

## UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

5:30 P.M.

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session on Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall at 508 E. Fourth Street, Huntingburg, Indiana. Members Wehr, Kissling, Bolte, Bounds and McPherron were physically present. This meeting was opened to the public and made available to members of the public and the media streamed through the City of Huntingburg's YouTube channel accessed via the City of Huntingburg's website. Also present were Mayor Elkins, City Attorney Schneider and Clerk-Treasurer Dippel.

Mayor Elkins called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by McPherron and carried to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025 regular meeting.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bounds and carried to approve the claims as presented.

Kenlee Steffe, Director of Community Development and Outreach, informed the Council of the Huntingburg Revolving Loan Committee's and Steffe's recommendation to loan Logan Dyer and Laura Schuster \$25,000.00 to help finance the purchase of Hometown Music. Their original request was for \$170,000.00 to finance the entire purchase. The terms of the loan are a five-year loan. It was noted that the funds will not be released until the City has documentation verifying the remaining project funding, including associated terms.

A motion was made by Bounds, seconded by Bolte and carried approving the \$25,000.00 revolving loan noted above contingent upon the remaining project funding, including associated terms. (Putting the City in a seconded lien position with the building, and other assets listed as collateral.)

Attorney Schneider noted that the City will prepare loan documentation and the City's loan is contingent upon the borrower's obtaining the remainder of the purchase financing.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented the monthly Gas Utility report. He noted the completion of the annual leak survey with no major leaks found. He informed the Board that Richard Meiring has been promoted to Gas Crew Chief.

Reutepohler presented the monthly Electric Utility report. He noted continued tree trimming and refurbishment of the 30-year-old trencher trailer. He informed the Board that electric rates are expected to increase an average of 2.8% next year.

Water Superintendent Austin presented his monthly report. He informed the Board of maintenance on the trail around the City Lake and filtration plant. He presented quotes for a new zero turn mower. The low quote was \$12,500.00 from Hopf Equipment in the amount of \$12,500.00 for a 2025 Kubota 60-inch mower. The second lowest quote was from All Seasons for a 2025 Scag Cheetah 61-inch mower in the amount of \$13,260.00. He noted that we have parts valued at \$917.48 that can be used on the Scag, and the Scag is regularly maintained by Water Utility employees. He also noted that All Seasons would give a \$1,000.00 trade in for the old 2008 Scag Turf Tiger. Austin recommends the purchase of the 2025 Scag Cheetah 61-inch mower. The price would include \$1,000.00 trade-in totaling \$12,260.00.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by Bolte and carried to approve the purchase of the Scag Cheetah 61-inch mower noted above.

Attorney Schneider informed the Council of the history of the moratorium on the approval of development plans for commercial solar generation facilities in the City's territorial jurisdiction specifically related to the AES/Crossvine development. He indicated moratoriums (amendments) on these type projects appear to only be valid if proper procedures are followed. He also explained Indiana's "Vested Rights" Statute, noting rules in place when an application is properly filed, are the rules that will be applied to any subsequent renewals for a period of at least 3 years. He noted that rules can be changed going forward for future projects but not changed retroactively. There was discussion with several citizens addressing the Council with concerns about the proposed Crossvine Battery Energy Storage System and Solar Project being considered south of Huntingburg, almost to Holland.

Discussion followed. Schneider presented a proposed resolution amending the text of the City's Unified Development Ordinance that would make commercial solar energy systems a special exception use, and declare a moratorium on the consideration and approval of all applications for commercial energy solar system development plans and special exception uses, until such time as the Plan Commission and the Common Council can adequately consider the proposed amendment.

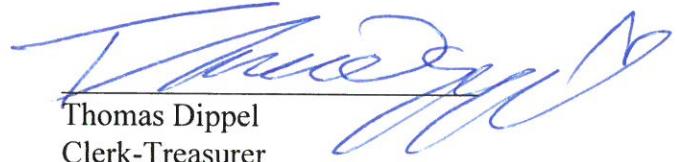
A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to adopt Resolution No. 2025-30 entitled:

**A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
HUNTINGBURG INITIATING AN AMENDMENT TO THE TEXT OF THE  
CITY OF HUNTINGBURG UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE  
REGARDING COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS**

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Resolution No. 2025-30 the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 2025-30 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:59 P.M.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 P.M.

  
M. Neil Elkins  
Mayor

  
Thomas Dippel  
Clerk-Treasurer