

JUNE 17, 2025

The Town Council met in a regular session at the Town Hall at 5:30 p.m.

President Smotherman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present in person were: SMOTHERMAN, CLARK, WEINZAPFEL and WILLIAMS along with Attorney, Nathan Maudlin and Clerk-Treasurer, Ann Huelsmann. ARNEBERG participated via video.

Visitors in attendance: Alvin Blaylock, Jan Kahle, Charles Bandy, Eric Sanders, Diane Sanders, Jeanne Maudlin, David Vonderscher, Andy & Shelly Batt, Kent Schuette, Calla Dostal, Joshua Janik, and Laura Whiteway.

Councilperson Weinzapfel made and Williams seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2025, Regular Meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Clark made and Weinzapfel seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2025, Special Meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

At this point, Clerk-Treasurer Huelsmann asked the town council to do a roll call vote on the previous motions.

Clerk-Treasurer Huelsmann addressed the utility billing issues, sighting new meters, new people and old equipment and that she and the Billing Clerk are working diligently to remedy the issues. She also reported that three more CDs have matured and will be replaced with new CDs from United Fidelity. Huelsmann said that she has the new budget calendar and has shared that with the town council.

Councilperson Clark reported that the discharge line at the sewer plant was full of roots. The line was roto rooted out and was found to not be damaged. The alarm system at the sewer plant is still being worked on. Clark said that Johnathon Webber did the specs to bid out the Church St. project. Clark also stated that the water tower is due for an inspection that will be scheduled. The cost should not exceed \$1,500. Clark also addressed the billing issues and thanked the residents for their patience.

Councilperson Arneberg reported that she will attend a follow-up meeting with the Indiana University Center for Rural Development, who connects the town with resources. She also met with the Posey County Community Foundation and learned of new endowment funds becoming available we may be interested in. The Community Grant Cycle has opened and will be open through August 24, 2025. These grants range from \$5,000 to 15,000, and they would like to see applications from New Harmony. Arneberg announced that the IOT (IN Office of Technology) will manage the town website. She thanked Kathy Sales for all the work that she had done managing the website. She updated us on One New Harmony's installation of six routers on Main St. and Church. Granary will be addressed next. Arneberg also mentioned that at the next town board meeting she would be requesting the establishment of a Department of Economic Development.

President Smotherman told those in attendance that new tires were purchased for the police car. He thanked Jermy Fortune for loaning the town a tire. Jeff announced that our Marshal will be moving to a new office once they have completed painting, installing new floors, plumbing, heating and air conditioning. The area already has an evidence room. Smotherman said he would be looking for a new contact for our pest control. He stated that he and Councilperson Weinzapfel attended a business meeting of the fire department. The town will be purchasing a new computer for them. Smotherman also stated that he will be working with the fire department in establishing a public safety disaster relief area.

Councilperson Weinzapfel reported that the town is slowly fixing the streets. There will be one or two more trips to get asphalt. She has been evaluating the alleys that should be paved. Superintendent Webber is contacting paving companies. The town has a lot of different paving needs, and they will not be able to be done all at once. Weinzapfel has also been evaluating the sidewalks. She is reviewing many different solutions such as permeable asphalt. Weinzapfel announced that the town will be fogging for mosquitoes on July 3. Superintendent Webber is working on becoming certified to manage the fogging. The town continues to trap mosquitoes for testing. Residents will be notified of fogging through the code red system.

Councilperson Williams stated that the Murphy Park trees were trimmed. The electrician that initially fixed the light in the park by the camping area will be back to fix it again. He said that the leak in the sink in the woman's bathroom is being repaired. The Marshal is working on installing a camera that faces the bathroom doors. Williams said the canoe launch sign will be fixed and the river trails are ready for the Firefly Festival. The Park & Trail Board is looking for grants to help with the cost of re-doing the Murphy Park bathrooms. He is evaluating the opportunity to use funds from the school sale. The bathroom proposal is not ready for a vote yet. Williams said the on-line camping is a success. He

also mentioned that the Maple Hill Cemetery mower we have used for over 11 years did have a new person that may have knocked over a headstone. The town maintenance crew re-set it immediately. The town will cover the costs by having the headstone resealed to the base, at a cost of around \$50.

