

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY OF THE CITY OF JASPER  
February 25, 2025**

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Jasper, Indiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street and via Zoom Video Conferencing.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board member Nancy Eckerle called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Knies then called the roll:

Mayor Dean Vonderheide	Present via Zoom
Board member Timothy Bell	Present
Board member Nancy Eckerle	Present

Also, present were Police Chief Chad Dick, Street Commissioner Jeff Thiesing, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Kenny Hochgesang, Personnel/Safety/Loss Control Director Cale Knies, City Engineer Chad Hurm, Director of Community Development and Planning Josh Gunselman, City Attorney Renee Kabrick, Park and Recreation Director Tom Moorman, and Clerk Treasurer Kiersten Knies.

Kiersten Knies announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the board members must be present. Two of the three board members were present in persona and one online, which is a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Board member Nancy Eckerle invited all those present to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.** The board members examined the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 11, 2025. Thereafter, a motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to approve the minutes from February 11, 2025, without correction. Motion carried 3-0.

The board members examined the minutes from the Special Meeting held on February 19, 2025. Thereafter a motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting held February 19, 2025, without correction. Motion carried 2-0, with Mayor Vonderheide abstaining due to his absence on that date.

**PARKLANDS 6 HOUR ENDURANCE RELAY**

Jessica Lindauer of DC Multisport requested permission to host a 6-hour endurance relay at the Parklands on Saturday May 17, 2025, beginning at 6:30 am until 12:30 pm. Set up will begin at 5:30 am. They will run the event the same as in years past, however, they are considering asking for food trucks to park in the Klub Haus parking lot.

A motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to allow DC Multisport to host a 6-hour endurance relay at the Parklands on Saturday, May 17, 2025, from 6:30 am to 12:30 pm with set up to begin at 5:30 am and teardown to be complete by 1:00 pm. Motion carried 3-0.

**BATTLE OF THE PADDLE PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

Jessica Lindauer of DC Multisport requested permission to host the Battle of the Paddle Pickleball Tournament on Saturday, September 27, 2025 at 9:00 am and Sunday, September 28, 2025, at 1:00 pm at Bohnert Park Pickleball Courts going until 6:00 pm both evenings. They are coordinating with the Park Department to pay for the courts. They do not use shelter houses. If it rains, they do have a backup plan.

A motion was made by Mayor Vonderheide and seconded by Tim Bell to allow DC Multisport to host a Battle of the Paddle Pickleball Tournament on Saturday, September 28, 2025, at 9:00 am and Sunday, September 28, 2025, at 1:00 pm at Bohnert Park Pickleball Courts. Motion carried 3-0.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF V-CURB WITHIN NORTH RIDGE ESTATES**

Brad Eckerle, of Brosmer Land Surveying on behalf of Kerstiens Development, Inc. requested acceptance of dedicated right of way, public utility and drainage easements and public infrastructure on Todd Lane in North Ridge Estates One. Street Commissioner Jeff Theising advised this has been reviewed and is acceptable. This has been coordinated with the County Engineer as well.

A motion was made by Mayor Vonderheide and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to accept a dedication of right of way, public utility and drainage easements and public infrastructure on Todd Lane in North Ridge Estates One. Motion carried 3-0.

Brad Eckerle, Brosmer Land Surveying on behalf of Kerstiens Development, Inc. requested acceptance of installation of v-curb on Todd Lane out to Ann Lane in North Ridge Estates One with no adjacent curb present. Street Commissioner Jeff Theising advised this will improve drainage in the area. A barrier curb has a six in rise on it. Any waiver from that requires permission from the board.

A motion was made by Mayor Vonderheide and seconded by Tim Bell to accept the installation of V-Curb as proposed within North Ridge Estates. Motion carried 3-0.

### **LIVE TO RISE FUN RUN FOR RECOVERY**

Gina Neukam and Jenna Bieker Jones of the Dubois County Advocacy for Recovery and Prevention Council requested permission to host Live to Rise Fun Run for Recover on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Dave Buehler Plaza.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Mayor Vonderheide to allow Dubois County Advocacy for Recovery and Prevention Council to host Live to Rise Fun Run for Recovery on Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Dave Buehler Plaza and Riverwalk using some of the shelter houses. Motion carried 3-0.

### **TRAVEL AND TRAINING REQUEST**

Police Chief Chad Dick requested to send Officers Jason Knies and Aaron Schmitt to the National Dare Conference in Indianapolis on July 24 and 25, 2025. The total cost for the training is \$1,400.64 including hotel accommodations and meals.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to allow Officers Jason Knies and Aaron Schmitt to attend the National Dare Conference in Indianapolis on July 24 and 25, 2025 for the total cost not to exceed \$1,400.64. Motion carried 3-0.

Police Chief Chad Dick requested permission to send Detective Josh Greener to an Interview and Interrogation Techniques Training in Franklin, Indiana on March 25, 26, 27, 2025 for the total cost of \$675.00. This will be paid for from the Police Department's training budget.

A motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to allow Detective Josh Greener to attend the Interview and Interrogation Techniques Training in Franklin, Indiana on March 25, 26, 27, 2025 for at total cost of \$675.00. Motion carried 3-0.

Street Commissioner Jeff Theising requested permission for himself, Matt Kiefer, and Bob Sunderman to attend Purdue Road School on March 17 through 20, 2025 at Purdue for a total cost not to exceed \$2,500.00.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to allow Jeff Theising, Matt Kiefer, and Bob Sunderman to attend Purdue Road School at Purdue from March 17, 2025, through March 20, 2025, with expenses not to exceed \$2,500.00. Motin carried 3-0.

