

**Town of Roachdale**  
Roachdale Community Building; 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN 46172  
February 20, 2025 Town Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Roachdale Town Council held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2025 7:00 p.m. at the Roachdale Community Building, 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN.

President Zach Bowers called the monthly meeting to order after recognizing that the agenda was posted pursuant to the Indiana Open Door Law and that a quorum was present.

Council Members Present: President Zach Bowers, Amanda Newcomer, Paul Wireman

Council Members Absent: None

Also Present: Clerk-Treasurer, Town Marshal, Maintenance Operations Coordinator, Town Attorney

Guests Present: Tonya Bowers, Carole Cloncs, Jim Cromwell

- I. Wastewater Project Update – President Zach Bowers gave an update on the Division II EQ basin issue and read the following repair options that he had received from Derick Wiggins, Midwestern Engineers:

Option 1: Add a 3" wide/8" thick section of concrete around the top of the current concrete which would provide an overlap of concrete over the installed bentonite liner that should help with the leak issue, but Midwestern Engineers is not confident it would eliminate leaking altogether. The cost from Mitchell and Stark for the concrete option is \$80,500 which Midwestern Engineers believes is excessive. Derek Wiggins stated in the email he sent President Zach Bowers that after further discussion with Mitchell and Stark they would do the work on a time and materials basis at a lower cost. They were concerned about how much labor and time it would take to complete the work.

Option 2: Add a synthetic (HDPE) liner from the top of concrete to above the high water level/top of lope. Mitchell and Stark is pursuing a couple of options and Midwestern Engineers had a Teams meeting with a vendor and installer yesterday to discuss details. They should be getting a price any time from them.

Budget wise for the project Derek Wiggins stated in the email that after digging into the remaining overall budget with Mike Kleinpeter and SRF representatives they believe the total remaining funds are approximately \$715,334. Of this amount it looks like \$541,786 is committed to finish the current contract amounts for Div I and II construction, grant administration construction engineering, and inspection. The total remaining funds are \$173,548 so there are more funds remaining than previously thought.

Derick Wiggins will send an update as soon as he gets more information on the synthetic liner option.

President Zach Bowers stated that he had talked to Troy Elless, UMAC about the options and he recommends that we do the synthetic liner.

Debbie stated that she had questions about who is responsible if the fix does not hold and Paul Wireman stated that he had questions on the warranty.

- A. Pay Applications

There were no pay applications.

- II. Community Crossings Update – President Zach Bowers stated that the CCMG 2024-2 was awarded contingently to Grady Brothers and Midwestern Engineers had confirmed their bid packet was good, we are on their schedule, and they are ready to proceed once the asphalt companies are open.
- III. Potential Water Project – There was no update provided from Midwestern Engineers on the Water Project.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - A. January 13, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
  - B. February 11, 2025 Memorandum of Executive Session
  - C. February 13, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
  - D. February 20, 2025 Memorandum of Executive SessionPresident Zach Bowers presented the January 13, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, the February 11, 2025 Memorandum of Executive Session, the February 13, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, and the February 20, 2025 Memorandum of Executive Session for approval.  
Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve the minutes as presented.
- V. Approval of Claims 01/24/2025 – 02/20/2025. President Zach Bowers presented claims for 01/24/2025 - 02/20/2025 for approval.  
Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve claims 01/24/2025 – 02/20/2025 as presented.  
Approval of Payroll – 01/24/2025 – 02/20/2025. President Zach Bowers presented payroll for 01/24/2025 – 02/20/2025 for approval.  
Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve payroll 01/24/2025 – 02/20/2025 as presented.
- VI. January 2025 Bank Reconciliation – President Zach Bowers presented the January 2025 Bank Reconciliation for approval as prepared by Suzy Bass, Local Government Services, as part of our internal control.  
Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve the January 2025 Bank Reconciliation as presented.
- VII. Public Comment Time – No public comments.
- VIII. Old Business
  - A. K9 Policy – Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to table the K9 policy until the March 20, 2025 meeting.
  - B. Oak Street Parking – A discussion was held regarding parking on Oak Street. President Zach Bowers stated that he had hoped a member of the Roachdale Fire Department would be present tonight to give input on the discussion and Marshal Lepine stated that they were unable to attend tonight due to illness, but hope to come to the next meeting. Town Attorney Peebles stated that a no parking sign could be put up restricting parking but there would be no ordinance to back it. After further discussion, it was decided that Town Attorney Peebles will prepare a draft ordinance for the March 20, 2025 meeting for the south curve running Maple Street to Maple Street.

President Zach Bowers stated he also has a question about Indiana Street and the No Parking signs from just south of Grove Street to the corner of Forest Home Street and stated that he could not find an ordinance for the signs.

IX. New Business

A. Old Outstanding Checks Considered Void – Debbie presented the Council a copy of receipt 5727 showing check 6122 that was an outstanding check from 2022 in the amount of \$174.04 that was voided and receipted back in. Debbie explained that any check that is still outstanding after two years is to be voided and receipted back in.

B. Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) Agreement – Debbie presented and explained a Lead Service Line Inventory Agreement from Sherri Winter, Water Compliance Tech and explained that it is a requirement regarding IDEM's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions and updates have to be submitted by November 1, 2027.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, President Zach Bowers against, motion passed, to approve the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) Agreement with Water Compliance Tech as presented at an amount not to exceed \$1,200.

C. Resolution 01-2025 Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Roachdale Opposing Significant Cuts to Municipal Property Tax Revenues Without an Equitable, Comprehensive Replacement Mechanism – President Zach Bowers stated that in case people are not aware the Governor and the legislature are looking at changes to property tax revenue. These changes will take away a lot of funding mechanisms without any replacement for them and over the next three years for the school system they are looking at about \$3,000,000 of losses. The Town has not had calculations of how much their loss will be, but it would be a lot. It would probably mean losing full time employees and maybe even loss of benefits for any full time employees that we have. There are a lot of towns that are passings resolutions such as this. President Zach Bowers stated that he knows that we operate pretty lean but there are some areas that we could cut such as no improvements to the park, no community cleanup days, no Christmas decorations, things that we don't have to have because we need a Marshal, we need utility workers, we need someone to plow the streets. All that comes from the general fund which is funded by property taxes and if they continue to take more and more away as they are planning on doing it will only get worse over the next three years and then we won't be able to fix it. We won't have Community Crossings Grants that we're going to get the 75/25 match to fix roads and sidewalks like we currently do. President Zach Bowers stated that Debbie's extremely good with our money, but even with it, we would be unable to do all the stuff without Community Crossings where we only pay 25%. President Zach Bowers stated that we have said and Debbie has said we have to start watching the spending now because we know the changes are coming. If we don't need it, we shouldn't buy it. President Zach Bowers stated that the Association of Indiana Municipalities is leading this and advocating for municipalities and there are lots of towns passing resolutions such as this.

President Zach Bowers asked Debbie if she would like to speak and Debbie stated that she agrees that it is a very real thing and we just need to hold tight and not make any major purchases until we see what is going to happen. Debbie stated that she knows that AIM is working hard on behalf of cities and towns and has very strong lobbyists. Debbie also stated that she also thinks the Council should consider not having Community Cleanup Days this year since it is a large expense.

President Zach Bowers read Resolution 01-2025.

Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to approve Resolution 01-2025 as read.

X. Property Cleanups

Marshal Lepine stated he had attempted to serve the property at 600 N Indiana Street 4 times and had tried to call and email and had no success. Deputy Marshal Bryson Tash had made an attempt to serve it last night when the vehicles were home but no one would come to the door. Marshal Lepine stated he wasn't sure how to proceed since it was a rental and was registered to 2G3B LLC in Crawfordsville. After discussion, a notice will be sent to the owner and one will be taped to the door and Town Attorney Peebles will revisit the pending lawsuit and get it set for trial.

Town Attorney Peebles stated that the Grace and Charles Ring trail is set for 10:00 a.m. on March 31<sup>st</sup>, Sandford Horn is set for April 14<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon, a date has not been set for the John Long property or Robert Williams property. Marshal Lepine stated that the Robert Williams property is showing progress.

President Zach Bowers asked for an update on 308 E Forest Home and Marshal Lepine stated that he had a conversation with her on the 6<sup>th</sup> and gave her until the 21<sup>st</sup> and he will be giving her the citation on the 21<sup>st</sup> which will give her another 10 days and then another \$250 citation and then \$500 citation if nothing is done by next the Council meeting then the Council can take action.

President Zach Bowers asked if it is trash and Marshal Lepine stated that it is trash and the truck bed is full of trash as well.

President Zach Bowers asked if the vehicles are not abated by the 26<sup>th</sup> if they could be towed and Marshal Lepine stated that he could have them towed.

4 East Street – Marshal Lepine stated that he gave them until the 21<sup>st</sup> to have the property cleaned.

9 S Meridian Street – Marshal Lepine stated that they have until the 26<sup>th</sup> to abate the abandoned vehicle.

110 W Washington Street – Marshal Lepine stated he had a conversation with the renter on the 18<sup>th</sup> and gave her until the 4<sup>th</sup> to clean the property and she stated she was moving out in a week so it wasn't her problem.

