

The Regular Town Council Meeting of the Town of Schererville, IN was called to order by President Robin Arvanitis at 6:53 p.m. in the Schererville Town Hall, 10 E. Joliet Street Schererville, IN.

Attendance was taken with the following Council Members present: Caleb S. Johnson, Kevin Connelly, Thomas Schmitt and Robin Arvanitis. Council member absent: Rob Guetzloff. Staff members present: Attorney David Austgen, Fire Chief Robert Patterson, Police Chief Pete Sormaz, IT AJ Garcia, Asst. Park Superintendent Irene Mireles, Town Engineer, Neil Simstad, Director of Public Works Chad Nondorf, Director of Operations Andy Hansen, Town Manager Jim Gorman. Clerk-Treasurer Michael Troxell and Recording Secretary Robin Thiel.

THEREUPON, Approval of the minutes. Mr. Connelly made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2026 Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Schmitt. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Claims

- A. APV # 124228-APV #124561 on the General Docket, Totaling \$3,248,633.47
- B. APV #124232-APV #124556 on the MVH Docket, Totaling \$116,757.56
- C. APV #124295- APV #124543 on the Payroll Docket, Totaling \$1,319,992.29
- D. Various Funds, First National Bank of Omaha, Credit Card Charges, \$13,745.23
- E. Various Funds, Austgen Kuiper Jasaitis, March Legal, \$15,549.02
- F. Various Funds, Invoice Cloud, March Portal Fees, \$50.00
- G. Public Safety Fund, Franciscan Crown Point EMS, Pmt. #2-Paramedic Course Tuition, \$3,250.00
- H. Public Safety Fund, LWG CPAS, Invoice #39575, \$9,450.00
- I. Various Funds, Rothschild Insurance, Various Invoices, \$230,411.00
- J. Asset Forfeiture - Federal Fund, Dell, Computers for Police, \$10,123.92
- K. Various Funds, Menards, Supplies, \$11,319.86
- L. Various Funds, Auto Wares, Parts, \$11,838.14
- M. Various Funds, Staples, Supplies, \$119.22
- N. Various Funds, Securitas Technology, \$1,145.13
- O. Various Funds, Burke Costanza & Carberry, Legal Services, \$3,114.00
- P. Park Non-Reverting Fund, GFS, Program Supplies, \$36.98
- Q. Park Non-Reverting Fund, Strack's, Program Supplies, \$215.92
- R. Various Funds, Napa, Parts \$500.00

Mr. Connelly made a motion to accept the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence NONE

THEREUPON, Reports

Mr. Nondorf reported that the branch and spring leaf collection has started. It started on Monday, April 6th on the south side of U.S. 30. He stated that the spring leaf pick-up is about a month long and the branch pick-up will continue into probably December.

Mr. Nondorf stated that the CCMG work has started. Public works has been removing trees that have damaged concrete areas. He stated that concrete removal should begin next week by our contractor which is Milestone out of Griffith. Mr. Nondorf stated that Milestone will be contacting local residents to let them know when this work will occur, when the paving starts so they can get their cars off of the road and they know what is happening in their subdivisions.

Mr. Schmitt stated that he's had the luxury of sitting in on some meetings here lately on the Fire Station progress and the property, moving along on the Fire Station. He asked Mr. Gorman for an update of where we're at on the Fire Station. Mr. Gorman stated that the architect is following up on the drawings, they are not far from it, a couple of weeks away. Mr. Gorman stated that they just had soil borings done out

there where the building's going to go and at the two entrances, one on Anna Street and the one on Joliet Street.

THEREUPON, Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items NONE

THEREUPON, Presentation

Cathy Lareau, St. John Township Trustee and DAV
Reps. for Annual DAV Walk

Kathy Lareau, St. John Township Trustee, stated that she is here this evening with DAV Chapter 17 Commander, Steve Kramer and the past Commander, Bob Carnegie. She stated that they came to say thank you for your partnership and for co-hosting the DAV walk. She stated that they are having the 2026 DAV walk on August 22, 2026. The committee has been moving forward with this, the committee includes Police Chief Pete Sormaz, Town Manager Jim Gorman and Director of Operations Andy Hansen. Ms. Lareau stated that all of the Council should have literature in their packets and they passed out flyers.