The Park & Trail Board President, Jeanne Maudlin announced that on May 22, 2025, the IN Department of Natural Resources approved the New Harmony masters park plan. Now the Park & Trail Board will be able to apply for grants. The next approval process is with the New Harmony Town Council. The Park and Trail Board will be focused on three upcoming projects: 1. Re-doing the bathrooms in Murphy Park (ADA assessable, gender neutral and open year-round), 2. Dark sky lighting, 3. Signs and trails. Councilperson Arneberg recommended they investigate the Community Foundation Grant.

The Park and Trail Board Secretary, Andy Batt, again, stated the success of the online camping program. He stated that \$1,068.40 had been collected so far since being installed. He said that the town is PCI compliant for a year.

Councilperson Clark discussed the Funding of Abandoned Vehicle Fund (AVF). When a car gets towed, the town is paying for the towing. The town will seek reimbursement for the towing fee but in the meantime, the towing company must be paid. Clark made the motion to transfer \$2,000 from the general fund to the AVF. Weinzapfel seconded. Roll call vote – all were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Clark introduced the first reading process for new/revised town ordinances. He waited until we had a newly formatted ordinance book, which included our ordinances as is, or as is effective January 2025. His review has found many ordinances that need to be reviewed/updated or removed. Clark reviewed these with the rest of the town council, Clerk-Treasurer and attorney in the Special meeting held June 3, 2025. Attorney Maudlin stated that some ordinances be repealed in one motion. Some amendments may need new ordinances. Repeals do not need two readings. Others will need two readings. Clark mentioned that this was the council and his first pass at reviewing, and they are not all the way done.

Title I, Chapter 11: Councilperson Clark communicated that the town paid a surveyor to create a legal description of the Town of New Harmony. He suggests that we do that again. There is a necessity to know our exact location description to ensure valid jurisdiction. Clark is going to contact the county surveyor for assistance.

Councilperson Clark read the proposed ordinance 10.99 2025 Fines. The town never had most of these fines in place so they could be upheld. Once a year, around January, the town council will review, adjust (if need be) and approve the fines for the upcoming year. At the last council meeting, the council agreed to match the county on traffic violations. Golf cart driving violations are covered under traffic violations.

| Violation | Fine | Ordinance Number |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Traffic Citations | Match County | |
| Off Road Vehicles | \$150 | 70.99 |
| Golf Cart Non-Registration | \$100 | 70.3 |
| Heavy Truck Violations | Match County | 1 |
| Parking Tickets | \$50 | 71/70.99 |
| Animal Running at Large | \$50 | 90.01 |
| Animal Defecation | \$50 | 90.03 |
| Keeping of Hogs and/or Chickens | \$100 | 90.04 |
| Overgrown Weeds (> 8 in.) | \$25* | 91.02 |
| Noise | \$100 | 91.03 |
| Burning Buildings (w/out a permit) | \$500 | 92.01 |
| Propane Tanks | \$100 | 92.02 |
| Open Burning | \$50 | 92.15 |
| Horse Carriage Operators | \$100 | 110.03 |
| Transient Vendors | \$500 | 110.22 |
| Street Vendors | \$100 | 110.35 |
| Curfew (<18 yrs old) | \$25 | 130.01 |
| Loitering | \$150 | 130.02 |
| Weapons | \$150 | 130.03 |

*\$25 per day, every day after 15 days. Should the Marshal notify a resident to do X by a certain date and the resident does not comply, the Marshal may continue to fine. Town fines can be paid at the town hall. Traffic fines will be paid at the county court.

Councilperson Clark mentioned a couple other fees:

- Golf cart registration \$25 annually, past May 31, registration is \$50.

- Violation of the Business Zoning Association \$25
- Returned Check fees remain at \$27.50

Councilperson Clark made a motion to repeal the following ordinances:

- 30.02 (E) – There shall be one voting place in each of the three districts. . .
- 30.03 – Ford Home; Trustee Appointment Limitation
- 31.03 (C) – Re: Employee life insurance coverage as required by law.
- 31.05 – Emergency time off
- 31.45 (J) (K) Nepotism Policy
- 31.46-47 – Nepotism Policy – will be moved to Employee Handbook
- 32.002-32.008 – Department of Economic Development
- 32.050-058 – Board of Cemetery Regents
- 33.01 – Fee Schedule for Copier and Fax Machine
- 33.38 – Brush Chipper Fund
- 33.48 – Police Dog Fund
- 33.49 – Cemetery-Posey Co. Community Foundation Fund
- 33.50 – Ribeyre Gymnasium Fund
- 33.54 – Planning Grant Fund
- 33.57 – Storm Water Grant Fund

