

Town of Roachdale
Roachdale Community Building; 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN 46172
March 19, 2026
Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

The Roachdale Town Council held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday, March 19, 2026 7:00 p.m. at the Roachdale Community Building, 204 N Indiana Street, Roachdale, IN.

President Amanda Newcomer called the monthly meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. after recognizing that the agenda was posted pursuant to the Indiana Open Door Law and that a quorum was present. President Amanda Newcomer 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 Amanda Newcomer, Zach Bowers, Paul Wireman
Council Members Absent: None

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

Guests Present: Tonya Bowers, Brent Clark, Donald Lawyer, Jeff Miller, Dossan Lamb, Neil Brook, Eric Smith, Troy Elless, Mekhi Salako

- I. Stormwater Project
 - A. OCRA Stormwater Public Hearing – At the March 19, 2026 public hearing, the Town of Roachdale discussed a proposed OCRA Stormwater Improvement project and received public input regarding drainage concerns near Indiana and Maple Streets. The Town plans to apply for a \$750,000 OCRA grant with a \$335,000 local match from EDIT and Cumulative Capital funds. The project, presented by Kleinpeter Consulting and HWC Engineers, includes installation of new 12-, 18-, and 24-inch storm sewers and inlets designed to reduce flooding and improve drainage in the neighborhood south of the school. If funded, construction is anticipated to begin in early 2027. Residents provided comments expressing concern about ongoing flooding impacts, including basement water intrusion and roadway deterioration, and requested consideration of interim solutions while the Town pursues grant funding. The hearing was closed after all public comments were received.
 - B. OCRA Community Priority Statement – President Amanda Newcomer read the Town of Roachdale Statement of Community Priority and Five Year Maintenance Commitment for the current stormwater construction project being submitted to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA).
Motion by Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to approve the Town of Roachdale Statement of Community Priority and Five Year Maintenance Commitment as read.
 - C. Resolution 2-2026 Resolution Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment – President Amanda Newcomer presented and read Resolution 2-2026.
Motion by Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to approve Resolution 2-2026 Resolution Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment.

Dossan Lamb, Kleinpeter Consulting, stated that SHIPA had determined that there are no historic areas in the project area.

President Amanda Newcomer closed the OCRA Stormwater Public Hearing at 7:19 p.m. and resumed the Regular Meeting.

II. CCMG Update
No updates

III. Approval of Minutes

- A. February 19, 2026 Regular Minutes
- B. March 12, 2026 Memorandum of Executive Session
- C. March 12, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes
- D. March 19, 2026 Memorandum of Executive Session

President Amanda Newcomer presented the February 19, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, the March 12, 2026 Memorandum of Executive Session, the March 12, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes and the March 19, 2026 Memorandum of Executive Session for approval.

Motion by Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Approval of Claims

- A. February 20, 2026 – March 19, 2026 Claims – President Amanda Newcomer presented claims for February 20, 2026 – March 19, 2026 for approval.
Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Zach Bowers, vote unanimous, to approve claims for February 20, 2026 – March 19, 2026 as presented.
- B. February 20, 2026 – March 19, 2026 Payroll - President Amanda Newcomer presented payroll for February 20, 2026 – March 19, 2026 for approval.
Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Zach Bowers, vote unanimous, to approve payroll February 20, 2026 – March 19, 2026 as presented.

- V. February 2026 Bank Reconciliation – President Amanda Newcomer presented the February 2026 Bank Reconciliation for approval as prepared by Suzy Bass, Local Government Services, as part of our internal control.
Motion by Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to approve the February 2026 Bank Reconciliation as presented.

VI. Public Comment Time

Brent Clark stated that the engineer needs to look at putting a field tile at the basement line on Maple Street for him and Jeff Miller to tie in or water in their basements will continue to be an issue.

Donald Lawyer stated that he is back with a solid plan for his property and stated that he is coming up with the money for a dumpster and is going to tear down his garage even though he doesn't want to. He stated his fiancé started a new job. President Amanda Newcomer asked how much longer he would need and he stated that he would need three months. Debbie asked Donald if he had contacted the guy that she gave him the card for that would probably come and help him clean up his property and he stated that he has not. Marshal Adrian Lepine stated that he had made improvements to the property.

Motion by Zach Bowers, second by President Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to give Donald Lawyer until June 30th to have nuisance abated and should be final extension.

Town Attorney Dave Peebles explained if the Town cleans the property, he will receive a fine and a lien will be placed on the property.

Jeff Miller asked if the Town has plans to compensate him and Brent Clark for damages to their homes caused by the stormwater issues on Maple Street and no response was given.

VII. Old Business

- A. Debbie stated that she had received a reminder invoice from JS McCullough Excavating, LLC for the unauthorized repair he had done to the storm drain on 13 N Meridian Street and the Council agreed as discussed at a previous meeting that they are not paying the invoice.

VIII. New Business

- A. Bulk Water Purchasing – Debbie stated that we have purchased a meter for the hydrant at the water tower to track bulk water purchasing.
- B. Resolution 2026-1 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Amendment to Its Gas Supply Agreement With PEFA, INC in Connection with the Reset of the Available Discount in PEFA, Inc's Gas Prepayment Project; Approving the Issuance of Bonds By PEFA, Inc.; and Related Matters. Town Attorney Peebles explained the resolution and what needed to be returned with the resolution.
Motion by Zach Bowers, second by President Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to approve Resolution 2026-1 as presented.

