

UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

5:30 P.M.

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at the hour of 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall at 508 E. Fourth Street, Huntingburg, Indiana. Members Bolte, Bounds, Kissling and McPherron were physically present. Member Wehr was absent. 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 Bounds, seconded by Bolte and carried to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2026 regular meeting.

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

The Mayor presented a proposed ordinance adding Park & Recreation Department fees for the Huntingburg Senior Center and Bark Park to the current schedule of fees.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2026-04 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2025-29
ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR USE OF SERVICES
AND FACILITIES OF THE PARK AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGBURG**

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-04 at the same meeting it was introduced.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by McPherron and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-04.

Upon call of roll for adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2026-04 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2026-04 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 5:39 P.M.

Transit Director April Blessinger presented bids received for the 2012 Dodge/Braun van that were opened on January 22, 2026. Blessinger recommended accepting the highest bid in the amount \$2,723.00 from Commercial Bus and Vehicle, LLC.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Kissling and carried to accept the highest bid presented in the amount of \$2,723.00.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented the monthly Gas Utility report. He noted his crew spending time on training and testing.

Reutepohler presented the monthly Electric Utility Report. He presented three quotes for 3-phase transformers for an addition to the Co-Op on Phoenix Drive and

County Road 400 West. Reutepohler recommended accepting the low quote from Sunbelt Solomon for two 3-phase transformers in the total amount of \$31,000.00.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to accept the low quote as presented from Sunbelt Solomon in the amount of \$31,000.00.

Reutepohler requested approval to enter into a three-year service agreement with Survalent for the Electric SCADA system in the amount of \$17,553.00.

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

Reutepohler informed the Council that the new bucket truck that was ordered in July 2023 will be built next month. Due to the length of time for receiving a new bucket truck, he requested permission to start the process on purchasing another bucket truck to replace a 17-year-old slide boom bucket truck that is starting to show signs of stress cracks.

A motion was made by Bounds, seconded by McPherron and carried to approve Reutepohler to start the process of purchasing a new bucket truck.

Water Superintendent Austin presented his monthly report. He updated and presented pictures to the Council on the Filter Cell Leak Repair project being done by Kieffer Brothers.

Attorney Schneider summarized a proposed ordinance that was introduced at a previous Council meeting for an agreement between the City and Patoka Township for the City to provide fire protection for 2026 to Patoka Township in the amount of \$26,000.00.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-01 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
AND SAFETY TO ENTER INTO A FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT WITH
THE PATOKA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE**

Upon call of roll for adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2026-01 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2026-01 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:20 P.M.

Attorney Schneider summarized a proposed ordinance that was introduced at a previous Council meeting for an agreement between the City and Patoka Township for recreational services for 2025 in the amount of \$12,000.00.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by Bounds and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-02 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMMON COUNCIL TO
ENTER INTO A RECREATIONAL SERVICES
CONTRACT WITH THE PATOKA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE**

Upon call of roll for adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2026-02 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2026-02 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:21 P.M.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented proposed utility bad debt write-offs for 2025. It was noted that collection efforts are still ongoing, but the amounts of these accounts need to be taken off the books of the respective utilities. The amount of write-off for 2025 is \$9,927.40.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bounds and carried to approve the utility bad debt write-offs for the year 2025 in the amount of \$9,927.40.


Dippel noted Council appointee Eric Olinger's term on the Huntingburg Economic Development Commission will expire on January 31, 2026. Olinger has agreed to serve another 4-year term if approved by the Council (February 1, 2026 to January 31, 2030).

A motion made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron and carried to appoint Eric Olinger onto the Huntingburg Economic Development Commission for a 4-year term.

Janet Schnell requested an update on hoarding issues in the City.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 o'clock P.M.


M. Neil Elkins
Mayor


Thomas Dippel
Clerk-Treasurer