

Wingate Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 14, 2025

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 6:00 PM by Andrew Lorenz. The following members responded to roll call: Kyle Campbell, President & Acting Clerk Treasurer, Curt Hadley, and Andrew Lorenz.

Also present and reporting on behalf of the Town: Town Maintenance Supervisor Jay Busse, Janet Alexander, and Suzy Bass. Town Marshal Jared Kirby, Fire Chief Darren Forman, and Troy Elless (UMAC) were absent. No one from the Park Advisory Committee was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Meeting held September 15, 2024
2. Financial Reports
 - a. September Fund Report, Appropriation Report, Revenue Report
 - b. September Bank Statement & Bank Reconciliation
 - c. Accounts Payable Docket dated October 14, 2025, for \$64,276.10
 - d. Utility Adjustments – None presented.

Curt Hadley made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Kyle Campbell seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andrew Lorenz asked if anyone from the public had any public comments about any matter not listed on the agenda. Resident Dave Dixon addressed the Council regarding noise issues at the bar on Saturday night. He requested that the Council take action on the excessive noise, describing it as sounding like an outdoor concert. He said that he called the police twice, but they did not respond. He said that he measured the sound at 120 decibels in his garage using a decibel meter. The Bar owner, Wes Null, who was present at this meeting, contradicted Mr. Dixon's version of events, stating that the music was not above the allowed levels.

No further comments were offered.

OLD BUSINESS

Adoption of the 2026 Town Budget Ordinance 2025-10-14 The budget ordinance was presented for approval and signatures. Janet Alexander presented the ordinance. Curt

Hadley made a motion to approve the 2026 Budget Ordinance as presented. Andrew Lorenz seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried. Kyle Campbell abstained because he is a volunteer firefighter.

Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2025-10-14-2 The proposed ordinance was presented by Janet Alexander, who explained that additional appropriations are needed to cover unplanned Town operating expenses, primarily for the cleanup at Cording Hall and park work, where the town was short in professional services. The amounts proposed were advertised as required.

| FUND | LINE ITEM & TITLE | AMOUNT |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund | 1101001360 – Professional Services | 28,000.00 |
| Motor Vehicle Highway | 2201001310 – Professional Services | \$8,000.00 |
| Sanitation | 2223001396 – Contractual Services | \$5,000.00 |
| Riverboat Fund | 2235001335 – Other Services | \$2,309.00 |
| Public Safety LIT | 2240001400 – Other Expenses | \$16,000.00 |
| Cum Capital Improvement | 4401001310 – Contractual Services | \$5,000.00 |

Curt Hadley made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2025-10-14-2 as presented. Andrew Lorenz seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried. Kyle Campbell abstained because he is a volunteer firefighter.

NFP Liability Insurance Renewal Janet Alexander stated that the renewal packets were provided last month to Kyle Campbell and Jay Busse. They compiled a list of requested edits to be shared with the carrier. Janet stated that last year's premium was \$16,349; this year's is \$16,900 with the same coverage. She also explained that binding is not guaranteed, as some small towns have recently been denied coverage. However, Wingate has a good history with the carrier, so approval is expected. The required submission date for edits is October 16. The renewal is scheduled for October 22nd. The following items will be added to the policy: The Pavilion – once a value is determined, increased coverage for the tornado siren (current coverage is insufficient at half replacement cost), and proposed coverage for bounce houses and special events. Andrew Lorenz made a motion to approve binding coverage for liability insurance renewal as presented. Curt Hadley seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Hydrant Flushing Troy Elless spoke with Kyly Campbell about the plan to flush hydrants on October 29th.

Budget Reduction Resolution – MVH 2203-2025-10-14 Janet Alexander presented a resolution reducing the 2025 appropriation in the MVH Restricted Fund No. 2203, which was budgeted for a Community Crossings grant. Since no grant will be pursued this year, the reduction allows inclusion in next year's budget.

Curt Hadley made a motion to approve the Budget Reduction Resolution – MVH 2203-2025-10-14 as presented. Andrew Lorenz seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Park Advisory Board Report – Pavilion Project Curt Hadley gave an update on the Park Pavilion construction finances and next steps:

- Money still owed to the Town: The READI Grant will pay the town \$11,682 soon. Once received, that will cover all invoices submitted by the contractor (Bill).
- Separate donations: Any payments made directly from the Montgomery County Community Foundation (MCCF) are tracked in a different “bucket” and are not part of the \$11,682.
- Change-order amount: An earlier approved change order added \$21,874 to the project cost.
- Final payment to contractor: After the READI money arrives, the town will owe the contractor a final \$33,566.21 to close out his bill.

