

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA  
February 12, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council Members Michael Leman, William Daily, Bryan Miller, and Alex Mikel were present. Also present were Keith Fraine, Director of Operations; Janet Anglemyer, Clerk-Treasurer; Ben Wright, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Henry Aguayo, Superintendent of the Water Department; Chief Brad Kile, Police Department; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Brian Main, Superintendent of the Park Department; Eric Vance, Town Mechanic; Ken Jones, Town Engineer, and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2023 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

**CLERK-TREASURER:** Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims, which included the January payroll allowance docket; Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented pay application number 1 for the aquatic's facility project, payable to Brown & Brown for \$504,763.75. Mr. Daily made a motion approve the pay application as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Leman signed the pay application.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Jonathan Zakutansky appeared before the Council and requested that the Council review the current animal control ordinance regarding chickens. He proposed the ordinance to be amended to allow residents to have chickens and bantam ducks, in limited numbers and with prohibitions on roosters. Mr. Zakutansky offered some materials on his proposal to the Council and explained that he tried to address some of the issues that had been brought up. He also presented information from other nearby communities. Mr. Leman suggested the Council consider the information and move toward hosting a public hearing. Mr. Zakutansky asked if the meeting could be held in the evening to permit more public participation, and Mr. Leman assured him that could be arranged.

Greg Hildebrand appeared before the Council on behalf of Marshall County Economic Development Corporation, and reviewed statistics and activities from 2023. He provided a range of information regarding Bremen businesses and other employers from Marshall County. Mr. Hildebrand explained that Marshall County employers were concerned with talent retention, workforce housing, and child care.

Mr. Aguayo introduced Kelly Gardner, the apprenticeship program coordinator from the Indiana Alliance of Indiana Rural Water. She explained that Kenny Moser had completed the technical instruction program and had passed his IDEM testing. She added that Mr. Moser had been named the outstanding water apprentice of the year for 2023. Ms. Gardner told the Council that it had been reimbursed \$75,680 for Mr. Moser's wages for two years, plus training costs of \$7,891 for training costs and \$700 for a laptop during the program. She thanked the Council and Henry for supporting Mr. Moser in the program. Ms. Gardner presented Mr. Moser with a certificate, and the Council, Ms. Anglemyer, and Mr. Aguayo congratulated him on his efforts. Mr. Mikel asked when the next round of training would take place, and Ms. Gardner replied that she was working on a group for next January and described the program in more detail.





**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS:** Mr. Fraine submitted his report and explained the process for inspecting golf carts and applying the registration numbers. Mr. Fraine told the Council that he and Mr. Daily had attend a United Way event where Bremen was recognized as a substantial donor from its contribution from the Town's opioid settlement funds. Mr. Fraine told the Council that the apartment building had two vacant, single-bedroom apartments and asked of direction on what rate to charge. Mr. Mikel stated he was in favor of increased rent for each unit, and Mr. Fraine explained the rates to the Council relative to other units in the community. The Council discussed the rent per square foot as well as the cost of operating the building, as well as the process of increasing rent for the other units over time. Mr. Daily made a motion to raise the rent for the single-bedroom apartments to Seven Hundred Dollars per month and Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars for two-bedroom units. The Council discussed the motion. Mr. Mikel seconded the motion, which was approved by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

Mr. Wright submitted the year-end report on behalf of the Electric Department.

Mr. Aguayo submitted the monthly report on behalf of the Water Department.

Chief Kile told the Council that he had two retired squad vehicles to sell and asked the Council to fix a price. The Council directed him to advertise for bids without a reserve for both vehicles. Chief Kile explained that another vehicle had been totaled as well, and that they were working with the insurer on the matter. He also told the Council his department was prepared to begin issuing cart permits.

Mr. Main requested permission to advertise for bids for the pickleball court project. Mr. Miller made a motion to allow the advertising for bids for the pickleball court construction project, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and approved by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Main also offered to show the Council members the work site for the aquatics facility project. He also submitted the 2023 annual report for the Park Department.

Mr. Lockwood told the Council that a Cemetery employee had resigned, but that he and the employee discussed a new pay scale for the position. Mr. Lockwood told the Council that he and Keith believed the employee should be paid \$20.00 per hour, but was currently paid \$16.00. Mr. Fraine told the Council why he believed the employee was valuable to the Cemetery Department. Mr. Lockwood asked the Council to amend the wage ordinance to reflect change in wages. Ms. Anglemyer asked the Council to clarify if they would increase the wages or create a new position. Mr. Mikel asked if the wage would be seasonal, and Mr. Lockwood explained that the employee did more work than seasonal mowing and maintenance. The Council agreed to raise the wage for the position. Ms. Anglemyer told the Council she would present the amended ordinance at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Cunningham submitted the monthly and annual reports on behalf of the Wastewater Department.

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

Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the Department Head Reports, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

**TOWN ENGINEER:** Mr. Jones updated the Council as to the status of the wastewater treatment plant and interceptor projects. He explained that certain federal statutory requirements made the USDA financing more difficult to obtain, and told the Council that JPR was pursuing SRF funding as an alternative. Mr. Jones said that BakerTilly should have updated rate information prepared for the next meeting. The Council



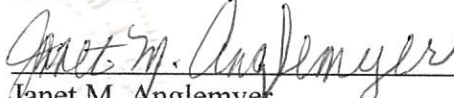
discussed the effect on rates, and asked Mr. Fraine to notify local manufacturers regarding the change in rates.

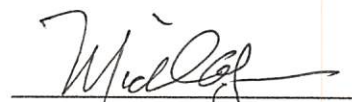
**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** Mr. Daily suggested that the Town amend its credit card policy to allow each department to have its own credit card. Ms. Anglemyer explained her concerns with the proposal. Mr. Mikel expressed concern that the reimbursement process led to the Town paying taxes that it would be exempt from if paying by a municipal credit card. Mr. Leman suggested he would work with Ms. Anglemyer on a proposal.

Mr. Leman appreciated the decorations in support of the Bremen High School Girls Basketball team.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Mikel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:

  
Janet M. Anglemyer,  
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen

  
Michael Leman, President

