

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF  
THE CORPORATION OF LIBERTY, INDIANA  
April 20, 2026**

The Town Council of the Town of Liberty, Indiana held a regular meeting on April 20, 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 and Ross Keasling

Also in attendance was Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer; Adam Sitka, Wessler Engineering; Matt Reuss and Todd Dickenson.

Mr. Kahl opened the meeting by commending the Liberty Police Department and the Union County Sheriff's Department for the large drug bust that occurred in Town last week.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 6, 2026. Mr. Jenkins supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

**ORDINANCES**

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to suspend the rules and vote on Ordinance 2026-2 on first reading. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-2. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Mr. Keasling made a motion to suspend the rules and vote on Ordinance 2026-3 on first reading. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-3. Mr. Jenkins supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Police Chief Todd Dickenson informed the Council that the State Excise Police donated computer stands for their vehicles.

**MISC. BUSINESS**

Adam Sitka, engineer with Wessler Engineering presented to the Council two agreements. The first agreement pertained to the Water System Asset Management Plan. This agreement is to assist the Town in becoming compliant with a House Enrolled Act 1459 which requires water and wastewater utilities not subject to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission jurisdiction to submit quadrennial reports on their asset management programs. The agreement will allow Wessler to assist Ms. Shepler complete the new survey the State will be rolling out in the very near future. It has to be completed by the end of June, 2026. The agreement allows for Wessler to charge the Town hourly for support not to exceed \$ 5,000.00. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the Water System Asset Management Plan agreement. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed. The second agreement concerns the engineering and surveying services for the emergency repair plan for the waterline on Harrison Street that was hit by lightning as well as contend with the clay sewer pipe that is exposed running through the small waterway in the ravine. This agreement will take the Town from drawing and surveying up through the bid process. Mr. Sitka explained that he did not include inspection services. If the winning vendor is an organization that the Town trusts, he would probably make fewer trips for inspection. If the winning vendor is an organization that the Town is not familiar with or has had issues with previously, more trips for inspection may be required. Once Ms. Shepler returns the signed agreement to Mr. Sitka, he will break out what part of this agreement will be sewer's responsibility and what part will be water's responsibility. Ms. Shepler stated that she will pay for the water portion out of EDIT as the water operating fund cannot handle this type of expense currently. Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve Wessler's Harrison Street Water Main Replacement agreement for \$ 74,500.00. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Mr. Lang made a motion to approve Rumpke's addendum for trash collection and service fees for the next three years. Mr. Jenkins supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Discussion occurred regarding the parking issue on Vine Street in front of St. Bridget's Church. After a brief discussion, it was decided that Ms. Shepler would bring an ordinance before the Council at the next meeting stating that there will be no parking on the north side of Vine Street from College Corner Avenue (US 27) to Flint Street.

Ms. Shepler informed the Council that the increase in insurance premiums to drop the deductible for storm and hail damage will most likely put the appropriations over budget as she still has to wait for the worker's compensation insurance premiums billing that will be coming later. The increase in premium to drop the deductible was dropped.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve March's bank reconciliations. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, on a motion made by Mr. Keasling and supported by Mr. Jenkins 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.