

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
January 21, 2026**

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag: Mayor Huddlestun called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held with the building open to the public and a call-in number for remote public participation.

Roll Call: The following members were present: Mrs. Longer, and Mr. Huddlestun. Absent: Ms. Galka
Also present: City Attorney McCarthy.

Reading of Minutes: Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 7, 2025 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

Correspondence: Police Chief Ciszewski stated that the crime stats for 2025 will be done soon and presented to the Board. Chief Ciszewski gave an overview of 2025: The HPD had 26,900 calls for service which was a 1% increase than last year; officer-initiated calls were a 3% increase.

Chief Ciszewski announced that the 2 lateral hires from 2024 are going to be released for full duty, which is an asset of hiring experienced officers. Chief Ciszewski stated that the 5 graduates from the academy in November will be done with their field training in February.

Chief Ciszewski stated that the K-9 Association fundraiser will be on March 20, 2026, at County Line Orchard.

Mr. Huddlestun announced that the Drug Task Force has been very active locally.

Public Works Superintendent Kent Moore stated that his crews have been attacking the snow that has come to the City. This weekend could bring another round of snow and they are ready. Kent stated that there is a salt shortage in the mid-west, but the City has enough to keep going through the winter. Kent also stated that his crews have been picking up leaves when they are able.

Approval of Register of Claims and Payroll Claims: Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to accept and sign the register of claims and payroll claims as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Huddlestun asked that the Hobart Fire Department Grant in the amount of \$15,930.00 be added to the agenda. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to approve the agenda as amended. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There is no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request for 15 Minute Parking Sign: 405 Main St.: Mrs. Longer stated that Roman's Roofing is looking for a 15-30-minute loading space by their side door of 4th St. Mr. Huddlestun stated he spoke to Chief Ciszewski about this, and the space will not be monitored. Mrs. Longer stated that some cars park in the yellow area and make the turn very tight, especially for buses. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr.

Huddlestun, to table this matter so the Police Chief can have a conversation with the petitioner to confirm what they are asking for. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

Consideration of Action on Agreements: Baker Tilly Investment Services Agreement and Custody Agreement with Old National Bank: Mrs. Longer stated that this is for investment services and we need to move forward as time was of the essence. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to ratify the action of the Mayor to sign off on the agreements for the investment services. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

Consideration of Supplemental Agreement No. 2: Appraisal Services, Hickey Street Reconstruction: City Attorney McCarthy stated that this stems from early last year as BF&S contract stated it would include appraisals, but the City decided that they would handle those themselves. This is the refund of those services and support services that were attached to the original contract. The amount is approximately \$78,000.00. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun to approve Supplemental Agreement No. 2 for the reduction of appraisal services for Hickey Street Reconstruction as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

Signing of Mylars: 1-lot Subdivision (JRS Spot Subdivision) at 126 N. Hobart Rd., zoned B-3, 1.6 acres: Mrs. Longer stated that there is no bond required and the Plan Commission voted unanimously in favor of this. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun to approve the signing of the mylars for 1-lot Subdivision (JRS Spot Subdivision) at 126 N. Hobart Rd. as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

Consideration of Hobart Fire Department Grant: Fire Chief Lopez stated that the grant amount is \$9,816.00 with no match as he found a cheaper training prop and was submitted and stated that this grant is fully funded. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun to accept the grant for the Hobart Fire Department as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

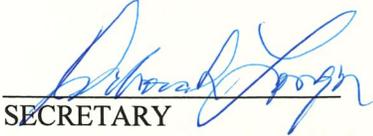
UNSAFE BUILDING AUTHORITY BUSINESS:

Update: Unsafe Building Order re: 300 W. Old Ridge Rd.: No one was present for this matter. Building Commissioner Felix Perry stated that the survey has been completed and the owner has purchased equipment to do the demo work, but he will need to proceed through the Plan Commission to get the 1-lot subdivision approved. Upon completion of the 1-lot subdivision, the demolition will be done. Mr. Huddlestun asked if they could demolish the house in the interim with the Board's permission while he is waiting to go in front of the Plan Commission. City Attorney McCarthy stated that this is a safety issue and he is going through the proper process to get this taken care of. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun to allow the homeowner to proceed with the demolition of the home, leaving the garage as is and continuing the process with the Plan Commission and continue this matter to the March 18, 2026 meeting. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

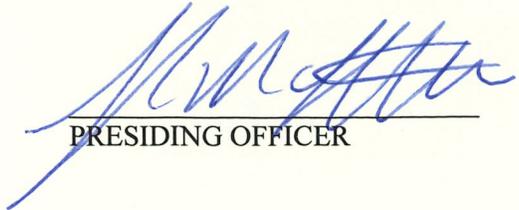
Update: Unsafe Building Order re: 500 Main St.: Dave Delano was present for this matter. He stated that windows have been replaced, wrapped, and window coverings have been done. He also stated that the electricity is on. Mr. Huddlestun asked about the garage, and Dave stated that they will be working on that next. Building Commissioner Felix Perry stated that permits have been pulled for the windows and doors, including the basement windows and an electrical permit was pulled as well. Dave stated that they intend to rent the property or put it up for sale. Felix stated that the yard has been cleaned up and the structure is no longer unsafe as they have fixed the windows and other issues. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to remove this item from the Unsafe Building Authority and turn this over to the Building Department. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

Announcements: Mr. Huddlestun asked if there was anyone who wished to address the Board and there was no response.

Adjournment: Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (2-0) The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.



SECRETARY



PRESIDING OFFICER