IX. Property Cleanups

Marshal Lepine reported that 207 N Walnut Street and 4 N East Street are both abandoned properties. Marshal Lepine stated there has been some improvement on 4 N East Street and Town Attorney Peebles stated that both properties have sewer liens on them. Marshal Lepine stated that Trevor Ring took over the property at 4 N East Street and that is who the mower parts and junk on the property belong to. Town Attorney Peebles asked the Council what they wanted to do and asked if they wanted him to file a lawsuit. Paul Wireman asked who the lawsuit would be against and Town Attorney Peebles stated that it would be against the owner and whoever is doing wrong. Motion by President Amanda Newcomer, second by Zach Bowers, vote unanimous, to start litigation on 4 N East Street.

Marshal Lepine asked the Council how to proceed with 207 N Walnut Street and stated there are a lot of health hazards on the property with possums under the house, kids' pools with water and containers with trash. Marshal Lepine stated that he mailed a certified letter to Robert Buchanan that was delivered on March 12th and they have until April 9th to have the property cleaned. President Amanda Newcomer stated that we should allow the time that is listed. Debbie stated that the home is now in foreclosure.

Town Attorney Peebles stated that the Robert Hammond Unsafe Building Order has been amended to include CSX Transportation as well.

Zach Bowers stated that he had a question about 207 N Walnut Street and stated that it shows that Robert Buchanan is no longer the owner. Town Attorney Peebles stated that was correct, Freedom Mortgage is now the owner and can now do a Sheriff Sale on the property. Marshal Lepine asked how he should do future enforcements and Zach Bowers said they should be sent to Freedom Mortgage. Town Attorney Peebles requested a PDF of what Marshal Lepine had sent and he will forward it to Freedom Mortgage.

X. Town Marshal Report

Marshal Lepine presented his monthly activity report.

President Amanda Newcomer asked if the department still planned on doing building checks and Marshal Lepine stated that they do. Debbie asked for the Community Building to be included in the building checks.

Marshal Lepine presented a request to purchase the Indiana Marshal's Association Membership fees and the IMA Conference fees which is April 9th – April 11th. Marshal Lepine stated the membership fee is \$50 per officer and the conference fee is \$75 per officer with the total cost being \$500. Marshal Lepine stated that the conference fulfills all Law Enforcement Training Board Annual Training Requirements.

Motion by Zach Bowers, second by Paul Wireman, vote unanimous, to approve Marshal Lepine's request to purchase the Indiana Marshal's Association Membership fees and the IMA Conference fees for a total cost of \$500.

Marshal Lepine presented a proposal for participation in ICE's 287 (g) Program and stated that this was brought to him by Deputy Marshal Bryson Tash. Zach Bowers asked Marshal Lepine what he thought and he stated that he can see the need, does he think it is a necessity, no, have had situations over the years where he could have used the resources. Marshal Lepine stated that he is indifferent about the program and is not concerned about getting into it for the funding. President Amanda Newcomer asked if Marshal Lepine have reached out to other towns to see if they were participating and he stated that he had not. Zach Bowers asked if Deputy Tash had reached out to any and Marshal Lepine stated that he had not. Zach Bowers stated that he needs more time to look over the information. Paul Wireman asked what happens if there is a traffic stop and if this program can help the officer prove the name or not. Marshal Lepine stated that the prosecutor bases the arrest on no license and there is no way of tracking. Paul Wireman asked what this would change and Marshal Lepine stated that there would be a little bit more resources to identify and hand over to Feds. Marshal Lepine stated it is not something they deal with on a regular basis. Motion by Zach Bowers, second by Paul wireman, vote unanimous to table the proposal until next month.

Marshal Lepine asked what questions the Council would like answered and Zach Bowers stated he would like more information on purchasing and reimbursement.

XI. Maintenance Operations Coordinator Report

Motion by President Amanda Newcomer to make amendment to the motion made in the March 12, 2026 Special Meeting to change Cole Long's position from interim Maintenance Operations Coordinator to Maintenance Operations Coordinator. Zach Bowers asked Cole Long how he felt about that and Cole Long stated that he was fine with it. Zach Bowers seconded President Amanda Newcomer's motion, vote unanimous.

Maintenance Coordinator Long stated that he is keeping up with Comcast locates.

Maintenance Coordinator Long discussed locking the water meter at the water tower but allowing the Fire Department access.

Maintenance Coordinator Long gave an update on vehicle maintenance, stated we now have our new trash pump, the old trash pump has been repaired, the shop has been organized and supplies ordered. He stated that the plastic gas line that was investigated on Spring Street is a deadline and there is also a dead gas line on Maple and Oak Street.

Maintenance Coordinator Long stated that he passed the IWEA Construction Observation Course and will be attending the USDI Basic operator qualification training gas training in Olney Illinois the week of April 13th.

Motion by President Amanda Newcomer to adopt Ordinance 3-2026 Amendment to Current Salary Ordinance on 1st reading, Paul Wireman second, Zach Bowers against.

XII. Clerk-Treasurer Items

Debbie stated that she is receiving calls about Community Cleanup Days.

Motion by Zach Bowers, second by President Amanda Newcomer, vote unanimous, to hold Community Cleanup Days annually on the second Friday and Saturday of September with dumpster pickup at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Motion by Paul Wireman, second by Zach Bowers, vote unanimous, to investigate and repair open stormwater pipe at the intersection of Maple and Oak Street at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.

Town Attorney Peebles stated that the residents will know what is going on during the jetting and repair.

XIII. Items from Town Council Members

Paul Wireman – No items.

Zach Bowers – No items.

President Amanda Newcomer – No items.

Motion by President Amanda Newcomer, second by Zach Bowers, vote unanimous, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

TOWN COUNCIL:


Amanda Newcomer, Council President


J Zachary Bowers, Council Member


Paul Wireman, Council Member

Attest


Debbie Sillery, Clerk/Treasurer