

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD MAY 12, 2025**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on May 12, 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 made a motion to approve council minutes for a Regular Session held on April 28, 2025. Dean Young seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously, 3-0.

**COMCAST**

Government Account Executive Jason Thomas presented to Council a proposal to replace the town's outdated phone system. The business that installed the current phone system approximately 15-20 years ago has closed leaving the Town with no technical support. Thomas explained the benefits and features of the new Comcast voice equipment and plan modifications, all for an additional \$82.35 a month excluding service fees and federal charges. Following discussion, Newsome motioned to accept Comcast's proposal to install a new phone system, which will be made operational for use in October 2025. Young seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Disposition of Real Estate: Clerk-Treasurer Powell relayed information to Council from attorney Halverstadt, stating that yes, the TWN Communications proposal terms are negotiable, with several options available should they choose to do so. After further discussion and consideration, the board members decided to keep the TWN proposal under advisement while requesting the presence of a TWN representative at the next meeting to negotiate the terms of the proposal with Council.

Proposed Water Rate Increase: Powell asked council members to choose an effective date for the proposed rate increase, from where a public hearing date for the ordinance can be determined. Powell said Boyce Systems ideally requires six weeks to modify the existing water rate database within their software once the ordinance is adopted. In addition, attorney Mike Hartburg informed her that Council has the authority to adjust its water rates at any time as long as Council follows the proper legal procedure for doing so. Council decided to have the first phase of the water rate increase take effect on September 1, 2025, with the following two phases effective September 1, 2026, and September 1, 2027. Powell will work with Hartburg to set the dates for ordinance's introduction, public hearing, and adoption. Powell added that the October billing statement would reflect the new rates for September water consumption.

Livestream Update: Powell presented Council with a Stylus Technologies proposal to install and configure a turnkey live video streaming system for public meetings held by the Andrews Town Council. The total quote came in at \$3,807.92, which includes all equipment, hardware, labor to install and configure the system for proper operation, and time for training town employees. Rick Elwell's Stylus quote is the only one Powell has received from the multiple contacts made over the last several months. Following discussion, Young motioned to accept the Stylus Technologies quote for \$3,807.92, which was seconded by Newsome. The motion was approved 3-0. Young next motioned to pay for this expense out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (CCD). Newsome seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Powell next brought up the town's website, that is outdated and no longer receives security updates posing a risk to the web host. The website should ideally work in conjunction with livestreaming. She has communicated several times recently with Claghorn Designs on updating the website but has not received



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a quote, although she was told to expect an expenditure of \$5,000-\$7,000 to update the website. Powell did receive a quote from CivicPlus Municipal Websites that she presented to Council for consideration. The Standard Plan came with an annual subscription fee of \$4,664.00 and a one-time implementation fee of \$850.00. After review and discussion, council members stated the proposal was too costly for the Town and the expected number of users. They asked Powell to look around seeking local quotes for a basic overhaul of the website without the features geared towards larger municipalities and counties.

HARTA Bicycle Trailhead Update: Newsome stated he is still waiting on a quote for the trailhead's concrete pad.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Council President Dillon announced there will be an on-site meeting on May 19 concerning the replacement of the West McKeever St Bridge. Town officials will know more details after the meeting.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department: Town Marshal Platt reported that the town-wide spring cleanup went well, sharing that H&H Disposal hauled six extra truckloads of junk out of town. Warning letters for high grass and weeds will be posted this week along with one for junk and debris. Department training is ongoing over the next two weeks.

Fire Department: Dean Young reported that the tenderloin dinner went well serving 264 meals. The fire department has raised over \$10,000.00 in funds this year to purchase equipment that taxpayers won't have to pay for.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock reported that they have been mowing and picking up brush. There was discussion on Bullock and Cochran renewing their operator's licenses, and Council asked for an update on Wilkinson's wastewater operator certification. Bullock said Dylan has taken the exam twice, has applied for a third try, and is waiting to hear back from IDEM on an exam date.

Clerk-Treasurer: Laury Powell reports she has been busy with several training webinars, livestreaming conversations with Stylus Technologies on an equipment proposal, and Comcast regarding new voice services and phone equipment. She also reports ongoing issues with First Federal Savings Bank related to daily deposits and that she was still accepting resumes for a part-time billing clerk.

**CLAIMS**

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

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Cheryl Chopson, 212 East Columbia St inquired about the anonymous donor wishing to beautify the Town of Andrews. Town officials have heard nothing further and suspect that the donor may have confused the Andrews Town Council with the Community Foundation of Huntington County and the new Andrews Hometown Endowment Fund.

Council President Dillon discussed the recent OCRA RED two-day community development training event she attended, which was led by Ball State University, where volunteers will work to develop a county-wide Quality of Life Plan for Huntington County. Council members unanimously agreed this is a positive step forward and agreed to provide a signed letter of support for this initiative to the county commissioners. Council encouraged community residents, especially the younger generation, to get involved with this program to share their vision for the future.

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Tammy Tate, 389 W McKeever St, asked Council for a water leak adjustment on their first billing statement which was over \$200.00. Since moving in last month, they have made several repairs to the home's water lines. Being there was no consumption history to compare with, Dillon, with the support of the other two council members, asked Powell to adjust the Tate's bill back to the minimum.

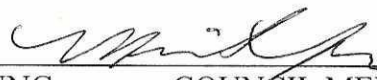
Eric Kraft, 112 W Jefferson St, told council members he plans to plant trees along the edge of his property next to the railroad tracks, asking for their approval. Council took no issue with his plans but advised Kraft to keep the trees on his side of the property line, or contact Norfolk Southern.


With no further business, Newsome motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m., seconded by Young.

Approved this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 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