### **EMERGENCY PURCHASE**

Police Chief Chad Dick requested permission to make an emergency purchase for the repair and replacement of the water heater at the Jasper Police Station in the sum of \$5,472.48 from Mehringer Heating and Plumbing. Chief Dick indicated he had money in his budget or donation funds to pay for this.

A motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to approve the emergency replacement and installation of rusted out water heater at the Jasper Police Department from Mehringer Heating and Plumbing, Inc. in the sum of \$5,472.48. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **JUNK ASSET**

Police Chief Chad Dick requested permission to remove two LED Light Bars with asset numbers 101517 and 101518 from the Police Department's list of fixed assets.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to remove two LED Light Bars with asset tag numbers 101517 and 101518 from the Police Department's list of fixed assets. Motion carried 3-0.

Police Chief Chad Dick requested permission to remove a Microsoft Surface Pro III asset number 102644 from the Police Department's list of fixed assets.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Mayor Vonderheide to remove a Microsoft Surface Pro III with asset tag number 102644 from the Police Department's list of fixed assets. Motion carried 3-0.

Director of Community Development and Planning Josh Gunselman requested permission to remove a 2020 Dell Laptop with asset tag number 103092 and an office chair with asset number 100310 from the Planning Department's list of fixed assets.

A motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Mayor Vonderheide to remove a Dell Laptop with asset tag number 103092 and an office chair with asset tag number 100310 from the Planning Departments list of fixed assets. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **MONTHLY REPORT**

Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Kenny Hochgesang gave the previously distributed Fuel and Maintenance Report and Code Enforcement Report. The board acknowledged receipt of both reports.

#### **COMBI-TOOL**

Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Kenny Hochgesang recommended acceptance of the quote for the Combination Extrication Tool from Impact Rescue in the amount of \$16,820.00. Three of the four vendors brought their tools in for the department to review. The recommendation is not for the low quote however the tool from Impact Rescue outperformed the other tools by responding much quicker, comes with a light, and comes with a truck mount at no cost. It was also the only tool of the four that gave audible warnings. The majority of this will be paid for from the Fire Department's donation funds and the remainder will come from their equipment line.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Mayor Vonderheide to accept the quote for a Combination Extrication Tool from Impact Rescue in the amount of \$16,820.00 for the Fire Department. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **PERMISSION TO SEEK QUOTES**

Personnel/Safety/Loss Control Director Cale Knies requested permission to seek quotes for a new or gently used City Hall vehicle. The current City Hall vehicle is a 2007 Chevy Equinox with close to 100,000 miles. The plan is to keep the City Hall vehicle as we are seeing an increase in travel inside the city and outside the city. This will come out of the mayor's budget.

A motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to allow City Hall to begin seeking quotes for an additional City Hall Vehicle. Motion carried 3-0.

Street Commission Jeff Theising requested permission to seek quotes to purchase a push camera and a six-yard rubbish truck. Both items are part of the Street Department's budget.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to allow the Street Department to seek quotes to purchase a push camera and a six-yard rubbish truck. Motion carried 3-0.

### PROJECT UPDATES

City Engineer Chad Hurm reported back on the Community Crossings bid from February 19, 2025. The bid was accepted pending review. Hurm advised that the bids have been reviewed, and he sees no reason not to proceed.

City Engineer Chad Hurm advised that the contractor intends to close 15<sup>th</sup> Street for the Watermain project on March 1, 2025, depending on the weather.

City Engineer Chad Hurm advised that Knies Construction is looking to close the east half of the Mill Street parking lot beginning tomorrow. Hurm was advised to notify the business owners in the area as well as the list of parking permits.

City Engineer Chad Hurm gave an update on the Main Street Project. Concrete crews are working on the south half. They are still waiting on structures for the north half but should begin in the next week or so. Work on the south half should be completed in the next week or so aside from some various spot work.

### PERMISSION TO BEGIN THE HIRING PROCESS

Street Commissioner Jeff Theising requested permission to begin the hiring process for a Street Department Laborer due to a retirement at the end of 2024. Originally, the department intended to hire from the previous pool of applicants, however no one from that pool was available.

A motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Mayor Vonderheide to begin the process of hiring a Street Department Laborer due to a retirement. Motion carried 3-0.

### FARMER'S MARKET

City Attorney Renee Kabrick advised that the Farmer's Market will take place this year at the parking area of the Thyen Clark Cultural Center. It will be held on Saturdays from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm beginning May 24, 2025, through October 4, 2025. Jasper City Library, LLC owns the property and is responsible for approving that agreement.

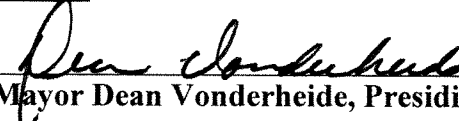
### CLAIM

Clerk Treasurer Kiersten Knies requested permission to approve a claim in the sum of \$12,900.00 to Squonk Opera, Inc. This is a deposit on a performance in May 2025 and the appropriate approvals have been received from the Art Board.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to approve a claim outside of the normal claim process in the sum of \$12,900.00 to Squonk, Inc. for a deposit on a performance to be held in May 2025. Motion carried 3-0.

**ADJOURNMENT.** A motion was made by Mayor Vonderheide and seconded by Tim Bell to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

The minutes were hereby approved \_\_\_ with ☒ without corrections or clarification this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.

  
Mayor Dean Vonderheide, Presiding Officer

Attest:   
Kiersten Knies, Clerk-Treasurer