

August 20, 2025

TOWN OF AVILLA

AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL

108 S. Main St. Avilla, IN 46710

THOSE PRESENT: Philip Puckett Jr., William Krock Jr., Andy Uhl, Brian Carroll, Glen Wills, Clark Wakeman, Kierston Wright, Kevin Kelly, Brandon DePoy, Mike Hensinger, Jerry Krock, Robert Hardy, Julia Dunlap, Diane Lewis, Lisa Duehmig, Adam Dunlap, Lisa Krock, Petra Papai, Chris Arnett, Matt Getts, Joe Kretler, Don Papai, Ethan Huff, Anthony Duehmig, Brandon Bryant, and Tim Perkins.

Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr., opened the public hearing at 6:01 P.M., and introduced the topic of utility rate increases.

Citizen, Tim Perkins, voiced concern over the rate increases. All three councilmen and the town manager replied to those questions and concerns.

Town Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr., closed the public hearing at 6:10 P.M.

Ordinance 1684-7-25 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 1642-5-22 Amending Schedule 1 of the Water Rate Ordinance to Increase Rates by Thirty-Four Percent and Other Matters Connected Therewith was presented to the council on second reading. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the ordinance on the second reading. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Ordinance 1685-7-25 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 1441-03-05 Fixing the Schedule of the Rates and Charges to be Collected by the Town of Avilla, Indiana, from the Owners of Property Served by the Sewage Works of Said Town, and Other Matters Connected Therewith was presented to the council on the second reading. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the ordinance on the second reading. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Ordinance 1686-7-25 25 An Ordinance Establishing Rates and Charges to be Collected by the Town of Avilla, Indiana, from the Customers Served by the Municipal Electric Utility of Said Town, and Other Matters Connected Therewith was presented to the council on the second reading. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the ordinance on the second reading. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Claims in the amount of \$1,036,823.06 were submitted to the council for approval. William Krock, Jr. motioned to approve the claims with an amendment to remove one claim that was put on the claims twice. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

Approval of the minutes from July 16, 2025, was submitted to the council. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

Town Manager, Adam Dunlap, discussed the Town Manager report that was sent to the council earlier in the week. Adam requested permission to attend the AIM Ideas Conference in French Lick October 20-23rd. William Krock, Jr. motioned to approve the training. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed the Superintendent report that was sent to the council earlier. Brian brought two quotes for a new water main from Vice Blvd to Van Scoyoc St in order to create a loop. He requested a third quote from Ferguson, but that company did not reply. The quotes were EJP at \$9837.74 and Core and Main at \$9286.35. Additional charges would include sand to bed the pipe at about \$1800.00, and asphalt at about \$3000.00, both of which would be installed by our own crew. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the \$9286.35 to Core and Main with a total of \$14,086.35. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed needing limestone for the new entrance into Cranberry at Hill Road for \$4500. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the \$4500 expense for limestone. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed a quote that he had received from Ace in Kendallville to perform 250' of boring with conduit from the fire station to the alley east of Main St for a total of \$3250.00. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the Ace quote of \$3250.00 for the boring work. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed that Cam Splicing has provided a price of \$110 per hour to splice fiber optic cable. No set price was given. William Krock, Jr. suggested an approval not to exceed \$3000.00. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the splicing work of Cam Splicing, not to exceed \$3000.00. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed paving the gravel area to the south of the police department. Pulver Construction gave a verbal quote of \$30,000.00 for paving the lot and replacing the sidewalk in front of it. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the \$30,000.00 out of MVH to Pulver Construction for the construction of the lot. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed the need for back-up transformers. He requested quotes for 2500 kva transformers from UTB Transformer, T&R Electric, and Sunbelt Solomon. UTB was not able to provide a quote. T&R Electric quoted \$84,502.00 and Sunbelt Solomon quoted \$79,525.00 for 3 3phase pad mount transformers and 3 single phase pole mount transformers. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the quote for Sunbelt Solomon for \$79,525.00 for the six transformers. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed the Wellhead Protection plan being due November 1. This is done every five years, and Peerless Midwest Inc performed this service last time. The new quote from them is \$9,075.00. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the \$9,075.00 to Peerless Midwest. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed the need for cameras at the recycling site to prevent illegal dumping. A quote of \$1,790.00 from Digital Video Solutions & Security was provided to install three cameras and hooking it up to our fiber system. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to

approve the quote of \$1,790.00 from Digital Video Solutions & Security for the cameras and installation. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed the need for a spare pump for the McDonald's lift station from Kesters Electric for \$22,907.00. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the Kesters Electric quote for the pump for \$22,907.00. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed the need to shred files in the basement that are very outdated, and are permitted to be shredded according to Brian's research. It would be under his \$1200 limit. The council had no problem with this.

Council Member, William Krock, Jr., asked Brian Carroll about the water quality issues. Brian stated that he is waiting for the sand filter tests to be performed, and the results from that will determine our next course of action.