2 N Meridian Street – Marshal Lepine stated they have until the 10<sup>th</sup> to abate the abandoned vehicle.

8 Maxine Lane – Abandoned vehicle

13 N Main - \$1500 judgment, any new citations would now start a new process.

XI. Town Marshal Report

Marshal Lepine presented the monthly report. Marshal Lepine presented an updated purchase request for badges and wallets from Symbol Arts in the amount of \$1,502.50. President Zach Bowers stated that this adds more badges in case Marshal Lepine wants to add more Reserves at a later date. Marshal Lepine stated that we need new badges since the current badge that he wears says chief and he is not the chief he is the Marshal and the current badges also do not match our unit numbers. President Zach Bowers stated if the order stays as is he is against it since he does not think we need rank in Reserves. Marshal Lepine stated that he wants a Reserve to oversee the Reserves and President Zach Bowers stated that he thinks Deputy Marshal Tash needs to oversee them to give him that responsibility and supervision and experience to learn supervision and management skills and to grow professionally. Marshal Lepine stated that he does not disagree, he still wants that rank and he is fine with the Reserves reporting to Deputy Marshal Tash but the sergeant can help with training, inspect the pool cars and training the new hires. President Zach Bowers asked if we have a Sergeant right now and Marshal Lepine stated it would be Anthony Taylor. Marshal Lepine stated it does not mean he is shoving Deputy Marshal Tash to the side it means the sergeant can help with the delegation of tasks. President Zach Bowers stated that he

also had an issue that Marshal Lepine had only received one quote and Marshal Lepine stated that it was a custom quote and Symbol Arts had done the badges in the past. Paul Wireman stated that we had asked Marshal Lepine to take the department and manage the department and if this is the badge that fits the model he is putting in place we are laying that responsibility to you.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, President Zach Bowers against, motion passed, to proceed with the quote for badges from Symbol Arts as requested in the amount of \$1,502.50.

Marshal Lepine presented a quote for training to send Deputy Marshal Tash to Desert Snow Training July 23 – July 25 in Indianapolis at a cost of \$699. Marshal Lepine said it is a drug interdiction training on traffic stops and he had completed the training when he was here previously and it was the best training he has been through. Marshal Lepine stated that he also thinks it will also go hand in hand with our K9 program.

Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to approve the request for Deputy Marshal Lepine to attend Desert Snow Training July 23-25. President Zach Bowers requested that he been enrolled as soon as possible before the class fills up.

Marshal Lepine requested that K9 Teeko be made an official client of Crawfordsville Veterinary Clinic and stated that they can handle his regular visits and work hand in hand with Purdue for emergency visits. They also offer a 20% discount for law enforcement agencies and free endurance and stamina training. In addition Teeko will also receive free heartworm and tick meds annually.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to make Teeko and official client of Crawfordsville Veterinary Clinic.

Marshal Lepine stated that he spoke to Bainbridge Marshal Ronnie Campbell and he is interested in the old tasers and body cameras. President Zach Bowers stated that we need a formal request from the Bainbridge Town Council stating they would accept them.

Marshal Lepine stated that there is a part that went bad on the radar speed trailer he is going to pull it out and send it to them and they think they can fix it. The company thinks it will be around \$200.

Marshal Lepine stated that his Tahoe has the graphics done and should be 100% completed by Marsh 1<sup>st</sup>. Marshal Lepine stated that the ship date for the kennel cage for Deputy Marshal Tash's Tahoe has been moved to March 20<sup>th</sup>.

President Zach Bowers stated if training becomes available he would like K9 Tash to do a K9 first aid course.

## XII. Maintenance Operations Coordinator Report

Maintenance Operations Coordinator Mark Ketchem stated that there had been progress at the plant off and on with Mitchell and Stark, but they had not been there much lately due to the weather.

Maintenance Operations Coordinator Ketchem stated that he has been trying to keep up with weather issues, maintenance issues, vehicle maintenance, and street maintenance.

President Zach Bowers stated that there is a huge pile of snow pushed on the sidewalk in front of the old grocery store blocking the entire sidewalk and the whole corner and Maintenance Coordinator Ketchem stated that he didn't realize it was there, and he will get it removed.

President Zach Bowers stated that the Council received a resignation from Chris Holder this evening and he motioned to accept Chris Holder's resignation effective immediately, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to accept Chris Holder's resignation effective immediately.

President Zach Bowers stated the position will be posted in a few days.

## XIII. Clerk-Treasurer Items

Debbie presented adjustments totaling \$634.25 for approval.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve the adjustments total \$634.25 as presented.

Debbie reported that all of the annual reports are almost completed.

Debbie stated the surveyors have been here surveying the Town's properties.

XVI. Items from Town Council Members

Amanda Newcomer- Amanda Newcomer stated that she wanted to tell Adrian since he started with the department she had seen complete, significant change within the department communication and everybody's attitude has completely changed and seems really positive. So thank you for that and she has seen a real big change and the community has as well and everybody's glad to have him back.

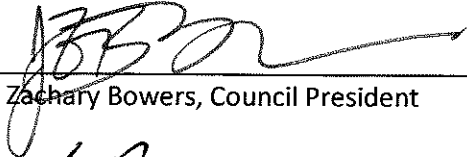
Amanda Newcomer stated to Mark I'm not sure if things will be a struggle for you or not without having a second man but she is hopeful that we're able to find you somebody sooner rather than later to get everything done. So thank you for everything that you have done and just keep it up.

Paul Wireman – No items.


President Zach Bowers – No items.

Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by President Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

TOWN COUNCIL:

  
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J Zachary Bowers, Council President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda Newcomer, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Wireman, Council Member

Attest

  
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Debbie Sillery, Clerk Treasurer