Mr. Bob Carnegie stated that DAV has been in existence over a hundred years. It started in the end of World War 1 when Veterans came home and were promised the fact that this country would help and assist them from their wounds and they really didn't know how to do that. He stated that it started in Hammond and there are Chapters in several towns/cities. He stated that monthly meetings have over 500 veterans attend them. Mr. Carnegie stated that they are well represented in our community and it's not only because of the organizations like the Town of Schererville that assist us with getting their message out to the Veterans who may not even know what DAV can do.

Mr. Steve Kramer, thanked the Council for having them at the meeting. He stated that you guys have been great. Just to give you a little snippet, there is still veterans out there that are homeless. He stated just that a Veteran has been living behind a Speedway, so with their help, like the Trustee help, they were able to get him housing. They were able to get them back on their feet.

THEREUPON, Old Business

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Consider Authorizing the Town Manager, Director of Operations, Clerk-Treasurer and Town Attorney to Submit Payment in the Amount of \$784,385.60 for Kennedy Avenue Phase I (Bridge) and All Matters Related Thereto. (Kennedy Avenue Improvement Project)

Mr. Hansen stated that they received an FRA (Federal Rail Administration) grant. It is a reimbursable grant in the amount of \$8,452,558.00. He stated that they have an agreement with INDOT that basically reads that they fronted the money up front and then we would pay them back as the contractor invoices INDOT. Mr. Hansen stated that this is the first of many invoices for the \$784,385.60 until we get to the total of \$8,452,558.00.

Mr. Schmitt made a motion to submit the payment of \$784,385.60 for Kennedy Avenue Phase I, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0).

Mr. Schmitt asked Mr. Hansen if we are looking at a May 1st start of construction. Mr. Hansen stated that they've had a few snags with the utility's relocation, by public works and Junction Avenue. He stated they are waiting for Comcast, AT&T and NIPSCO gas to finish up.

ITEM B. Consider Acceptance of Change Order #5 in the Amount Of \$1,831.92 from Hasse Construction Company, Inc. For the Bio-Solids Building

Mr. Gorman stated that this is part of the Bio-Solids project.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept Change Order #5 in the amount of \$1,831.92, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM C. Consider Acceptance of Contract Balance Order #2 Final in the Amount of \$27,532.70 from M&J Underground, Inc. for the Burr Street Reconstruction Project 2025

Mr. Simstad stated that Item C and Item D go together. Item C is for the balancing of the unit cost as part of the contract with closing out those items based on some items going slightly over and some items going under. He stated that the majority of the additional amount of \$27,000.00 is for soil remediation and water main infrastructure.

Mr. Schmitt made a motion to accept the contract balance Order #2, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM D. Consider Pay Request No. 7-Final in the Amount of \$305,039.03 for M&J Underground, Inc for the Burr Street Reconstruction Project 2025.

Mr. Simstad stated that this is paying the remaining amount of the contract out to M&J, and subsequently to that, we'll coordinate with Mr. Hansen and Public Works to close out the CCMG contract to balance the items, that will allow us to go forward to be eligible for CCMG, matching grants in the future.

Mr. Schmitt made a motion to approve Pay Request #7, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM E. Proclaim the week of April 12th to 18, 2026 as National Telecommunicators Week in the Town of Schererville.

Mrs. Arvanitis read the proclamation into the record.

Mr. Schmitt made a motion to Proclaim the week of April 12th to 18, 2026 as National Telecommunications week in the Town of Schererville, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM F. Consider Acceptance of Donations \$1,973.91

Mr. Troxell read the donations for the month of March 2026 into the record.

Mr. Schmitt made a motion to accept the donations as read, seconded by Mr. Connelly. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Business from the floor

Meeting adjourned.

ROBIN ARVANITIS
TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT

MICHAEL A TROXELL, IAMCA, MMC, ACPFIM, CPFA, CMO
TOWN CLERK-TREASURER

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