

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY OF THE CITY OF JASPER
July 8, 2025**

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Jasper, Indiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street and via Zoom Video Conferencing.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dean Vonderheide the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Knies then called the roll:

Mayor Dean Vonderheide	Present
Board member Timothy Bell	Present
Board member Nancy Eckerle	Present

Also, present were Assistant Police Chief Aaron Persohn, Assistant Street Commissioner Matt Kiefer, Personnel/Safety/Loss Control Director Cale Knies, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Kenny Hochgesang and Director of Community Development and Planning Josh Gunselman, City Attorney Renee Kabrick, Park and Recreation Director Tom Moorman, and Clerk Treasurer Kiersten Knies. City Engineer Chad Hurm was absent.

Kiersten Knies announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the board members must be present. All board members were present in person, which is a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Mayor Dean Vonderheide invited all those present to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES. The board members examined the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 24, 2025. Thereafter, a motion was made by Tim Bell and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to approve the minutes from June 24, 2025, without correction. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

Claims were distributed for a period between June 6, 2025, and July 3, 2025, in the amount of \$3,165,227.29. Claims to note include a semi-annual payment to partners of the University Heights agreement in the amount of \$18,000.00, a monthly payment to the employee benefit trust in the amount of \$231,000.00, several Community Crossing bill payments some of which include Knies Construction for Street Rehab program for \$60,000.00 as well as Knies Construction for pavement recon in the amount of \$248,000.00.

A motion was made by Dean Vonderheide and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to accept the claims as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

TURKEY TROT

Jamie and Kyle Jahn with Downtown Running requested approval to hold the Turkey Trot held on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27, 2025, at 8 am. Jahn expects approximately 500 runners or walkers as well as spectators. All proceeds benefit Girls on the Run and Greater Downtown Jasper Business Association. The Turkey Trot is the main route as usual and will start at 605 Main St, southwest on Courthouse Square to 6th St, then east on 6th, northeast on the Riverwalk, onto E 15th St onto Main St, south on Main St back to Courthouse Square. Kyle Jahn requests no parking allowed on Thanksgiving morning from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. on the northwest quadrant and from 7th St to West 6th St. He also requests road closure from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. at 7th and Main and 6th and Main on the northwest quadrant. Jahn asks for police patrol on 15th and Main St if available. Jahn has communicated with the Street Department on the barricades.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Mayor Vonderheide to allow Downtown Running to host the Turkey Trot on November 27, 2025, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. with permission to close parking in the northwest

quadrant and road closures at 7th and Main and 6th and Main with police patrolling on 15th St and Main St. Motion carried 3-0.

MONTHLY REPORT

Assistant Police Chief, Aaron Persohn, provided the police department's monthly report from June. Persohn highlighted what their School Resource Officers (SRO) are doing over the summer. The SROs have been assisting patrol, taking calls, attending numerous trainings, and assisting detectives with cleaning out their vault. Officer Knies was just awarded a Masters of Accreditation from the Indiana School Resource Association for the numerous trainings he has completed with them.

JUNK ASSETS

Assistant Police Chief Aaron Persohn requested permission to junk several computers after the budget approval to purchase new 16-18 new computers. There are 14 computer assets that need to be junked as they are no longer in use. The asset numbers include 102504, 102949, 102948, 102947, 102946, 102945, 102944, 102876, 102711, 102702, 102522, 102704, and 103296.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to allow the police department to junk several assets, 14 computers by the asset numbers of 102504, 102949, 102948, 102947, 102946, 102945, 102944, 102876, 102711, 102702, 102522, 102704, and 103296. Motion carried 3-0.

DISPATCH POSITIONS

Assistant Police Chief Aaron Persohn requested permission to recognize the changes in responsibilities for two dispatchers. A part-time dispatcher recently went to full-time dispatch and a full-time dispatcher went to part-time. On June 29, 2025, Natasha Durcholz went from part-time to full-time. Denise Lampert went from full-time to part-time on June 25, 2025.

A motion was made by Mayor Vonderheide and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to approve the change in responsibilities for Natasha Durcholz to full-time on June 29th and Denise Lampert to part-time on June 25th. Motion carried 3-0.

MONTHLY BUILDING PERMITS

Director of Community Development & Planning, Josh Gunselman, provided information on June's building permits. The department had 13 total permits. They created 4 residential units, an additional 2 commercial units, and 8 accessory structures for a total of \$2,000,000.00 in building permits.

TRASH STICKER QUOTE

Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Knies requested approval to accept a quote for trash stickers. In the past, quotes have been made for one million stickers at a time about every 5 years. Knies is unable to find a company that will still quote for a million at a time and sought out updated quotes from multiple companies. The current quote from Trash Stickers Inc. is for 200,000 stickers in the amount of \$6,169.00. Knies anticipates this order to happen once a year or more depending on sales.

A motion was made by Mayor Vonderheide and seconded by Tim Bell to accept the quote for 200,000 trash stickers at the price of \$6,169.00 from Trash Stickers Inc. Motion carried 3-0.

BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP FIRE CONTRACT

Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Knies received the Bainbridge Township Fire Contract one day prior to the meeting and would like to table it until the next meeting to have time to review.

VOSS DATA EXTRACTION


Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Knies requested approval of VOSS data extraction by Hoosier Business Machines in the amount of \$6,000.00. The City currently uses CentraDesk to store old ordinances, resolutions, and contracts. It is an outdated tool and Hoosier Business Machines notified the city that the tool is going away at the end of the year. The city is in the process of finding a new document housing tool solution, but data extraction is necessary. Hoosier Business Machines quoted \$6,000.00 for data extraction and no other quotes were sought out. The \$6,000.00 will be paid out of the Clerk-Treasurer's budget and

half will be billed to Utilities. This qualifies as a special purchasing method under Indiana Code 5-22-10-7 data processing contract agreements.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Tim Bell to approve Hoosier Business Machines to extract the data from CentraDesk by the end of the year to have the data available for a new system in the amount of \$6,000.00 where half is billed to utilities. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT. A motion was made by Mayor Vonderheide and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

The minutes were hereby approved ___ with ✓ without corrections or clarification this 22 day of July, 2025.



Mayor Dean Vonderheide, Presiding Officer

Attest: 

Kiersten Knies, Clerk-Treasurer