

Town of Roachdale
Roachdale Community Building; 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN 46172
November 24, 2025
Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

The Roachdale Town Council held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, November 24, 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. President Zach Bowers stated that the meeting is being recorded livestream and will be posted to the Town's website and YouTube per the Indiana Law.

Council Members Present: President Zach Bowers, Amanda Newcomer, Paul Wireman
Council Members Absent: None

Also Present: Clerk-Treasurer, Town Marshal, Town Attorney

Guests Present: Jeff Miller, Brent Clark, Donald Lawyer, Troy Elless, Jim Cromwell

I. Stormwater Issues

President Zach Bowers opened the discussion on a potential Stormwater Project and the scope of the project. It was stated that the Town has spent \$41,000 so far on investigating the issue and President Zach Bowers stated we need to move forward with the project and get the project moving. Debbie stated that we will have to follow the process due to the cost. Town Attorney Peebles stated that the Town will also need to start looking at the stormwater rate. It was stated that we will need to get a timeframe from Mike Kleinpeter, Kleinpeter Consulting, for applying for an OCRA Grant and to know what the Town's costs not covered by a grant will be. The process for selecting an engineer was discussed.

Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to have Mike Kleinpeter send out RFQ's to at least 3 engineers for the Stormwater Project.

II. CCMG Update

President Zach Bowers stated that he hasn't heard anything from Grady Brothers regarding the sidewalk restoration and Maintenance Operations Coordination Mark Ketchem hasn't had any updates either. The Town still has Grady Brothers retainage which will not be released until the restoration is complete.

President Zach Bowers stated that the PASER report is due December 1st and Maintenance Coordinator Ketchem has not submitted the report to Midwestern for the review as requested.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

President Zach Bowers presented the October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve the October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

B. October 29, 2025 Memorandum of Executive Session

President Zach Bowers presented the October 29, 2025 Memorandum of Executive Session for approval.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve the October 29, 2025 Memorandum of Executive Session as presented.

IV. Approval of Claims

- A. October 22, 2025 – November 24, 2025 Claims – President Zach Bowers presented claims for October 22, 2025 – November 24, 2025 for approval.

Motion by President Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve claims for October 22, 2025 – November 24, 2025 as presented.

- B. October 22, 2025 – November 24, 2025 Payroll - President Zach Bowers presented payroll for October 22, 2025 – November 24, 2025 for approval.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve payroll October 22, 2025 – November 24, 2025 as presented.

- V. October 2025 Bank Reconciliation – President Zach Bowers presented the October 2025 Bank Reconciliation for approval as prepared by Suzy Bass, Local Government Services, as part of our internal control.

Motion by President Paul Wireman, second by Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve the October 2025 Bank Reconciliation as presented.

- VI. Public Comment Time – Jeff Miller, 9 E Maple Street and Brent Clark, 8 E Maple Street. Jeff Miller asked who the project manager is for the stormwater issue, what the timeline is to get the issue resolved in front of his home, if a conversation had been held regarding the claims he had presented for damaged to his home and if the drain on the south side in front of his home has been reconnected to the drain on the north side. Jeff Miller asked where the water goes if the drains are not connected. President Zach Bowers stated that without Maintenance Coordinator Ketchem present he cannot answer those questions. Jeff Miller stated that he realizes that the Town does not have money to fix the issue. Jeff Miller stated that he started bringing the issues to Maintenance Coordinator Ketchem's attention last Fall and he does not have good feelings. Jeff Miller stated that Mark needs to take responsibility for the project and know exactly what is going on and that we employ him. Jeff Miller stated that he knows Mark is not present to defend himself, but we need answers.

Brent Clark stated that if he knew the drains were flowing reasonably he wouldn't be as concerned, but if we have another wet Spring there will be more damage done to their homes. Brent asked if any repairs had been done and Debbie stated that the work that has been done so far has been investigative and no repairs have been done that she knows of. She will call them tomorrow to see what she can find out.

Donald Lawyer, 308 E Forest Home Street, stated that he had totally bailed on his property, that he had been dealing with financial hardships. Town Attorney Dave Peebles asked if the home was still in his deceased mother's name and Donald Lawyer stated that he had to get it off of the tax auction and it is still in her name. Donald Lawyer stated that his hours had been cut, the garage roof is rotted through, but he does not have the funds at this time to repair it. Paul Wireman asked if the building is secure and Donald Lawyer stated to the best of his knowledge. President Zach Bowers asked about the mower and camper and Donald Lawyer stated that the camper is good. Marshal Adrian Lepine asked if there are some items that he is able to clean up now and Debbie stated if Donald would stop by her office she would give him a business card for someone that will come and pick up items for free to scrap.

Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, for Donald Lawyer to get rid of all tall weeds and overgrowth, lawnmowers, junk and trash, come back to the March 2026 Town Council Meeting with a solid plan for the building.

VII. Old Business

- A. Maintenance Operations Laborer Position – Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to hire Cole Long for the Maintenance Operations Laborer position effective today.
- B. Utility Service Connection Fees, Utility Reconnect Fees, I/I Inspection Requirements for Property Assessments – After discussion, it was decided that the following will be prepared for 1st reading at the December meeting:
 - Water Service Connection Fees \$100
 - Gas Service Connection Fees \$200
 - Water Reconnect Fees \$75
 - Gas Reconnect Fees \$75
 - Water Tap Fees \$200
 - Sewer Tap Fees \$500
 - Meter Inspection Fees – Costs incurred by Roachdale Utilities for inspection.
 - I/I Inspection Requirements for Property Assessments – Town Attorney Peebles will prepare language and price.
- C. Executive Sessions Prior to Council Meeting – President Zach Bowers stated since Amanda Newcomer was the one that had brought this up at a previous meeting he was going to turn it over to her.

Amanda Newcomer stated that she thought it would be a good idea to have an Executive Session prior to Council meetings at 6:30 or 6:45 to allow the Council a chance to discuss litigation and employees can also address concerns they have. Paul Wireman stated he thinks it is a good idea. Town Attorney Peebles stated the Council can do a standard 6:30 Executive Session every month and if the meeting changes the Executive Session changes and it can also be scrubbed if not needed. The Executive Session prior to Council Meeting will begin with the December 18th meeting.

VIII. New Business

- A. Street Closure for Christmas in Roachdale – Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, on December 12th at 4:00 p.m. to close Washington Street from Indiana Street to Meridian Street to the intersection at Meridian and Washington and Meridian and Washington to the alley north of the library until the conclusion of the event.

IX. Property Cleanups

Town Attorney Peebles gave the following updates:

Charles and Grace Ring property- Court Order – Rings agreed to clean up and remove and rubbish/trash on property within 45 days. If it is cleaned up, Town Council will waive citation. Agreed not to conduct business on property. Anything new will be a new citation.

3B2G – No pending court date, hole in front of home partially filled in.

Brad/Patsy Long property- yard clean, front door jarred open, unsecure, unsafe.

Motion by President Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, that the Town have the property at 209 E Washington Street have any unsecured door or window, based on emergency, secured due to public safety.

Sanford Horn – Marshal Lepine stated that Sanford Horn stated all vehicles on his property run.

Railroad/Robert Hammon Property- Town Attorney Peebles stated he talked to Robert Hammond, and he owns the building and CSX Railroad owns the land. Robert Hammond would like to buy the land or sell them the building since he does not want to improve his building when he doesn't own the land. President Zach Bowers asked since the building sets on CSX property if they would get named in a lawsuit. Town Attorney Peebles stated this could be discussed in an Executive Session.

X. Town Marshal Report

Marshal Lepine stated that the Council has his report.

President Zach Bowers asked if Axon course has been applied for and Marshal Lepine stated that is only good for so many months and he is waiting to see if anything is available the first of the year. President Zach Bowers asked the status of Reserve Officer Mekhi Salako and Marshal Lepine stated that he has completed 140 hours to date and will be out on his own the first of the year and then on probation for one year.

XI. Maintenance Operations Coordinator Report

President Zach Bowers stated that he had not received a report from Maintenance Coordination Ketchem who was not present at the meeting and asked Debbie if she had and she stated that she had not.

XII. Clerk-Treasurer Items

Debbie stated her and Marshal Lepine will be having a hot chocolate bar during Christmas in Roachdale.

Debbie stated that the new blinds have been ordered for her office and should be in soon and the target date to move will be after the first of the year.

XIII. Items from Town Council Members

Amanda Newcomer – Amanda Newcomer stated that she had worked with Cheryl McBride at Hollywood Feed and K9 Teeko will receive a free bag of food, any size, any flavor, monthly, and all that they ask if that every so often they receive a picture of Teeko with the bag of food.

Paul Wireman – No items.

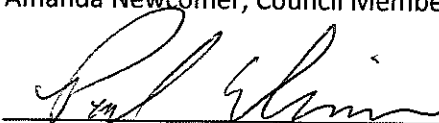
President Zach Bowers – No items.

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


TOWN COUNCIL:


J. Zachary Bowers, Council President


Amanda Newcomer, Council Member


Paul Wireman, Council Member

Attest



Debbie Sillery, Clerk Treasurer