

**ANDREWS TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD JUNE 9, 2025**

A public meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Andrews, Indiana convened on June 9, 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 May 27, 2025. Dean Young seconded the motion, which was approved, 3-0.

LOCHMUELLER GROUP

Anthony Goodnight and Kelly White were present to update Council on the Andrews Drinking Water Regionalization and Improvements (Phase I and IA). A presentation handout was distributed.

- Goodnight proceeded to narrate Phase I – Regionalization, stating their goal of connecting the two water distribution systems, while also explaining what is included in the IFA funding, and what is not. He identified work that is complete and additional work that is ongoing, while listing project challenges such as Existing Utilities, a connection to the Town of Andrews Distribution System, and Right of Way/Easements. Phase I is 30% complete at this time. Further development requires Andrews and Huntington staff to work through design-related technical questions and utility coordination. Easements will be identified and purchased that are needed to construct the 16” water main along the north side of County Road 200 N. Of importance is a water supply agreement between the Town and the City, that would spell out infrastructure ownership of a meter, disinfection units, water main and lines, all of which would affect the overall design. Final Plans are expected to be completed in December 2025, bid ready by January 2026.
- White discussed Phase IA with the goal of identifying water main leaks or valves that are leading to water loss within the Andrews Water System. She also identified what is included in the IFA funding, and what is not. She explained Lochmueller has contracted with ME Simpson to work on a three-prong approach in Phase IA: Valve Assessment & Exercising, Hydrant Assessment & Flow Testing Program, and a Water Distribution System Leak Survey. This work is planned to start in Summer/Fall 2025, with an updated Hydraulic Water Model completed by Fall 2025 as well as a bid out package for repair/replacement of critical water leaks and bad valves. There was a brief review of the overall phasing plan before several questions from town officials and citizens were answered by White and Goodnight.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Ordinance 2025-2 Petition to Vacate: Dillon opened the public hearing opened at 6:38 p.m. Attorney Justin Wall, on behalf of Karen Houlihan at 240 E Columbia St, shared that since the January 27 meeting where Council permitted the alley vacate request from Houlihan, all legal notices have been made and that adjoining property owners are all in agreement with her request to vacate the entire alley along the west side of her home, north to south between Columbia and Virginia Streets. Wall presented Ordinance 2025-2, along with Exhibits A & B to Council for consideration. With there being no comment from the board members or citizens present, the Public Hearing closed at 6:40 p.m. After Ordinance 2025-2 was read, Dean Young made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-2, Petition to Vacate Certain Public-Ways in Andrews, Indiana; the motion was seconded by Roger Newsome and passed unanimously. Newsome next made a motion to suspend the rules and have a second reading of the ordinance at the same meeting. Young seconded the motion, and it passed 3-0. Ordinance 2025-2 was then read for a second time. Young motioned to approve and pass Ordinance 2025-2 a Petition to Vacate Certain Public-Ways in Andrews, Indiana on its second read. Newsome seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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2. Ordinance 2025-3 To Modify Existing Water Rates, First Reading: Dillon opened the public hearing at 6:43 p.m. by reading the proposed ordinance, then asking for comments from citizens in attendance. Michael Slone, 736 N Market St, spoke up about water bills being too high already, sharing that his had doubled over the last 2 months. Dillon said this situation is not from the rate increase which hasn't been approved yet, and further discussion revealed he had water leaking somewhere in his house. CT Powell said a data logger can be done and once the leak is identified and corrected, she will do a leak adjustment on his utility account. The three tiers of the proposed water rate increase were discussed, clarifying that the blocks only state future rate amounts for varying consumption and sizes of water lines. With no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:53 p.m. Dillon asked to have a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-3 To Modify Existing Water Rates on its first reading. Young motioned to do so, with a second from Newsome. Motion was approved unanimously. This ordinance is scheduled for its second reading at the June 23rd council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

TWN Proposal: Randy Baron appeared at Council's request to negotiate the terms of a proposal to place over-the-air internet equipment atop the Town's water tower. TWN's partnership with Heartland REMC offers fixed wireless equipment to bring fiber optic quality broadband access to rural areas. After discussion, council members agreed to ask for annual payments of \$5,000 for the initial 5-year term. Mr. Baron agreed to take the Council's counteroffer to TWN's contract negotiators in Florida and will follow up with Clerk-Treasurer Powell with their response to council.

HARTA Bicycle Trailhead: Newsome said he has not received a second quote for the concrete pad as it seems the contractors are in their busy season now. Council agreed there is no reason to have Nick Hancock come in yet to begin scheduling a start date. At this time, Braxton Craft announced that the Andrews Hometown Endowment has chosen two recipients to receive this year's \$5,000 grant award. The HARTA Trailhead Project in Andrews was awarded \$4,000 and the Andrews Boys & Girls Club was awarded \$1,000. This was welcome news to the Andrews Town Council.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department: Town Marshal Platt reported that three properties have been cited in the vegetation abatement process that the Town will likely be mowing now. Platt also reported on a recent dog bite case which was serious enough he banned the dog from being returned to the Town. He also plans to obtain a quote from the Warren Ford dealer on a new police vehicle he looks to purchase in 2026.

Fire Department: No report.

Utility Department: Colin Bullock reported root balls have been cleared from septic lines after receiving a complaint. He informed council members a Flygt pump has quit working at the wastewater plant. He presented a Xylem quote for \$10,087.35 to replace it while awaiting a second quote to come in. Product availability is an issue, and the prices have more than doubled since the plant was built seven years ago. Many of the wastewater pumps operate 24/7, 365 days a year. Newsome motioned to approve the purchase of the Flygt pump, best price at earliest availability. Young seconded the motion, which passed 3-0. Young then asked if Wilkinson had retaken the wastewater certified operator exam, to which Bullock replied in the affirmative, but that Dylan missed a passing score by 2 points. Bullock said Wilkinson is petitioning for a review of this score and meanwhile is scheduling another exam date if needed.

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Clerk-Treasurer Laury Powell provided the Council with an update on the progress regarding the installation of livestream equipment and the migration of the website to the IN.gov platform. Stylus Technologies will install equipment in the council chambers all day on June 25. She also continues to speak with several people expressing interest in the part-time billing clerk position.

CLAIMS

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

OTHER BUSINESS


Dillon told Lochmueller's Goodnight that Council has funds set aside this year for road improvements and intends to apply for a CCMG road project if the state opens the program up later this year. Goodnight added that recent changes to the CCMG program would offer small towns an 80/20 match going forward.

Powell pointed out that a link to the Town's YouTube channel is now printed at the bottom of the agenda. This is where the council meetings will be livestreamed starting July 14 of this year.

With no further business, Newsome motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m., seconded by Young.

Approved this 23rd day of June 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