

MINUTES
ELKHART COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
117 N. 2nd St. Room 104, Goshen, IN 46526
June 19, 2025

The meeting of the Elkhart County Council was called to order by Council President, Thomas W. Stump at 4:00 p.m., in Room 104 of the County Administrative Building, Goshen, Indiana. Members present were Council President Thomas W. Stump, Council Vice President David L. Hess, Adam M. Bujalski, Steven E. Clark, Douglas S. Graham, Darryl J. Riegsecker, and Randall D. Yohn. Also, present were Patricia A. Pickens County Auditor, Steven Olsen, County Attorney's Office, and Tiara Jackson First Deputy Auditor.

** This meeting commenced pursuant to public notice under the Indiana open door law. This meeting was made available for the public and press to attend in-person and virtually in remote real-time observation via Web-Ex.

MINUTES: Approval of CC Meeting Minutes: May 15, 2025.

On motion to approve the May 15, 2025, minutes by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved the minutes as presented with a vote of 7 to 0.
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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMISSIONERS: None

COUNCIL: Steven Clark spoke about local government expenditures.

SHERIFF: None

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:

(a) Consideration of Re-Appointment for James (Jim) Rieckhoff to the Elkhart Public Library Board of Trustees. Four (4) Year Term. Term Expires: 6/30/2029.

On motion to approve by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved the reappointment of Mr. Rieckhoff with a vote of 7 to 0.

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(b) Consideration of Re-Appointment for Ruth Metcalfe to the Goshen Public Library Board of Trustees. Four (4) Year Term. Term Expires: 6/30/2029.

On motion to approve by Clark and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved the reappointment of Ms. Metcalfe with a vote of 7 to 0.

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HUMAN RESOURCES:

Steve Olsen:

1. Consideration and Approval of Ordinance CC-2025-13 Adopting Amendment to Elkhart County Government Personnel Policy & Standard Procedures Manual.

Steve Olsen presented this Ordinance request to the Council.

On motion made to approve Ordinance CC-2025-13 by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0.

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ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION EXPLANATIONS:

A. GENERAL (#1000)

1. Treasurer (103) requested \$18,352.00 for postage increase in mailings.

Cindy Chadwell presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Bujalski and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0.

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B. GENERAL (#1000)

1. Planning & Development (132) requested \$87,500.00 for completion of GIS Countywide Data Distribution & conversion of unsupported database.

Mae Kratzer presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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C. GENERAL (#1000)

1. Planning & Development (132) requested \$30,000.00 of the SEED Grant for GIS data meeting state standards.

Mae Kratzer presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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D. GENERAL (#1000)

1. Information Technology (141) requested \$4,980.00 for a project to upgrade door access to existing doors at the Wilden & Middlebury Fiber Hut.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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E. GENERAL (#1000)

1. Information Technology (141) requested \$41,115.66 for Inmate Tracking Support, Docuware Support, Digital Recording Support, Maintenance, Renewals, and

Updates/Upgrades.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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F. EDIT (#1112)

1. Highway Dept. (980) requested \$1,000,000.00 for matching funds for construction of Bridge 233 (CR 36 over Yellow Creek) Replacement Project.

Tim Jackson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Yohn and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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G. EDIT (#1112)

1. Highway Dept. (980) requested \$1,000,000.00 for funds to purchase ROW and other associated costs for the CR 6 Project between John Weaver Parkway & Ash Road.

Tim Jackson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

Glenn Null, Goshen, spoke.

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H. LIT – SPECIAL PURPOSE (#1114)

1. Buildings & Grounds (140) requested \$100,000.00 to cover additional cost of boxed meals purchased to feed inmates while kitchen was shut down for the floor replacement project.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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I. LIT – SPECIAL PURPOSE (#1114)

1. Buildings & Grounds (140) requested \$290,000.00 for additional cost to replace two rooftop units on the Sheriff's Administration Building, and replacement of three radio repeaters inside of the jail.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Yohn and seconded by Graham, the Council

unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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J. MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY (#1173)

1. Highway Department (980) requested \$1,500,000.00 in funds for paving, chip seal, construction, and associated costs to maintain road network's condition in 2025.

Tim Jackson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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K. RAINY DAY FUND (#1186)

1. Highway Department (980) requested \$700,000.00 in funds for paving, chip seal, construction, and associated costs to maintain road network's condition in 2025.

Tim Jackson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Clark and seconded by Hess, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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L. LANDFILL OPERATING FUND (#1194)

1. Solid Waste Department (338) requested \$300,000.00 to transfer to Fund #4803 for the Center for Community Justice, Council on Aging, and CAPS.

Brad Rogers presented this request to the Council and they discussed the request.

Glenn Null, Goshen, spoke.

Cindi Hijacek, Goshen, spoke.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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M. CR 6 & CR 17 IMPROVEMENT TIF (#4511)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested \$165,000.00 for the final design section to complete the PCR Water Project.

Mae Kratzer presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Bujalski and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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N. SR 13 INTERCHANGE TIF (#4514)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested \$880,000.00 for the final design and bid documents on the construction of the sewer to serve the SR 13 Middlebury Interchange TIF (south of 80/90.)

Mae Kratzer presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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O. SPECIAL PROJECTS (#4803)

1. Commissioners (980) requested \$300,000.00 from funds for Center for Community Justice, Council on Aging, and CAPS.

Brad Rogers presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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P. ROAD MAINTENANCE & CONSTRUCTION (#4901)

1. Highway Department (980) requested \$1,500,000.00 in funds for paving, chip seal, construction, and associated costs to maintain road network's condition in 2025.

