

Town of Wingate Council Meeting Minutes November 11, 2025

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Andrew Lorenz, and the following members responded to Roll Call.

- Kyle Campbell – President
- Andrew Lorenz
- Curt Hadley

Also present and reporting on behalf of the Town: Janet Alexander and Suzy Bass (by telephone) of Local Government Services LLC., Shyanna Busse of Busse Excavating, Fire Chief Darren Forman of Coal Creek Fire & Rescue, Mark Fruits, and Phil Bane with the Park Advisory Board

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented under the consent agenda.

1. Minutes of October 14, 2025, meeting
2. Financial Reports
 - a. October - Fund Report, Appropriation Report, Revenue Report -
 - b. October Bank Statement & Bank Reconciliation
 - c. Accounts Payable Docket for November 11, 2025, of \$38,659.79
 - d. Utility Adjustment of \$37.38

The members reviewed the documentation, and Kyle Campbell made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Curt Hadley seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andrew Lorenz asked if anyone present had any comments about any matter not listed on the posted agenda. No one asked to speak.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Park Advisory Board Report / Pavilion Project Update

Phil Bane presented a check register and supporting documents for the pavilion project for payments made or due to Biddle Construction. A discussion was held.

Curt Hadley explained the requirement for detailed subcontractor invoices (not just summary invoices from Biddle) to satisfy READI-180 Grant reimbursement and audit requirements. Phil Bane said that the Montgomery County Community provided \$99,251.43 total toward the completion of the project. Curt Hadley stated that the outstanding amount owed to Biddle Construction, from the grant, is \$33,56. Suzy Bass joined via phone and confirmed fund balances as follows: READI grant: ~\$21,910 cash on hand + ~\$11,682 still due = ~\$33,592 available.

The Council members recommended that Curt Hadley and Suzy Bass reconcile all payments/invoices next week and meet with Jim Biddle, the contractor, to review all subcontractor invoices and complete the punch-list items before final payment. It was explained to Phil Bane that no payment would be issued tonight; the final payment would be processed after reconciliation and verification.

B. Town Maintenance Supervisor – Jay Busse

Shyanna Busse reported on behalf of Jay.

- The Montgomery County Planning and Zoning Building Department has been contacted about the new pavilion's occupancy.
- The storm drain issue on Main Cross St. will be addressed this winter.
- She said that the electronic speed limit signage project is moving forward. The Town Marshal will file the application to reduce red tape. Apparently, requests submitted by law enforcement are expedited through the permitting process.
- A discussion was held concerning the residents of 205 S. Main Cross Street, who had a water leak and entered the meter pit and damaged the shut-off valve. This was done while Jay, who had been called and was on his way to help. Jay Busse invoiced the Town for the repair. The Council agreed to pass the full repair cost directly to the homeowner. No added penalties or enforcement action will be taken unless the resident refuses to pay the amount charged.
- The Council also discussed the replacement of all town street directional signage. They agreed to replace all the signs with blue/white reflective signs. The project cost, including installation by Jay Busse, will be \$7,500. The breakdown is \$4,950 for materials + \$2,500 for labor, using the water-jetting method to avoid utility lines. Curt Hadley made a motion to go ahead with the signage project. Kyle Campbell seconded this motion. The motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried.

C. Coal Creek Fire & Rescue – Darren Forman

Chief Forman reported that during October, the department responded to 18 calls for service: 6 fire-related and 12 EMS-related (10 in the Wingate district, 3 in the New

Richmond district). Year-to-date calls now stand at 162, which is 30–40 calls higher than the same period in previous years. A portion of the increase was attributed to multiple mutual-aid responses for grass fires across the county caused by the dry conditions. Departments helped included Attica, Mellott, Crawfordsville, Romney, and Linden.

OLD BUSINESS

Cording Hall / Old Bank Building Lien

Janet Alexander said that she received a draft lien for the Old Bank building from Attorney Stu Weliever. However, it may be too late to file the lien, as the building may have been sold at the recent tax sale. Janet will contact the County Treasurer to find out whether the property was sold at the tax sale; if not, a lien will be filed next week.

General Liability Insurance

Janet reported that the annual renewal process has been completed and coverage for both general liability + cybersecurity has been bound.

NEW BUSINESS

IDEM Notice of Violation and Proposed Agreed Order for NPDES Permit No. IN0040771 (Case No. 2025-31058-W) dated October 28, 2025.

In response to the Notice of Violation sent to the Town from IDEM by certified mail. Janet Alexander suggested that the Town engage an attorney who has handled this type of action. She suggested that they hire attorney Lee Robbins (Barrett, Williams & Wilkowski from Greenwood to help with the review and response. A discussion was held. The Town must respond within 60 days. Andrew Lorenz made a motion to engage Lee Robbins, seconded by Curt Hadley. The motion was put to a vote and carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Andrew Lorenz said that after speaking with a resident and Suzy Bass, he recommends changing the water customer shut-off date from the 25th to the 5th day of the following month to better align with federal benefit payment dates. Curt Hadley made a motion to adjust the shut-off date to the 5th. Kyle Campbell seconded this motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried.

Curt Hadley said that he wants to look into utility customer address mapping / potential voluntary annexation of properties outside town limits receiving town utilities. He asked that this be placed on the December agenda.

Janet Alexander said that she reached out to American Legal about the status of the codification project. She did not hear back in time for this meeting.

A list of the proposed meeting dates for 2026 was presented. The meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Andrew Lorenz motioned to approve the proposed meeting dates. Curt Hadley seconded his motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried.

Finally, the Council Members discussed developing a future rental policy for the Pavilion. Key topics included insurance requirements, the establishment of a cleaning/damage deposit, alcohol regulations, and differentiated rates for residents versus non-residents, all of which need to be completed before the building can be opened for public rentals.

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Hadley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kyle Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Campbell
Town Council President & Acting Clerk Treasurer