

March 18, 2026

Minutes

TOWN OF AVILLA

108 S MAIN ST, AVILLA, IN 46710

THOSE PRESENT: Philip Puckett Jr., William Krock Jr., Andrew Uhl, Robert Hardy, Milton Otero, Glen Wills, Eric Lawson, Colin Harding, Jerry Krock, Lisa Duehmig, Kiersten Wright, Michael Hensinger, Brandon DePoy, Brandon Bryant, Kevin Kelly, David Tilmans, Matt Getts, Julie McBride, Denny Mast, Mike Tucker, Jason and Katie Schaller, Tony Duehmig, Jeff Dunno and Joe Krettler.

Town Council President Philip Puckett Jr., called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Claims in the amount of \$778,190.46 were approved for payment, vote passed 3-0.

Minutes from the February meeting were approved as submitted, vote passed 3-0.

Milton Otero gave the Town Manger's report: We will be ready to apply for the CCMG grant in June. Milton asked to have the IMMA dues paid for his membership of \$150 and to be able to attend the upcoming conference held in Pokagon, IN on April 29-May 1, 2026. No overnight stay is needed since it is close to home. Voted on and passed, 3-0. Milton is also working on OCRA.

Milton Otero also gave the Superintendent's report since Brian Carroll was out attending a water conference: Approval was requested for Pulver's to do asphalt crack filling. Invoice is for \$4961 per day/not to exceed \$8000 per day, and total not to exceed \$32,000 for the grand total. Voted on and passed not to exceed \$32,000 for the grand total, 3-0. The Council added that this work needs to be done either before or after the Freedom Festival, so it does not interfere. Approval was requested to buy climbing gear for Mike Petrie as he prepares for his lineman apprenticeship classes in June. He needs the gear now to get practice time in. The lowest quote was from Powerline Supply for \$2319. Voted on and passed, 3-0.

Petra has been assisting Brian in helping to find and purchase a plotter printer for large scale drawings, etc. The lowest quote was from HP at \$7069. Voted on and approved, 3-0.

Glen Wills gave the Marshal's report: They had 420 calls for service. Casey Kintz needed a radio, and Glen had an extra one. Let the record show that the Police Department took a radio out of their archived inventory and transferred it to the Fire Department inventory.

Colin Harding gave the Fire Chief's report due to Casey Kintz being gone: thirty-five calls came in for the month with zero calls missed. Most of the calls were medical. They currently have staff that are completing their EMT/EMR certifications and attending Fire Academy as well. A request was made to hire a PT fire fighter to replace Colin Harding who is leaving as of 3/18/26. He will stay on a reserve/as needed basis. Approval to hire Gavin McQueen was approved. He will start work on 3/23/26 and will make the same hourly wage as Colin Harding. The failure of the tornado siren system is being addressed, and we may need to add a 3rd or 4th siren to the system. We would like CME's quote to be approved for the preliminary plans to start engineering for the new Fire Station. They will manage all RFP's and RFQ's. The work will start at the middle to the end of Summer. The quote for \$48,800 to come out of the Cum Fire fund was voted on and passed, 3-0.

Jerry Krock gave the Park report: We lost some panels off the shed during the high windstorms that will need replaced. He is going to get three quotes for this work, and we are also going to check with our insurance, Black and Ramer, to see what our deductible is. The dugouts need work done this year. No decision is going to be made regarding charging the Avilla Ball Association for this year. We will plan for next year to make a change to this. DA Brown is looking into a plan for the fifteen acres and parking lot at the park.

RDC had nothing to report.

Robert Hardy gave the Attorney's report: An Executive Session was held to discuss the ongoing subject of the Clerk-Treasurer not being present at work or Town Council meetings. Resolution #767-03-26 was written so that we can pursue action against her. Resolution was voted on and passed, 3-0. He advised that these types of actions tend to move quickly through the court system. Another Executive Session will be held before the next Town Council meeting.

Clerk Treasurer was absent again.

Lisa Duehmig gave the Town Clerk's report: Another sewer write-off was requested for the same utility customer as last month on Lewis St. The amount to write-off is \$37.43. Amount was voted on and approved, 3-0. Phone quotes were submitted for approval. Andy Uhl requested getting another quote from a vendor he has done business with before a decision was made. A new copy machine was requested for approval. Ricoh had the best quote and service at \$4200. It was voted on and approved, 3-0. The desk remodel for the clerk area was re-visited. Seely Office Solutions quote was for \$21,122.23 and they have

the best customer service because our PD has already had work done by them. Seely was voted on and passed, 3-0. Lisa and Brian are still looking into a Timeclock system. Paying off the sewer loan early to Bank of NY was discussed. Voted on and passed, 3-0 to pay it off with the CD that will mature in May.

Julie McBride discussed more events for the Freedom Festival. There will be a Gas and Steam Engine Show and the first ever 5K. The Fire Department will be providing Water Ball. Julie said the parade is open to any of our town employees if they would like to participate. This year the Grand Marshall is going to be the Armed Forces.

Mike Tucker introduced himself. He was here to represent the Avilla Sports Association. He is working with a sponsor to help get the dugout work funded. He has also found some used turf that might be able to be used. He will work with Jerry to help accomplish tasks regarding baseball diamond work, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

AVILLA TOWN COUNCIL

Philip Puckett, Jr., Council President

William Krock, Jr., Council Member

Andrew Uhl, Council Member

ATTEST:
