

MEETING OF THE BROOKVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025 AT 7:00 O'CLOCK P.M. AT THE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 405 E. 7TH STREET, BROOKVILLE, INDIANA

THOSE ATTENDING: Councilmembers – John Estridge, Richard Whitaker, Bridget C. Hayes,
Rebecca Beesley and Ethan Orschell

ALSO ATTENDING: Andrew Baudendistel, Town Attorney
Gina Gillman, Clerk-Treasurer
Terry Mitchum, Town Marshal
Tim Ripperger, Utilities Supervisor
Jill Mergenthal, Director of Golf

President Estridge opened the meeting requesting everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

Councilmember Beesley made the motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting as written. Vice President Whitaker seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS AND PAYROLL: Councilmember Beesley made a motion to approve the claims and payroll as processed. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

INCOMPASS HEALTHCARE:

Greg Duncan of INcompass Healthcare was present to obtain Council's recommendation for their conditional use permit filed with the Franklin County Area Plan Commission and scheduled for public hearing May 14th. Mr. Duncan explained that a state opioid grant was awarded to build new rehabilitation housing for families who have completed a drug rehab program and who are trying to get back into the workforce. The proposed housing would be located at 419 High Street and consist of eight units for families who would benefit being close to daycares and schools. Mr. Duncan stated applicants from Franklin County would be given priority and would consist of non-violent offenders and absolutely no sex offenders. Housing applicants would be under the continued monitoring and screening of INcompass Healthcare and its employees. Many persons in attendance were concerned of the close proximity of the proposed housing project to St. Michael School and two daycare locations and felt an out of town location would be more appropriate considering we have public transportation. Others were concerned with options for employment for potential residents with little opportunities other than fast food restaurants so how would the families be able to afford to pay. A few in attendance spoke in support of the project and looked at the proposed housing as a way to help those families who need a chance to start their lives again and be productive members of society. After a long discussion, Councilmember Beesley made the motion to give an unfavorable recommendation to the Franklin County Area Plan Commission. Vice President Whitaker seconded the motion. Councilmember Hayes pleaded with other members of Council to support the project because it could give families a chance and have a safe place to live. Councilmembers Estridge, Whitaker, Beesley and Orschell were in favor with Councilmember Hayes opposed. Motion carried.

UNITED WAY REQUEST:

Councilmember Orschell made the motion to allow United Way to place yard signs along the walking trail for Mental Health Awareness month. Councilmember Beesley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

BROOKVILLE OWNER OCCUPIED REHAB GRANT APPLICATION:

Patty Jackson with SIRPC was present to conduct the public hearing on the Town of Brookville's OCRA grant application submission for the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program to assist low to moderate income households with minor home repairs. Grant application is due May 16th and grant awards will be announced June 26th. Councilmember Beesley made the motion to open the public hearing for comments. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. There being no public comments, Councilmember Beesley made the motion to close the public hearing. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION:

Councilmember Beesley made the motion to approve Resolution #2025-4 authorizing the submission of the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program grant application. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

UNION COUNTY FOUNDATION DONATION REQUEST:

Union County Foundation requested a donation for a pass to the aquatic center for their upcoming fundraiser. However, Council thought it advisable to limit donations to the aquatic center or golf course within Franklin County limits.

ESTERKAMP REQUEST FOR WEDDING IN TOWN PARK:

Council was agreeable to allowing Mr. Esterkamp's request to hold a small wedding ceremony in the Town Park so long as a Hold Harmless Agreement was signed prior to the event and parties cleaned up after themselves.

UTILITY OFFICE ENTRY DOOR:

Councilmember Beesley made the motion to approve the quote in the amount of \$1,000.00 for an additional door to the utility office. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 153 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES:

Councilmember Beesley made the motion to approve Ordinance #2025-9 amending Chapter 153 of the code to except municipal property from the zoning code. Councilmember Hayes was opposed to the amendment as the town has abided by the zoning codes for years just as town residents do. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. Councilmembers Estridge, Whitaker, Beesley and Orschell were in favor with Councilmember Hayes opposed. Motion carried.

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS IN TOWN PARK:

To keep the park natural and litter free, Councilmember Orschell made the motion to remove all artificial flowers and decorations and leave only memorial stones in place. Councilmember Beesley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Street and Park Superintendent Rocky Sparks will keep decorations that are removed and stored if people would request to pick up those items.

DIGITECH ADVERTISING FOR GOLF COURSE:

Councilmember Orschell made the motion to approve advertising with Digitech in the amount of \$2,150.00 for one year in two restaurant locations. Councilmember Beesley seconded the motion. Councilmembers Estridge, Whitaker, Beesley and Orschell were in favor with Councilmember Hayes opposed. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE ADOPTING EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK UPDATES:

Councilmember Hayes made the motion to approve the handbook with an amendment to the Whistleblower Policy by removing language stating 'no matter how minor a potential violation may appear'. President Estridge seconded the motion. Councilmembers Estridge, Whitaker, Hayes and Orschell were in favor with Councilmember Beesley opposed. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER REAL PROPERTY TO FCCSC:

Councilmember Beesley made the motion to approve Resolution #2025-5 to transfer real property located at 1020 Franklin Avenue to the Franklin County Community School Corporation. Vice President Whitaker seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

CF-1 FOR VALLEY HOUSE FLATS AND WHITEWATER PARTNERS:

Councilmember Beesley made a motion to not approve and sign the abatement paperwork showing Valley House Flats and Whitewater Partners are compliant. Vice President Whitaker seconded the motion. Councilmembers Estridge, Whitaker, Beesley and Orschell were in favor, with Councilmember Hayes opposed. Motion carried.

LAKE PUMP QUOTE:

Councilmember Beesley made the motion to approve the AP Anderson lake pump quote in the amount of \$11,957.74 as recommended by Utilities Supervisor Tim Ripperger. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

WASTEWATER FURNACE QUOTES:

Councilmember Beesley made a motion to table the furnace quotes for the Wastewater Plant until next meeting. Vice President Whitaker seconded the motion. All in favor with President Estridge abstaining. Motion carried.

CROWDSTRIKE AGREEMENT:

Councilmember Orschell made the motion to allow Clerk-Treasurer to sign the IDHS agreement for the one-year free subscription of the antivirus software that the Town currently has. Councilmember Beesley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

BUILDING PERMIT – JOHN AND RUTH ESTRIDGE:

Councilmember Beesley made the motion to approve Mr. and Mrs. Estridge's application for a gravel parking pad in the backyard of their residence located at 1104 Franklin Avenue and accessed via the alley. Councilmember Beesley seconded the motion. All in favor with President Estridge abstaining. Motion carried.

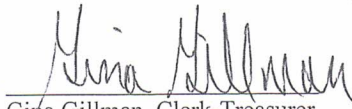
OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD:


Clerk-Treasurer requested to pay Ben Harrison Excavating prior to the next regular meeting since the stormwater project at 5th/Progress Streets was complete. Councilmember Orschell made the motion to approve said request. Councilmember Beesley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Director of Golf, Jill Mergenthal, notified Council that the school corporation has passed their resolution for the transfer of golf carts last Monday. Councilmember Orschell made the motion to sign the Agreement to Transfer three golf carts to the Franklin County Community School Corporation. Councilmember Beesley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Councilmember Beesley made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Councilmember Orschell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


Gina Gillman, Clerk-Treasurer


John Estridge, President
Brookville Town Council