Curt said that he plans to meet with Phil to match up every receipt and get a complete total cost for the whole project. He listed a few outstanding items that he wants accomplished soon.

- Creation of a punch list of items to finish.
- The building needs to be winterized.
- Grading around the site must be completed.

He also mentioned that there were a few small surprises that arose (floor painting and removal of the concession stand), which were not in the original plan, and added additional costs. The county inspector has not yet approved occupancy (no written notes yet).

Town Maintenance Supervisor – Jay Busse

Jay Busse reported on the following items:

- Speed signs: To post speed signage along the State Highway, a permit is required. INDOT has moved the process over to the Traffic Department. The process may take 18 months.
- Town Clean-Up Day had little participation. Only four residents participated.

Jay explained that the residents of 205 South Main Cross had a water leak and accessed the meter pit, damaging the valve. Jay will bill the Town for the repairs, which should be passed along to the residents.

- Montgomery County Health Department received a complaint about poor water quality. The complainant lives with his parents and reports that he is unable to drink the water or take a shower. Jay stated that the water is tested daily and that the Town sample passed last Thursday. The Health Department has received no other complaints.

UMAC Water & Sewer Operations Report – Troy Elless was absent. There was no report.

Town Marshal Jared Kirby was absent; however, he provided a written report, which the Town Council reviewed.

Coal Creek Fire & Rescue – Darren Forman was absent; however, he provided a report by text to Jay Busse, who reported the following: Sixteen (16) runs in September (six (6) fire, ten (10) EMS); ten (10) in Wingate, five (5) in New Richmond, one (1) assist in Fountain County. Year-to-date: 144 runs. October to date: thirteen (13) runs.

Curt Hadley mentioned the potential annexation of properties receiving utilities (e.g., Bane, Lawson, Dale Jones, etc.). This would be voluntary only, but at a minimum, the Town could adopt differential utility rates for properties outside of Town limits. He suggested that the Board review the service map at a meeting in the future.

OTHER BUSINESS

American Legal Codification Project – Janet Alexander explained that she submitted edits by the October 6th deadline issued by American Legal. The new ordinance book is expected to be delivered before year's end. Upon receipt, the Town will need to adopt a recodification ordinance. A discussion was held. She stated that the Town would have both electronic and print versions. The Town code will be hosted on American Legal's site with town website link.

Cording Hall (Old Bank Building). The town will file a lien to recover the costs for demolition and cleanup. Jay Busse stated that the property was resold at the October 9th tax sale. If the property were sold, the lien would no longer apply. Kyle Campbell reached out to Stu Weliever, but he did not respond. The Council requested a list of local attorneys, which

was obtained from AIM (covering Boone, Montgomery, and Tippecanoe counties). Jay Busse has another attorney recommendation from Fountain County.

Master Planning Grant Update: Janet Alexander reported that HWC Engineers requested additional info from the Town because OCRA rejected the initial draft. They requested additional evidence of public input. She and Kathy Pipher provided copies of the meeting minutes and the public sign-in sheets from the meetings where the Council discussed the planning grant and provided opportunities to the public to provide input.

Funding for Replacement Street Signage: Janet Alexander advised that the town could cover the cost of new street signs using the recent additional appropriation in the Cumulative Capital Improvement (CCI) Fund or the Rainy-Day Fund. The project was first discussed at the August Council meeting, where it was noted that many streets lack directional signs. During that meeting, the Council members stated that they would prefer replacing all the street signs, not just the ones missing. Jay Busse estimated material costs at \$4,129.38, with additional labor expenses. The total is expected to be around \$5,000. The Council asked Jay Busse to get final quotes for the replacement of all the signs.

Town Website Curt Hadley directed Janet to contact Municipal Impact and add Shyanna Busse as an administrator.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andrew Lorenz asked if anyone from the public wished to comment. No one asked to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

Andrew Lorenz made a motion to adjourn. Kyle Campbell seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Campbell
Town Council President & Acting Clerk/Treasurer