

**TOWN OF DUNE ACRES
COUNCIL MINUTES
September 17, 2024**

The Town of Dune Acres Town Council met for its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at the Clubhouse. Council President Richard Hawksworth called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., with Council Member Alexander Stemer and Paul Woidke, Clerk-Treasurer Bonnie Hawksworth, and Town Attorney Adam Mindel in attendance. Commissioners present were Building, Maintenance, and Parks.

The meeting was broadcast live via Zoom teleconference.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that minutes for the August 28, 2024 Council meeting and August 28, 2024 Budget Hearing be approved as presented. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion passed.

**BANK BALANCE-
08/31/2024**

Porter State Bank		\$195,340.05
TrustIndiana		\$447,452.44
Record Balance		\$642,792.49

**BREAK DOWN OF FINANCES AMONG FUNDS
As of August 31, 2024**

*Those funds marked with an asterisk are designated monies and can only be spent for the designated purpose.

FUNDS		APPROP BAL.	% Left
GENERAL	\$124,269.42	\$124,152	23.93
MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	\$89,099.78	\$70,000	100
LOCAL ROAD & STREET	\$38,356.68	\$15,000	100
MOTOR VEHICLE HWY RESTR	\$11,999.02		
PARK & RECREATION	\$49,320.07	\$3,150	35
RAINY DAY FUND	\$130,000.00	\$50,000	100
CCI	\$647.08	\$1,000	100
CCD	\$45,629.03	\$37,592	87.4
CEDIT	\$16,229.63	\$20,000	100
RIVERBOAT REVENUE SHARING	\$1,442.23	\$2,000	100
Donations *	\$23,765.70		
ARP COVID RELIEF	\$0.00		
Lake Mich Coastal Grant*	\$0.00		
Construction Security Dep*	\$15,000.00		
SalesTaxClubHouseRental*	\$205.49		
ClubHouseRentalDeposit*	\$5,665.00		
Local Road & Bridge Grant*	\$0.00		
Opioid Settlement*	\$250.23		
LEVY EXCESS FUND*	\$0.00		
TOTAL FUNDS	\$551,879.36		

Clerk-Treasurer Hawksworth presented the August month-end financial report. It was moved and seconded to approve the financial report. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion passed.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

It was moved and seconded that claims for the month of September, 2024 in the amount of \$61,140.95 be approved. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion passed

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

BEACH: None

BUILDING: None

ENGINEER: None

ENVIRONMENT: None

FIRE: None

MAINTENANCE: Maintenance Commissioner Dick Taylor presented an estimate for a 4 x 4 vehicle from Thomas Honda & Kawasaki. This vehicle will be useful to the Town in many ways. It was suggested that Mark Taylor research and report on which attachments would be most beneficial to add. The Council agreed that additional information would be helpful.

PARKS: Commissioner Shawn Fitzpatrick reported that new signs have been designed for the use of the tennis courts. These will be printed and posted. Fitzpatrick will implement a new reservation system to be used and evaluated next spring.

ROADS: Reith-Riley will be in Town making repairs to their work on Shore Drive and at Town Hall.

SECURITY: President Hawksworth reported for Commissioner Lee McKinley. He provided an update on the key program. Approximately twenty residents have completed the requested waiver of liability. The remainder of participants will be contacted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance 2024-01, 2025 Appropriations and Tax Rate, Second Reading and Adoption: It was moved and seconded to approve second reading and adoption of Ordinance 2024-01, 2025 Appropriations and Tax Rate. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion passed. The ordinance sets appropriations, tax levy and tax rates for 2025.

Resolution 2024-02, 2024 Vacation Pay, Revised: President Hawksworth presented Resolution 2024-02, 2024 Vacation Pay, Revised. It was moved and seconded to approve the revision. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion passed.

Blocked Train Crossing: President Hawksworth provided a summary on why Mineral Springs Road has been blocked at the rail crossing with increasing frequency. He explained that state laws across the country have been preempted by federal laws that allow trains to block crossings without penalty. Hawksworth said the town has been working through the Surface Transportation Board, an agency of the Department of

Transportation, and that the rail carrier has verbally agreed to adjust their processes to mitigate the impact on Dune Acres. Hawksworth also emphasized that the accommodation is not binding and that a permanent solution must come at the federal level. He encouraged residents to contact their U.S. representative and senators to encourage them to support federal legislation that would resolve the issue. The Town will continue to monitor the situation.

Burns Harbor Data Center: Council members discussed the hyper-scale data center proposed for Burns Harbor and its potential impacts on Dune Acres and the local environment. Attorney Mindel was asked to research the issue and opine on whether the Town would have legal standing to oppose the development, should it be approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 2024-03, Appropriation Reduction: President Hawksworth presented Resolution 2024-03, Appropriation Reduction. This authorizes that the following existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts:

Casino River Boat Fund	\$ 2,638.00
CCI (Cigarette Tax)	\$ 986.00
Economic Development	\$ 18,582.00

The Town of Dune Acres had appropriated 2024 for Casino Riverboat, CCI (Cigarette Tax), and Economic Development, which were not funded by the State of Indiana. The reduction will allow the Town to balance these funds by reducing the spending expected for the rest of the year. This will provide enough funding to carry forward to cover the budgets for 2025.

Clubhouse Rental: The Town Council reviewed a Clubhouse rental request for Saturday, 11-02-2024. It was motioned and seconded to approval the rental request. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm. The next regular meeting of the Town Council is on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at the Clubhouse.

RICHARD HAWKSWORTH, Town Council President

PAUL WOIDKE, Town Council Member

ALEXANDER STEMER, Town Council Member

BONNIE HAWKSWORTH, Clerk-Treasurer

CLAIMS FOR September, 2024

	<u>CLAIMANT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
8410	Molly Hale	Additional Clubhouse Reimbursement	\$700.00
8411	Porter Quick Stop	Gas for Vehicles	347.95
8412	A-Plus	Web Hosting	1.99
8413	Primo Water	Water for Security	98.89
8414	Comcast	Internet/Phone	617.75
8416	Datagraphics	Prints for Security	\$100.00
8417	Republic Services	Waste Removal	\$287.89
8418	NIPSCO	Gas/Electric	\$1,137.61
8419	Trout Glass & Mirror	Clubhouse Project	\$300.00
8420	Indiana American	Water Utility	\$146.73
8421	Amazon	Supplies for Security, Town Hall, Clubhouse; Signage for Security	\$416.10
8422	Payroll	September Payroll, Gross	\$23,681.72
8423	Payroll	September Payroll, Net	\$19,604.33
8424	Indiana Department of Revenue	State/Local Withholding	\$831.74
8425	EFTPS	Federal Withholding	\$5,057.31
8426	IRS	Adjusted Amount Due	\$4,155.22
8427	Per Mar	Clubhouse Monitoring	\$182.25
8428	Frontier	Security Phone	\$533.86
8429	Hopkins Ace Hardward	Maintenance Supplies	\$189.61
8430	Mindel & Mindel	Quarter 3 Legal Services	\$2,750.00
		August Total	\$61,140.95