house tie-in. He will continue to look into the problem and get back with Sarll, who said the quote to fully repair the line and repair the street cut is \$9,350.00, which is unaffordable for the homeowner at this time.

Dee Kochensparger, 150 N Market St, reported that for the last eight months, her household experiences a monthly cycle of bad smelling water. Colin Bullock said this is the only report he has of this complaint, and it may be tough to figure out. He has no explanation why her house is the only one with this issue.

With no further business, Newsome motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m., seconded by Young.

Approved this 10th day of February 2025.

APPROVED BY  as
LAURA A. DILLON COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED BY  as
ROGER NEWSOME, JR. COUNCIL MEMBER

APPROVED BY  as
MICHAEL D. YOUNG COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST BY  as
LAURY L. POWELL CLERK-TREASURER