

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA
September 8, 2025**

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2025, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council Members Michael Leman, Bill Daily and David Bailey were present. Also present were Keith Fraine, Director of Operations; Meghan Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer; Ben Wright, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Henry Aguayo, Superintendent of the Water Department; Chief Brad Kile, Police Department; Austin Langdon, Superintendent of the Street Department; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Brian Main, Superintendent of the Park Department; Nate Lockwood, Cemetery Sexton; Ken Jones, Town Engineer and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2025, meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Atkins presented Ordinance 10-2025 regarding additional appropriations for the CCMG 2025-1 Project in the amount of \$456,656.25. Ms. Atkins asked the Council to approve the ordinance on three readings. Mr. Daily made a motion to declare an emergency and approve Ordinance 10-2025 on three readings, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Atkins then presented pay application 1 for the CCMG 2025-1 Project in the amount of \$383,186.98, payable to Rieth Riley. Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve pay application number 1 as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Atkins then presented the docket of claims with the allowance docket; Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner presented Ordinance 9-2025, regarding the establishment of the school resource officer donation fund, for second reading. Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the ordinance on second and third reading, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

NEW BUSINESS: Jeff Rowe and Kimberly Savich appeared on behalf of Baker Tilly and presented an updated rate study report for the wastewater treatment plant. Ms. Savich noted that the department's cash position was strong; Mr. Leman asked if the cash reserves were higher due to the increased rates combined with the project delays, which Ms. Savich affirmed. Ms. Savich noted that the Town could apply some of those reserves to the project if it chose. Ms. Savich then presented two financing options between the State revolving fund and the Rural Water Financing Agency. She explained that the Town's application had been ranked last in the current pool and that the SRF funding would not be available in the second and third quarter due to the volume of applications at this time. The Council considered the financing terms under each program and Ms. Savich pointed out that the SRF financing term was 35 years where the RWFA term was 30 years. She also stated that the difference in rates between the two would be approximately \$2.00 per month. The Council discussed the report. Mr. Rowe told the Council that the total increase to rates was higher than anticipated due to several factors, including the new funding source, increased project costs, and lower revenues than had been anticipated. He also pointed out that the proposed rate increases were shown in three phases for the SRF funding and two phases for the RWFA. The Council asked if the rates from similar communities were current rates or projected rates and Mr. Rowe confirmed that the rates were current to the best

of Baker Tilly's information. Mr. Rowe briefly described the process of applying for RWFA funding.

Mr. Leman asked Mr. Rowe if he could offer input on the Town's budget process. Mr. Rowe confirmed that Baker Tilly was preparing cash flow reports along with a comprehensive financial plan. Mr. Leman asked about other sources of funding, and Mr. Rowe offered several options that would allow the utility funds to contribute to Town expenses, including payments in lieu of taxes, allocations of administrative costs, and public hydrant rentals. Ms. Atkins confirmed that Baker Tilly would be presenting the financial plan at the September 22 meeting, and the Council discussed moving the presentation to a separate meeting to allow sufficient time for the presentation.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business was brought before the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments were offered to the Council.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Fraine submitted his report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mr. Lockwood had no new information to report on behalf of the Cemetery Department.

Mr. Aguayo had no new information to report on behalf of the Water Department.

Mr. Wright had no new information to report on behalf of the Electric Department.

Mr. Cunningham submitted his report on behalf of Wastewater Department.

Chief Neher submitted his report on behalf of the Fire Department.

Chief Kile asked the Council to declare the Police Department's 2014 Ford Interceptor surplus property to be sold by sealed bid. He told the Council that it had approximately 130,000 miles. Mr. Bailey made a motion to declare the 2014 Ford Interceptor as surplus property to be sold by sealed bid, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Chief Kile then told the Council that the Police Commission had begun the process of hiring Carlos Diaz as the department's newest officer, and explained that he was a former reserve officer and had been a part of the South Bend Airport Fire and Safety Team. Chief Kile told the Council that Mr. Diaz would begin work in 4-6 weeks. Mr. Daily asked if Mr. Diaz was filling the position opened by creating the school resource officer position, which Chief Kile confirmed and stated that the department would have 13 patrol officers again.

Mr. Langdon had no new information to report on behalf of the Street Department.

Mr. Main told the Council that the Park Board would hire a new Assistant Superintendent at their meeting later in the evening.

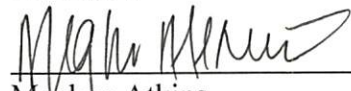
Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the Department Head Reports, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ENGINEER: Mr. Jones submitted a revised report from the previous meeting since he had not been able to attend. Mr. Jones offered an update on the Bowen Avenue intersection project and also stated the JPR was working on utility planning for the upcoming READI projects. He also noted that they would begin work on the wastewater treatment plant project application as soon as Baker Tilly was ready. Mr. Jones told the Council he was meeting with Mr. Mikel and Mr. Aguayo regarding system upgrades for the Water Department. Dan Byam also appeared and told the Council that the wastewater treatment plant bids had a 150-day hold, and that JPR would consult with the RWDA on the length of the closing process.


COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mr. Leman explained that the Council was thinking carefully about how to address aging equipment and buildings in the Town departments and encouraged the Department Heads to come directly to the Council with questions and concerns.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Daily made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:



Meghan Atkins,
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen



Michael Leman, President