Weinzapfel seconded. Roll call vote – all were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Clark is suggesting changes to the following ordinances, and this is the first reading. *The following descriptions are a summary of the topic.*

- 30.01 (K) (6) (A) Open Forum – individuals wishing to speak
- 30.01 (L) (6) Councilpersons present electronically shall be allowed to vote
- 31.01 Changing regular to full time in reference to employees
- 31.02 (A) Holidays – added Veterans Day
- 31.02 (B) Employees that work holidays will be paid all hours at double time
- 31.03 (A) Health and Accident Insurance will be provided to all full-time employees
- 31.08 (A) Remove the word previously
- 31.08 (B) Range set by the Federal Internal Revenue Service

Salaries and Pay Rates for Employees and Officials of the Town of New Harmony

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Town Marshal | Minimum \$45,000 per year Maximum \$65,000 per year | Paid bi-weekly from the General Fund. |
| Deputies | Min \$20.00 per hour Max \$25.00 per hour | Paid monthly (last check of the month) from the General Fund. |
| Town Superintendent | Min \$25.00 per hour Max \$35.00 per hour | Paid bi-weekly with 30% from the Gas, Water and Wastewater Utility Funds and 10% from the MVH Fund |
| Town Laborer – FT | Min \$15.00 per hour Max \$25.00 per hour | Paid bi-weekly with 30% from the Gas, Water and Wastewater Utility Funds and 10% from the MVH Fund |
| Town Laborer - PT | Min \$10.00 per hour Max \$20.00 per hour | Paid bi-weekly with 30% from the Gas, Water and Wastewater Utility Funds and 10% from the MVH Fund. |
| Utilities Office Manager | Min \$20.00 per hour Max \$27.00 per hour | Paid bi-weekly with 33.333% equally from the Gas, Water and Wastewater Utility Funds. |
| Clerk-Treasurer | \$51,584 per year | Paid bi-weekly with 30% equally from Gas, Water and Wastewater Utility Funds, 5% General Fund, and 5% Cemetery Fund. |
| Town Council Members | \$4,000 per year | Paid annually on the last pay date in November with 27% equally from the Gas, Water and Wastewater Utility Funds, and 19% General Fund. |
| Town Attorney | Not to exceed \$200 per hour | Paid monthly (last check of the month) from the General Fund or specifically to the various Utility Funds as duties may apply. |
| Zoning Board Administrator | \$325 monthly | Paid monthly (last check of the month) from the General Fund. |

- 31.22, 31.23, 31.26, 31.28, 31.31 Delete these position titles
- 31.24 Town Laborer Full Time
- 31.25 Town Superintendent
- 31.30 Utilities Office Manager
- 31.33 Town Laborer Part Time
- 32.020 Correcting an error, Parks and Trails Board
- 32.070 Changed wording in first sentence “Pursuant to IC 36-7-4, there shall be created
- 33.03 Current Bank Name is United Fidelity Bank, 500 East Fourth St., Mt Vernon, IN
- 33.44 Changed to read “A fund entitled New Harmony Trails fund to be funded with . . .

Councilperson Clark made a motion to approve the first reading. Weinzapfel seconded. Roll call vote – all were in favor. Motion carried. Weinzapfel thanked Clark for all the attention and work he has put into reviewing the ordinances.

Councilperson Weinzapfel made a motion to add an agenda item regarding the Town Marshal’s renovation budget. Clark seconded. Roll call vote – all were in favor. Motion carried.

President Smotherman reviewed the costs for the Marshal’s office renovations in the Old Garage building. Councilperson Weinzapfel made a motion to approve the dollars to renovate an office for the Marshall not to exceed \$10,000. Williams seconded. Roll call vote – all were in favor. Motion carried.

President Smotherman mentioned that Tom Cochran passed away. He was a member of the Business Zoning Administration. The open position needs to be filled through the end of term which is December 31, 2025. The position is appointed by the council and cannot be a member of the Planning Board.

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve the claims. Weinzapfel seconded it. Roll call vote – all were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Councilperson Clark made, and Weinzapfel seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Jeffrey Smotherman, President of Town Council

Attest:
Ann Huelsmann, Clerk Treasurer