

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF
THE CORPORATION OF LIBERTY, INDIANA
March 16, 2026**

The Town Council of the Town of Liberty, Indiana held a regular meeting on March 16, 2026 at the Town Administration building located at 101 Brownsville Avenue.

Mr. Jerry Kahl called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Derrek Jenkins, Jeff Lang, Dereck Tipton and Ross Keasling

Also in attendance was Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer; Matt Reuss, Courtney Hill, Steve Fuller, Michael O'Keefe, Glenn Vickers and Travis Mills from Frontier.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 2, 2026. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

ORDINANCES

RESOLUTIONS

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Utilities Superintendent Matt Reuss reported that there was a massive main break in the area of Harrison and Pierce Streets due to a lightning strike from the storms that occurred in the early morning hours. Culy Contracting had to be brought in to assist with repairs due to its complexity. As of the meeting, there were still breaks that needed to be fixed.

MISC. BUSINESS

Michael O'Keefe, Glenn Vickers and Travis Mills of Frontier appeared before the Council to present their plans to install fiber optic cabling in Town. The system will be a voice/data product, no television. They supply fiber optic to residential and business customers. 800 customers will receive their service from poles that are owned by Frontier or the joint pole agreement between Frontier and Duke Energy. Only 200 would have to be buried. The boring that will be done will be done directionally no missile boring. Frontier requested that someone from the Town be their contact person for construction. They asked Ms. Shepler to provide the email address and phone number for whoever is selected to be the Town contact.

Courtney Hill appeared before the Council a second time to request stop signs at Sycamore and Columbia Streets. After a brief discussion, Mr. Kahl asked for a roll call of the members as to who was in favor of adding the stop signs. Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Keasling voted yes to allow for the signs to be installed. Mr. Lang and Mr. Tipton voted no. Mr. Kahl broke the tie by voting no on the request. The request was denied.

The Council had a letter in their possession from the Union County Commissioners granting them parcels of their parking lot to accommodate expansion of the Fire Department building if need be. Mr. Keasling did point out that that was the current appetite of the current County Commissioners, however, when the time comes to decide what to do with the fire house, the County Commissioners may rescind their offer. Ms. Shepler stated that if the Council decided to expand the current footprint of the fire department that the Town and the County would have to negotiate the parameters of what is being turned over to the Town for construction. Mr. Kahl requested a letter of thanks be sent to the Commissioners for their offer.

Mr. Shepler asked the Council as to how they wanted to handle sanitation services due to the Town's current agreement with Rumpke expiring on May 31, 2026? She could either request an addendum to their current agreement or bid out the services. She stated that she would rather do an addendum as Rumpke's customer service is excellent and easy to work with. Mr. Keasling stated that he would be for the addendum as a full bidding process would be based on this year's increase in fuel pricing. Ms. Shepler said she would inform her Rumpke representative of the Town's wishes.

Ms. Shepler informed that she had attended the ILMCT Institute in Plainfield for two days the previous. As a result of the seminars she attended, she learned that many changes will be coming in the near future. One of the first changes that needed to be addressed was the Town's Rules of Order for the Town Council. Ms. Shepler stated that they needed to be more stringent with their meetings per a seminar she attended regarding public access law. Ms. Shepler has already made revisions to the Rules of Order and the Town Attorney is currently reviewing those revisions.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, on a motion made by Mr. Keasling and supported by Mr. Lang the meeting was adjourned.

Jerry Kahl
Jerry Kahl, President

ATTEST: Melissa Shepler
Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Town of Liberty Council meeting. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/@LibertyIndiana> or visit the Town of Liberty website, libertyin.gov for the meeting as well. The meetings will appear on the website for as long as the website can support the video.