

**UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, September 23, 2025**

**5:30 P.M.**

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall at 508 E. Fourth Street, Huntingburg, Indiana. Members Kissling, Bolte, Bounds 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 Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2025 regular meeting.

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

The Mayor presented a quote from GameTime for playground equipment in the amount of \$86,420.26 for approval. The equipment will be paid out of the LIT-ED fund budget and \$13,000.00 from the Park budget and the Park Donations Fund. It was noted that the quote was obtained through OMNIA PARTNERS, a Purchasing Cooperative, recognized as competitively bid in Indiana.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by Bounds and carried to approve the purchase as noted above.

The Mayor presented a proposed resolution determining interest in the sale of real estate and setting a public hearing on the proposed sale. The two lots are 45 and 46, in Charles Niehaus First Addition to the City of Huntingburg. These lots are in the Main Street Economic Development Area. An offer was received from EQUIVIS, a Real Estate Broker, on behalf of its client, a developer from Indianapolis, Indiana, in the amount of \$174,095.00 for the land, appraisals and sewer lines.

A motion was made McPherron, seconded by Kissling and carried to set October 14, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers as the Public Hearing for the sale of this real estate and to adopt Resolution No. 2025-21 entitled:

**A RESOLUTION DETERMINING INTEREST IN THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE AND SETTING PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED SALE.**

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Resolution No. 2025-21 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 2025-21 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 5:42 P.M.

The Mayor presented a Mayoral Proclamation proclaiming September 17 through September 23, 2025 as Constitution Week.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented the monthly Gas Utility report. He informed the Board that gas meter upgrades were 85% complete. He informed the Board of the need for an antenna to improve electronic gas meter reading in the Ireland area. He presented a quote from Core & Main for antenna equipment and installation in the amount of \$69,682.20. He noted they are the sole source for this equipment.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to approve the quote from Core & Main noted above.

Reutepohler presented the monthly Electric Utility report. He informed the Board that crews were working on rebuilding lines near Venue 1408 and Dairy Queen.

Water Superintendent Austin presented his monthly report. He noted that with the installation of 18 large diameter water meters the water meter upgrade should be complete.

Austin informed the Board that he had looked into the cost of adding a bathroom near the boat ramp at the City Lake as requested in a prior meeting. He estimates the cost to be between \$80,000.00 and \$100,000.00 to put a permanent bathroom in the area. He does not foresee the Water Department having the funds to install a permanent bathroom.

Austin informed the Board of quotes received for pipe for replacement of a water main on Van Buren Street, between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. He solicited 3 quotes with the low quote from Utility Supply Company in the amount of \$19,074.30.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried to approve the quote from Utility Supply Company in the amount of \$19,074.30.

Austin began a discussion on the financing of the Water Plant Filter Replacement Project. Previous discussions had included the Water Department using their money in addition to a loan from the Electric Cash Reserve Fund.

Austin recommended the Water Utility pay the first \$600,000.00 and then borrow the remaining funds needed from the Electric Cash Reserve Fund. Terms were discussed. Attorney Schneider noted that hard costs so far would amount to approximately \$970,000.00.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Kissling and carried to set the terms of the loan at 2.5% over 5 years, with a maximum to be borrowed of \$600,000.00.

A proposed ordinance was presented with the above terms inserted.

Austin informed the Board that Kieffer Brothers is scheduled to begin construction on 10/12/2025 on the filter project.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by Bounds and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2025-22 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A LOAN FROM THE ELECTRIC CASH RESERVE FUND TO THE MUNICIPAL WATER UTILITY**

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. 2025-22 at the same meeting it was introduced.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-22.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2025-22 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2025-22 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:26 P.M.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented a proposed ordinance presented annually to move appropriations from one major budget classification to another within the same

department and fund. He noted the transfers would not exceed the unspent balance in the department or fund. There was discussion about keeping appropriations in certain accounts to be used for only the original budgeted accounts. The list of moves is to be completed at year end and highlighted to the Council.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2025-23 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS FROM ONE MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATION TO ANOTHER WITHIN THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGBURG, INDIANA FOR THE YEAR 2025**

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. 2025-23 at the same meeting it was introduced.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by McPherron and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-23.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2025-23 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2025-23 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:37 P.M.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented a proposed City employee salary ordinance with various percentage increases in 2026 for review and discussion. There was discussion on various increases.

A motion was made Kissling to use 3% increase in the ordinance. There was more discussion. The motion died for lack of a 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by McPherron and carried to use 3.5% increase.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2025-24 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES FOR THE CITY OF HUNTINGBURG, INDIANA FOR THE YEAR 2026**

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-24 at the same meeting it was introduced.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by McPherron and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-24.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2025-24 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2025-24 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:43 P.M.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented a proposed elected officers salaries ordinance with various percentage increases in 2026 for review and discussion. There was discussion on various increases.

A motion was made by Bounds, seconded by Bolte and carried to use 3.5% increase.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2025-25 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICERS OF  
THE CITY OF HUNTINGBURG, INDIANA FOR THE YEAR 2026**

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bounds and carried with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-25 at the same meeting it was introduced.

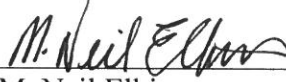
A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-25.

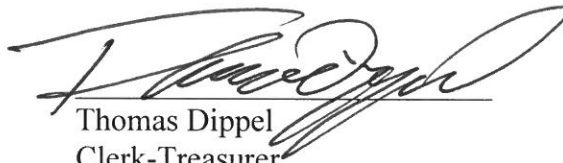
Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2025-25 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Wehr) in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2025-25 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:50 P.M.

The Mayor informed the Council that 14 women's softball teams from 5 different states will be in the City for recreational tournament and he will be hosting a reception at Old Town Hall this Friday, between 5:00 and 7:00 P.M.

Janet Schnell updated the Council on her observations of hoarding in the City.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Bolte, seconded by McPherron and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 o'clock P.M.

  
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M. Neil Elkins  
Mayor

  
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Thomas Dippel  
Clerk-Treasurer