

APRIL 18, 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, ARNEBERG, CLARK, WEINZAPFEL and WILLIAMS along with Attorney, Nathan Maudlin and Clerk-Treasurer, Ann Huelsmann.

Visitors in attendance: Martha Raske, Alvin Blaylock, Eric Sanders, Diane Sanders, Terry Brown, Carmen Naas, Jim Naas, Pat Wilson, Jo Briant, Charles Bandy, Bandy Batt, Jan Kahle, Lois M. Gray, Johnathon Webber, Joshua Janik, Bill Meyer and Jeanne Maudlin.

Councilperson Clark made and Williams seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2025 Regular Meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Williams said that the cemetery had been mowed, and they are still waiting to remove the tree.

Councilperson Arneberg reported she had attended the Main St. Conference in Philadelphia. The WIFI grant dollars were given to One New Harmony to administer the funds. The town attorney, Nathan Maudlin, will write up an agreement on the transfer of funds to be voted on at the May meeting. There are five businesses already signed up and their WIFI bills will be supplemented by this fund.

Councilperson Weinzapfel stated that the town will be addressing the holes in the streets in the next couple of weeks. Johnathon Webber is documenting all the unpaved alleys in New Harmony to address.

President Smotherman stated that the floors are being redone at the fire station. Smotherman also mentioned the dire need for firefighter volunteers. The Marshal now has a direct phone line put in for non-emergency situations. He also reminded us that the Paint Out will be held April 23-26, 2025.

Councilperson Clark discussed OCRA funding dollars for infrastructure plans and said that he will be attending an EREP meeting tomorrow. The fire hydrant replacement project has come and gone. The town council appreciated everyone's patience. Clark mentioned that the flooding we have had has an impact on the sewer plant and our maintenance crew has been working on that. Regarding the new Ordinance book, the council is reviewing every ordinance to ensure relevance. Clark is working with the town council on scheduling a special meeting to address. The special meeting will be open to the public.

Councilperson Clark mention the town received a request from Kent Parker to film a music video. The request is to close Main Street between Tavern and Church on May 19, 2025, for three hours in the morning. May 20 and 21 have been designated back up dates should there be inclement weather. Councilperson Clark made a motion to add this vote to the agenda. Williams seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Clark then made a motion to close Main Street for the video on May 19, 2025. Williams seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Charles Bandy thanked the Town Council for going above and beyond. President Smotherman removed a dead racoon from a public area.

Bill York at 1012 Church St. requested a building permit, which was approved, on January 29, 2025. During February and March of 2025, York reached out to the utility person regarding moving the gas line and is getting no response.

Lois Gray asked about the Open House and when would the public see the gold coin voting results.

President Smotherman reminded us about the final golf registration dates of April 26-27, 2025, 12:00 to 6:00 at Town Hall. Heritage Days April 23-25, The Town Wide Yard Sale is May 5 and Big Trash Day is May 16.

Councilperson Weinzapfel read the proposed changes to ordinance 151.03 (B) and (E)(1)(b) Administrative Procedure and Regulations. Councilperson Williams made a motion to accept the ordinance changes. Clark seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Weinzapfel read the Public Notice and notice of public hearing for the New Harmony Plan and Historic Preservation Commission, which is meeting on May 6, 2025 at 5:00 PM at the WMI. A copy of the draft Comprehensive Plan is available at www.newharmonyplan.com.

Councilperson Clark said that he met with Nathan Maudlin and worked on the Resolution to post meetings on the Website. Clark read the resolution and moved to have passed. Williams seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Weinzapfel reminded all that the Town Website is the central point for sharing town information.

Councilperson Arnberg reported that the town is now using the county code red system to communicate to residents, which is cost free. Residents need to sign up. The form is at Town Hall. Residents can receive information via text, calls and/or emails.

President Smotherman reported that the council investigated getting an outside company to install the remaining water readers and the gas readers. Johnathon Webber, Superintendent, said that the maintenance crew would finish the new water meters in the next month. Clerk Treasurer Huelsmann thanked Webber for all his assistance in getting the April bills out.

Clerk Treasurer Huelsmann introduced and welcomed the new town billing clerk, Carmen Naas.

Councilperson Clark talked about traffic violations fees and fines. Clark read the old ordinance and discussed updating the code to include fine amounts for such violations as traffic and speeding. Clark moved that we adopt Posey County fines/rates for similar violations. Arnberg seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Nathan Maudlin requested that we attach the fee schedule to the ordinance.

Councilperson Clark updated the town council on the Church St. water project. That this repaid to the 40 service lines that feed off the main line be replaced. Clark made the motion to put this project out for bid. The Town Attorney, Clerk Treasurer and Superintendent will put together a bid process. Weinzapfel seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. This project must be completed by Kunstfest.

President Smotherman announced the dates of the Antique Show and Cruise In for June 14-15, 2025. We have received the permit but still missing details on the Cruise In. Smotherman asked that the permit approval be moved to the May meeting.

President Smotherman introduced Diane Sanders who announced the Firefly Festival. It will be June 27-28th and the permit application has been submitted. There will be a run/walk the morning of June 27. Arthur and Main will be closed on the 28th from 6-10 AM. Councilperson Weinzapfel made the motion to approve the permit. Clark seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Clark read the resolution 2025-2 for the May 1, 2025 – June 1, 2027, Celebration of Experiment. Clark made the motion to approve the resolution. Weinzapfel seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Williams made a motion to amend the agenda for an emergency topic. Clark seconded it. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Smotherman reported that the town's mower stopped working and the town needed to purchase a new one. A 2025 Skag mower was identified in Mt. Vernon. The price is \$14,999 with a 20% discount, bagger for \$2,479, install kit \$1,440, and a two-year unlimited hourly warranty for a total of \$18,918.00. Councilperson Weinzapfel made the motion to purchase the mower, bagger and install kit. Williams seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilperson Clark made a motion to approve the claims. Williams seconded it. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Councilperson Williams 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