

---

## TOWN OF NEW RICHMOND

---

110 South Wabash Street, PO Box 210, New Richmond, IN 47967 Ph. 765-339-4507  
[Clerk@nrtown.com](mailto:Clerk@nrtown.com)

### Minutes of the Meeting

September 6, 2022 7:02 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Board Members Present, President Minnie Howard, Council Member Shelly Wulfers, Linda Forbes, Attorney Rob Reimondo and Clerk/Treasurer Alaathea Foust.

Minnie H. opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Alaathea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Minutes of Public Hearing on August 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., Shelly W. made the motion to approve the minutes, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea Foust Clerk/Treasurer presented approval for Minutes of Meeting on August 2, 2022 at 7:05 p.m., Shelly W. made the motion to approve the minutes, Minnie H. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

### **Amendments/Additions to Agenda: None**

**Streets/Maintenance:** Luke M. not present. Minnie H. read the report from Luke M. on the maintenance, he has mowed two times in August, he finished painted and repairing the stage at the park, removed flags and had them repaired and put back. There are 2-man holes in the park that kids are removing the lids and need to be secured. Luke M. got Tipmont to replace about 7 street lights that were out or not working properly.

Minnie H. asked what do we want to do with the old park equipment. After much discussion the Council agreed to look into what our options are before taking it out and/or selling it.

**Water/Sewer:** Earl Heide not present.

**Town Marshal:** Jeremy Minor not present.

**Fire Department:** Fire Chief Darren Foreman gave a report on their runs for the month.

**Report from Attorney:** Rob Reimondo said they have been in contact with the State Board of Accounts regarding to litigation or lack of litigation for the Town, we had to do a report by the middle of July that been sent. Also, today I brought reviews for the quit-claim deeds for the OCRA water improvement project grant which was provided to Alaathea. Roof Masters is still running but they are on the agenda to get back into court.

**Clerk/Treasurer:** Alaathea F. presented Accounts Payable Voucher Register for September 6, 2022 to the Board, Shelly W. made the motion to approve the APV Register, Linda F. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented Billing Adjustment Register for August 2022 to the Board, Shelly W. made the motion to approve the Billing Adjustment Register, Linda F. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. presented the bank reconcilements for July 2022.

Alaathea F. presented the Board with the Fund Report, Appropriation Report, Revenue Report up to date.

Alaathea F. said there is no update on Natural Gas.

Alaathea F. asked the Council if she could have an electrician come look at the Community Room outlets, so that breakers are not popping when there is an overload on certain outlets. She will get some quotes on the cost. The Council agreed to some quotes.

Alaathea F. said we already added more money into the Town Marshal's salary line, now we need to amend the salary ordinance for additional hours for this year. I will present this in the next meeting.

Alaathea F. presented the Town Council the Montgomery County Resolution to increase the Public Safety Local Income tax (PSLIT).

Alaathea F. said the Town's Audit is finished for the years of 2018-2021 there is a website address on the back table for the public to go see the Audit report. I talked to the State Board of Accounts about making payments for the Water and Sewer portion over the next 24 months, we can pay it off early as we can afford to.

Alaathea F. informed the Town Council that the Town of New Richmond will be receiving \$5235.65 from the Auditor of the State for the Opioid Settlement for the State of Indiana. Some of the monies will be restricted and some will not.

#### **Old Business:**

**Harrison Street Lift Station:** Minnie H. asked about the progress on the lift station. Alaathea F. said she talked to Earl Heide he said they are still working out a day for everyone to get together to do this.

**Lagoon Road Fence Row:** Minnie H. said this will be done when the crops are out of the field.

**Traffic Ordinance:** Alaathea F. said we still need to schedule a work session with Jeremy Minor and the Attorney for some question on the Traffic Ordinance.

**Street Grant:** Alaathea F. said one of the rules for applying for the Community Crossings Match Grant is that the work cannot be done before you are awarded the grant. I was communicating with the contractor about when the street work would be done once we are awarded. The contractor did not call any one in town to let them know when they were coming to work on the streets and because we were not done applying for the Community Crossings grant and because the contractor did the work already, we are not eligible for the grant. I did call the contractor about the problem and he admitted that he should have called, if he would have called to tell us when they were coming, I would have told him we have not be awarded the grant yet and therefore, you cannot start the work. So, we have about \$20,000.00 that we can pay now and the rest I am asking the Town Council for approval to look into a bank loan for the remaining balance. After some discussion Shelly W. made the motion to approve looking into a loan for the street project, Linda F. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.

Alaathea F. said she will be working with HWC Engineer on an ADA Transition Plan that is require as well for the Community Crossings Match Grant.



**Blighted Properties:** Shelly W. made a statement regarding the building that caught fire across from the playground at the New Richmond Park. She said we serve the owner with a blighted property notice, the owner torn it down but the rubble still remains, we learned later that the property was not in Town limits so it is no longer the Town's responsibility. Shelly W. said please let your children know that they should not go near the torn down building and that it is private property.

Alaatha F. asked the Attorney Rob R. is he has heard anything about the house on 421 East Washington Street. Rob said he has sent an email to their attorney Tyler Nichols and has not heard anything yet.

**New Business:**

**Reschedule November's meeting:** Alaatha F. said the Town Council and myself will be out of Town for the 2022 AIM Ideas Summit Conference on November 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, we need to reschedule the November's meeting. The Town Council decided to reschedule on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Town Considering contracting out Town Maintenance:** Minnie H. said we are looking into contracting out the Town Maintenance work, someone who has experience in street, mowing, water, sewer, storm drains, snow plowing and town maintenance.

**Public Comments:**

Tina Wethington a resident said the new playground equipment can get very hot in the sun and would like to see more shade over it.

Darrel Birge a property owner said he had to put his gravel at the edge of the newly paved street on South Franklin because his equipment was dragging on it when he pulls out of his drive on to the street and wants the Town to pay for the gravel.

Misty Mills a resident asked if the Town would not put millings from the streets in the alleys because the tar on hot days is sticky and is a nuisance.

A resident commented about vandalism at the New Richmond Park.

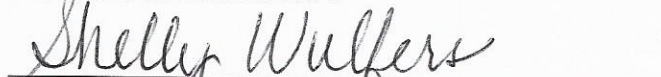
Shelly W. made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Linda F. seconded the motion, Minnie H. called for a vote, motion carried.



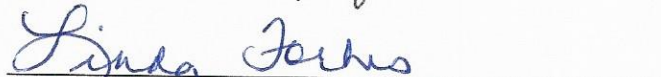
President Minnie Howard



Attest: Clerk/Treasurer Alaatha Foust



Council Member Shelly Wulfers



Council Member Linda Forbes