Town Marshal, Glen Wills, presented his report. He discussed the hiring of a code enforcement officer at 8-12 hours per week at \$30 per hour. Glen said that he would train her. This is tabled until next month.

Town Marshal, Glen Wills, discussed officer Rick Anderson setting up two new PC workstations as opposed to the aging five computers they currently have. In addition, Glen is requesting that Rick be given four additional hours per week until the end of the year to get this upgrade completed. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve an extra four hours per week for Rick Anderson to complete the police department IT upgrade. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Marshal, Glen Wills, discussed the desire to replace the 2014 Chevy Tahoe with a 2018 Dodge Charger. This car will have special stickers put on it. There was a discussion amongst the council and the town manager about the plan to which Glen agreed to trade in two used non-Tahoes every two years and receive a brand new Tahoe in their place, and how this purchase deviated from the plan. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the purchase of the Charger with the trade in of the Chevy Tahoe for \$7500.00 to be drawn from three different funds: Whatever was left in Glen's vehicle budget, whatever money he had left over from the \$15,000.00 to outfit both new Tahoes, and public safety money to take up the remainder. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Fire Chief, Casey Kintz, was not present, so Clark Wakeman presented Casey's report. He discussed the fact that Evan Williams has stepped down and that there is a need for a new hire. The council gave a verbal approval to begin that process.

Clark Wakeman discussed the need for a storage shed for the fire department. Three quotes were presented to the council: Sunrise Structures at \$3840.00, Shed Superstore at \$3595.00, and Amish Sheds at \$5,814.32. The funds are to be taken from Misc. Fund. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the purchase of the shed from Shed Superstore at \$3595.00. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Clark Wakeman discussed that there would be a touch-a-truck event that the fire department will put on September 13. He is requesting that Washington Street be shut down on that day from 9am to 3pm from Main Street to Chestnut Street. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve the closing of the street during that time. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

There was no RDC report.

Town Attorney, Robert Hardy, discussed that he is working on nuisance ordinances.

Clerk Treasurer, Rita Grocock, was absent. Deputy Clerk Treasurer, Lisa Duehmig, reported that the town is going with Invoice Cloud to take credit card payments, but it is at a standstill until that can get the bank authorization figured out. Lisa stated that current Walmart card program is going away, so something else will need to be figured out for that. The company Trex sent information to pursue those who skip out on utility bills instead of us pursuing those people ourselves. The salary spreadsheets were submitted to the Council.

New Business:

Town Manager, Adam Dunlap, provided employee health insurance quotes for PHP, United Health Care, and Anthem for multiple different plans. He explained that if we stayed with the current PHP plan, it would cost an additional 11% this year. Other plans were of comparable cost. Andrew Uhl made a motion to approve for the renewal of PHP Platinum health insurance at a cost of \$53,910.77 per month. William Krock, Jr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Town Manager, Adam Dunlap, provided the council with a CCMG 2026 Project Proposal and Engineering. Superintendent of Utilities, Brian Carroll, discussed which streets which be redone. Costs for the project are preliminary, and those numbers could be nailed down further once the engineering is finished. William Krock, Jr. made a motion to approve the quote of \$89,798.00 from A&Z Engineering for the initial engineering of the 2026 CCMG Project. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 – Nays 0

Council member, William Krock, Jr., mentioned that additional speed limit signs were needed for West Wind Trail. Attorney, Robert Hardy and Superintendent, Brian Carroll agreed to work together to draft a speed limit ordinance for that area for the next meeting.

Old Business:

Ordinance 1683-6-25, a fire burning ordinance, was presented to the council for approval. Fire Chief, Casey Kintz, and Town Attorney, Robert Hardy, have not had the opportunity to discuss this ordinance yet, so it remained tabled.

Open Discussion:

Council Member, William Krock, Jr., asked Town Attorney, Robert Hardy, if a parking lot in the park can be bid out without engineering, or does it require an engineer. Robert stated that the engineering can be part of the contractor's bid.

Resident, Diane Lewis, voiced concerns about RV's parked in the road on Walnut and Sycamore Way, creating a traffic hazard. Council President, Philip Puckett, Jr., instructed Glen to patrol those areas to see what can be done.

Resident, Kierston Wright, voiced concerns about paying for an additional clerk treasurer. The council and town attorney stated that they did not wish to make a comment on that situation.

Resident, Kevin Kelly, stated that there were two new businesses in Avilla, Gifts and Thrifts, and Sacred Beauty. Ribbon-cuttings have occurred.

With no further business to discuss for the evening, William Krock, Jr. made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 P.M. Andrew Uhl seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes 3 - Nays 0

AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL

Philip Puckett, Jr., Council President

Andrew Uhl, Council Member

William Krock, Jr., Council Member

ATTEST:

Lisa Duehmig, Deputy Clerk -Treasurer