

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF
THE CORPORATION OF LIBERTY, INDIANA
June 15, 2026**

The Town Council of the Town of Liberty, Indiana held a regular meeting on June 15, 2026 at the Town Administration building located at 101 Brownsville Avenue.

Mr. Jerry Kahl called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Ross Keasling, Derrek Jenkins and Jeff Lang

Also in attendance was Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer and Matt Reuss.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 1, 2026. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

ORDINANCES

RESOLUTIONS

DEPARTMENT HEADS

MISC. BUSINESS

Mr. Keasling made a motion to approve the three-year agreement with Buckeye Power Sales for the maintenance of the Wastewater Plant's generator. Mr. Jenkins supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the Union County Public Library's request for a street closure. Mr. Lang supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion. Before the action to approve, a discussion occurred regarding the issues the Town is having with groups are not complying with the street closures. After discussion, it was decided that Ms. Shepler would include their recommendations on the street closure with the caveat that if the organizer does not follow the rules of the street closure, they may not be considered for any other requests in the future.

Ms. Shepler informed the Council that she, Mr. Kahl and Mr. Lang had met with Indiana State Treasurer Daniel Elliott and his aide, Randy. Treasurer Elliott discussed possible assistance with funding ideas due to SEA1. One of the ideas was to move the certificates of deposits and any other revenue to TrustIndiana's Local Government Investment Pool. Ms. Shepler met with Cindy Barger, Director of IndianaTrust. She reviewed what the "Pool" could do for the Town. The Investment Pool typically has better rates than the banks and money can be moved out of the investment pool without penalty if the Town needs it. After discussion, the Council allowed Ms. Shepler to further investigate if this would be a good move for the Town.

Ms. Shepler presented the Council with a situation that has occurred regarding disconnects. Ms. Shepler had received a letter from the Shannon Schuman of the Neighborhood Health Center asking the utility not to disconnect one of their patients due to medical issues. Ms. Shepler informed the Council that this has been the second request like this in a year and the Town does not have a policy to deal with the situation. The first situation worked itself out and so has the newest one but the newest one wants a policy in place to deal with her issue. Ms. Shepler has spoken to the Town Attorney and he stated he would write a policy for the Town to consider. Ms. Shepler stated she has her concerns regarding this policy. The Town will have to be strict on how this is enforced as Ms. Shepler is concerned people will take advantage of the policy. Once she receives the policy she will ask Council for their input.

Chief Dickenson had a discussion with Ms. Shepler, earlier in the day, regarding the posters that are hung when streets need to be closed. The cost of the posters comes out of the police department's budget and they are \$ 5.00 a piece cost. Chief Dickenson asked if we could start charging for them since the signs are typically used for non-Town events. Mr. Lang suggested that the sign charge be added to the street closure request form and the organizer will have to pay for the signs along with the fee to close the street. Ms. Shepler said she would bring an updated Street Closure Request form to the next meeting.

Mr. Kahl asked Utilities Superintendent Matt Reuss about the tree situation. Mr. Reuss informed Mr. Kahl that he has been busy dealing with other matters and has not had a chance to deal with the trees. He did state that he plans on getting several tree trimming companies to come on one day and walk with him on what needs to be done. Then he will get bids from them for the trimming or removal of the trees.

The Council members were given first draft copies of the new employee handbook. Ms. Shepler had met with Imani Murphy of New Focus HR to review the new draft. Ms. Shepler told the members to review the handbook and give her any suggestions on changes they would like to see at the next meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

ADJOURN

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