Tim Jackson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Clark and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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Q. COMMUNITY CROSSING STATE MATCH (#9138)

1. Highway Department (980) requested \$1,500,050.00 in funds received from INDOT for the 2025-1 Community Crossings Matching Grant to be used for paving.

Tim Jackson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

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R. INTERPRETER GRANT (#9142)

1. Elkhart County Judiciary (981) requested \$10,000.00 in additional "emergency" funds due to depleting the funds that were originally awarded during this grant cycle.

Ross Maxwell presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Clark and seconded by Yohn, the Council

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chris Stager:

Consideration for Approval of CF-1 Forms:

1. Smoker Craft, Inc. CC-2021-19 & 22 RE
Smoker Craft, Inc. CC-2021-19 & 22 PP

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously, with a vote of 7-0, (1) concluded that Smoker Craft, Inc. has not substantially complied with the statement of benefits due to the number of additional employees being significantly less than projected for the project and that the failure to substantially comply was not caused by factors beyond their control and (2) set this matter for hearing on July 17, 2025, at its regularly scheduled meeting that begins at 4:00 pm.

2. SteelHarbor, LLC CC-2022-04 RE
SteelHarbor, LLC CC-2022-04 PP

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion made by Clark and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously, with a vote of 7-0, (1) concluded that SteelHarbor, LLC has not substantially complied with the statement of benefits due to the number of additional employees being significantly less than projected for the project and that the failure to substantially comply was not caused by factors beyond their control and (2) set this matter for hearing on July 17, 2025, at its regularly scheduled meeting that begins at 4:00 pm.

3. General R.V. Center, Inc. CC-2020-09 RE
General R.V. Center, Inc. CC-2020-09 PP

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously, with a vote of 7-0, (1) concluded that General R.V. Center, Inc. has not substantially complied with the statement of benefits due to the personal property objective and employee wages being significantly less than projected for the project and that the failure to substantially comply was not caused by factors beyond their control and (2) set this matter for hearing on July 17, 2025, at its regularly scheduled meeting that begins at 4:00 pm.

4. Barletta Boat Company, LLC CC-2017-15 & 22 PP

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion to find Barletta Boat Company, LLC substantially compliant made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

5. QR AMZ ELKHART PROPCO, LLC (Formerly AMS 2021 BTS) CC-2021-29 RE

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion to find QR AMZ Elkhart Propco, LLC substantially compliant made by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

6. DYNAMIC METALS, LLC CC-2017-13 PP

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion to have this request tabled for next month, as there is additional information required in order to make a sufficient determination, made by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved that motion with a vote of 7 to 0.

7. Truck Accessories Group, LLC. CC-2023-07 PP (*In Need of Waiver of Non-Compliance – For Late Submission/Not Filing with Auditor’s Office*)

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion to adopt a Resolution to Waive Non-Compliance for failing to provide a copy to the Auditor’s Office by the applicable deadline, which noncompliance has been corrected, made by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved that motion with a vote of 7 to 0.

Also, on motion to find Truck Accessories Group, LLC substantially compliant made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote.

8. Furrion, LLC CC-2015-14 RE

Furrion, LLC F/K/A Way Interglobal Network, LLC. CC-2021-14 PP (*In Need of Waiver of Non-Compliance – For Late Submission/Not Filing with Auditor’s Office*)

Chris Stager presented the factual circumstances related to this request.

On motion to grant the Waiver of Non-Compliance for purposes of verifying at a hearing whether the taxpayer otherwise qualifies for the deduction, made by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved that motion with a vote of 7 to 0.

The President, Tom Stump, asked for a Roll Call Vote:

Bujalski – Yay	Riegsecker - Yay
Clark – Yay	Yohn - Yay
Graham – Yay	Stump - Yay
Hess – Yay	

With a vote of 7 to 0, the Council unanimously approved the Waiver of Non-Compliance.

On motion made by Clark and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously, with a vote of 7-0, (1) concluded that Furrion, LLC F/K/A Way Interglobal Network, LLC has not substantially complied with the statement of benefits due to the number of additional employees being significantly less than projected for the project and that the failure to substantially comply was not caused by factors beyond their control and (2) set this matter for hearing on July 17, 2025, at its regularly scheduled meeting that begins at 4:00 pm. If the Council determines that the taxpayer otherwise qualifies for the deduction following the hearing, Council will adopt a formal Resolution of the Waiver of Non-Compliance.

Steven Olsen presented the following items:

1. Consideration of Acknowledgement of Expansion Rights with Elkhart Project, LLC.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved with a 7 to 0 vote.

2. Consideration of Notice to Proceed with Elkhart Project, LLC.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved with a 7 to 0 vote.

3. Consideration of Resolution of the Elkhart County Commissioners to Approve the Interlocal Transfer and Funding Agreement between Elkhart County and the City of Elkhart regarding the Elkhart Courthouse Project CC-2025-14.

Councilman Clark asked for a Roll Call Vote:

Bujalski – Yay	Riegsecker - Nay
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Clark – Nay
Graham – Yay
Hess – Yay

Yohn - Yay
Stump - Yay

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Yohn, the Council carried and approved with a 5 to 2 vote.

4. Consideration and Approval of Ordinance CC-2025-15 to Transfer from General Fund to Rainy Day Fund.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved with a 7 to 0 vote.

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AUDIENCE ITEMS:

- Kevin Kilmer, Goshen, spoke.
- Glenn Null, Goshen, spoke.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion to adjourn made by Graham seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved the adjournment of the meeting at 5:53 pm.

Patricia A. Pickens
Elkhart County Auditor