

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF  
THE CORPORATION OF LIBERTY, INDIANA  
August 4, 2025**

The Town Council of the Town of Liberty, Indiana had regular meeting on August 4, 2025 at the Town Administration building located at 101 Brownsville Avenue.

Mr. Tipton called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

Present were: Ross Keasling and Jerry Kahl

Also in attendance was Melissa Shepler, Clerk-Treasurer; Matt Reuss, Todd Dickenson, Jim Franklin, Melinda Stevens and Arlene Thompson.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Kahl made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 21, 2025. Mr. Keasling supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

**ORDINANCES**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Fire chief Jim Franklin passed out fire run reports to the Council. He informed the Council that Unit 62 is out of service and being repaired Richmond.

Utilities Superintendent Matt Reuss informed the Council that he is meeting with representatives from Comcast through Teams video conferencing on August 14 to do an assessment of different areas in Town for fiber optic service.

Police Chief Todd Dickenson stated that he did not have anything to report at this time.

**MISC. BUSINESS**

After a brief discussion, it was decided that the Town would not install more stop signs at the intersection of High and Fosdick. The Council believed that the issue was not the stop signs but the lack of sidewalks on Fosdick Street and the south side of High Street. The Town cannot make the property owners install sidewalks.

Melinda Stevens and Arlene Thompson appeared before the Council regarding a feral cat problem in their neighborhood. A neighbor feeds all the cats and it is causing issues with excrement, urine smell and the production of more cats. Ms. Shepler informed the attendants that the Town's Code of Ordinances and Indiana State Code does not deal with the cat population. The Town would have to adopt a more aggressive ordinance regarding cats and enforcement would be an issue as well. After discussion, it was decided that the Town would look into a more aggressive ordinance as well as Ms. Stevens and Ms. Thompson contacting the property owner regarding their complaints with the tenant.

Mr. Reuss presented a list of trees that he would recommend being removed due to their decayed composition. Each tree he recommended for removal, had the property card and picture of the tree plus the Town ordinance regarding the process of removing the trees. The Council decided to look at the trees and come back with a decision at the next meeting.

Ms. Shepler presented the Emergency Closing policy that the attorney modified from the Town's current handbook and the policy received by Greg Wright, Controller for the City of Greenwood. Mr. Tipton stated that he did not have issues with the revisions Mr. Williams made. Mr. Kahl supported Mr. Tipton's remark. Ms. Shepler stated that she would bring the revised policy to the Council by resolution to amend the handbook.

Mr. Kahl made a motion to approve the amended UCDC street closure request to close Market Street between High Street and Seminary Street for the car show. Mr. Keasling contacted Mr. Johnson, UCDC Director, during the meeting by phone to suggest the amendment as the Council did not want to close High Street in front of the UCDC building as it would impair El Reparo's customers from being able to exiting the parking lot. Mr. Keasling supported the motion. Upon a vote viva voce, motion passed.

As the APV Register and Payroll Allowance Dockets were being signed by the members, Mr. Keasling asked Ms. Shepler when the utility would be automatic withdrawal from bank accounts. Ms. Shepler stated that she was not for that particular method of payment as people get upset when their utility bills are not what they expect and if that is deducted from their account it would cause problems for the office. After a discussion with Mr. Keasling, Ms.

Shepler stated that she would look into what is offered but she would not do so until the Town was in the building and budget season was over.

**ADJOURN**

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

Keith Bias  
Keith Bias, President

ATTEST: Whitney Garrett  
Whitney Garrett, First Deputy

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](http://libertyin.gov) for the meeting as well. The meetings will appear on the website for as long as the website can support the video.