

WANATAH TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
6:30 pm

PRESENT: President Councilman Howell, Councilman Sutton, Vice President Newburn, Clerk Treasurer Ebert & Attorney Shoffner.

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Dale Bucher, Jay Huerta, Noah Howard, Jack Haschel, Lilly Adler, Fisener Trosply, Wyatt Doll, Nolan Lord, Leo Martinez, Jackie Blissmer, Lisa Gaston, Chuck Jonas, Chuck Mack & Jeff Mitzner.

Call To Order:

- President Howell called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

Roll Call:

- President Howell-Here, Councilman Sutton - Here, Vice President Newburn-Here, A quorum is present.

Correspondence

- None

Appointments Needed

- President Howell addressed the Council that there is still a need to fill the position for Planning Commission, Traffic Commission, BZA and the Town Council.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve the minutes of January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Regular Meeting. Vote was taken. All Ayes. Minutes were approved as presented.
- Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve the minutes of January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Special Meeting. Vote was taken. All Ayes. Minutes were approved as presented.

Officer's Reports

- Plan Commission – No Report
- BZA – No Report
- Traffic Commission – No Report
- Park Board – No Report
- Animal Control – No Report.
- Building Commissioner –Clerk Treasurer Ebert reported 13 Contractor Registrations in the amount of \$975.00.

Clerk's Office Reports

- Personnel Committee –No Report
- Facilities Coordinator – No Report
- NIRPC –No Report
- Other –No Report.

Public Works

- Chuck Mack reported the following:
  - The construction permits have been approved to proceed by IDEM for the Wastewater Plant. Equipment acquisitions have been sent out for “Request for Proposals” for the equipment that they have selected. It should take approximately a month to get that back and the Public Works Department will then discuss what they want to purchase. Advertisement will take place on this. When the bidding starts and the contractor is selected, the equipment will already be here without further delays.
  - President Howell read the letter out loud from VS Engineering basically stating what was in the above mentioned paragraph. Chuck Mack read another email out loud from VS Engineering from 2/13/26 stating that they have received approval of the IDEM construction permit for the WWTP project. And will be able to start the equipment procurement process to start moving forward.
  - Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve the cost of \$3,200.50 to fix the alarm system for both Lift Stations for the parts, and there will be an extra expense for the shipping and the labor..
  - Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve spending of \$28,080 for Peerless Midwest to fix the issues for the Water Plant. The Public Works Department will participate in a lot of the work to help cut the cost. When doing this, they will have to bypass the pump for about 3 day’s offline, excavate the bed and put the filter back online. Peerless will have to help putting the filter back in and put about 90 bags of rock at the bottom. Payment was already made for \$12,000 when they thought it would be an easier fix which included the media which they already have. CT reported that they funds would come out of the CEDIT Funds.
  - HEA 1459 passed on 1/1/26 for Indiana Water/Waste utilities must provide and maintain an Asset Management Program Plan (AMP) and submit it to the IURC every four years. Cost will be around \$40,000, need to make sure to budget for it. We still need to find someone to take care of this.
  - Chuck has reached out to the corporate office of Casey’s General store about the letter that was sent to them regarding the main manhole.
  - A resident’s car hit one of our fire hydrants by highway #30 around January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026. State Farm was been informed that we would be putting in a claim but will have to wait until the spring time because the ground is too hard.

New Business

- Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve the Recommendation for the Community Crossings Grant to be awarded to Milestone.
- Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve Cass Clinton Fire Department to attach a Cabinet with an AED inside to the buildings of 114 S Main St, 104 N Main St. and one more for the Park. They will know if they received the grant in April or May, and if so, the distribution will be in June.
- A discussion was had about Ordinance 01-2026 by Amending the Permit process by charging \$2,500 to any company that does not follow the Town’s permit process.

Unfinished Business

- Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve Bakertilly BT Service Package.

Financial Report and Claims Approval

- Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve the claims as presented. Vote was taken. All Ayes.

Any Other Business to come before the Council

- A discussion was had by the Council to amend the Town’s “Fines & Fee” schedule. Further discussion was had on the Tap Fees and that they needed to be increased

- Jeff Mitzner went before the Council to present the 2025 Cass-Clinton Fire Department report.

Public Comment

- Resident Jackie Blissmer went before the Council to ask for favor regarding her late fee of \$14.72 for her water bill. Due to her poor health issues, outrageous Nipsco bills and being on a fixed income, she was unsure of how to pay these bills. She stated that she used her Bill Pay on the 9<sup>th</sup> of the month to pay for her bill, but the check never made it to the Town's office by the due date of the 20<sup>th</sup>. President Howell told her that he would personally take care of her debt.

Adjournment

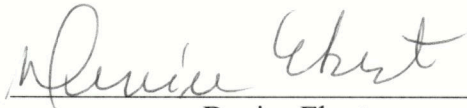
President Howell asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Vice President Newburn; Second by Councilman Sutton. A vote was taken.

All Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM

ATTEST:



Denise Ebert  
Clerk-Treasurer

