MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA
May 26, 2026

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council Members Mike Leman, William Daily, Brian Miller, Alex Mikel and David Bailey were present. Also present were Keith Fraine, Director of Operations; Meghan Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer; Ben Wright, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Henry Aguayo, Superintendent of the Water Department, Chief Trent Stouder, Police Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Matt Cunningham, Superintendent of the Wastewater Department; Nate Lockwood, Cemetery Sexton; Dan Byam Town Engineer and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2026 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Atkins submitted the allowance docket for approval; Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the allowance docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Atkins also submitted pay application number 11 for the wastewater treatment plant, payable to JPR in the amount of $39,242.50. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve pay application number 11 as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Atkins then submitted pay application number 12, payable to Baker Tilly in the amount of $6,930.00 for work done on the project bond. Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve pay application number 12 as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner presented Ordinance 6-2026-6, amending the Town Employee Handbook to allow volunteer firefighters and reserve police officers to respond to emergency calls during employment hours. Mr. Mikel asked whether the policy would apply to employees working on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Wagner replied that it did not. Mr. Daily made a motion to approve Ordinance 6-2026, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Wagner presented Resolution 2026-8A, to amend Resolution 2026-8 to provide the correct years for the real estate tax abatement provided to the Center Street property. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-8A, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Wagner asked the Council to approve Resolution 2026-9, which expanded the TIF area in several areas. Mr. Wagner explained the additional locations and noted that they would not be generating tax for the district, but funds could be spent in those locations. Mr. Daily made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-9, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays. Finally, Mr. Wagner presented Resolution 2026-10, which amended a tax abatement granted to Hardwood Interior Design, LLC in 2024. Mr. Wagner explained that HID had been granted a one-year time period to purchase and install equipment on their site, which ended on March 21, 2025, but that HID had contacted Mr. Fraine and explained that the equipment did not arrive until later on in the fall due to issues with the manufacturer and their supply chain. Mr. Wagner told the Council that he and Mr. Fraine had investigated the claim and found it credible and noted that a HID had hired more employees with the new equipment than they had originally estimated. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-10 as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Wagner reminded the Council Members of the executive session taking place immediately after the Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was brought before the Council.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Atkins asked whether the Council wished to purchase the America 250 Celebration banner to be displayed at the intersection of Plymouth and Center Streets. Mr. Fraine stated that the estimated cost was approximately $800.00 and the Council directed them to proceed with the purchase of the banner. Ms. Atkins also asked whether they wished to discuss the Baker Tilly proposal to calculate system development charges and the Council decided to keep the proposal under consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Randy Allen appeared on behalf of VC3 and gave a brief presentation regarding cyber security services. At the end of the presentation Mr. Leman asked whether VC3 would be responsible for Town Employee hardware and Mr. Allen explained that Dick Balmer would continue to do the day-to-day service while VC3 maintained the servers. The Council discussed the proposal. Mr. Mikel asked where the funds to pay for the services would come from and Ms. Atkins suggested the General Fund. Mr. Miller asked whether the employees would receive training and testing, which Mr. Allen confirmed. Mr. Mikel asked whether the services would apply to employees personal devices and Mr. Allen explained that personal devices would not be monitored. Mr. Allen briefly described the administrative process that would take place if the Town had a cyber security event. The Council thanked Mr. Allen for his presentation.

Mr. Leman welcomed audience members who were present to talk about a rumored gas station, and Mr. Wagner briefly explained the current process under way with the Plan Commission. Mr. Leman encouraged everyone present to not feed rumors and gossip.

Todd Hudson appeared before the Council and presented a second petition with 300 additional signatures, noting that the petition effort had resulted in over 500 signatures in opposition to the rumored project. Mr. Hudson expressed his concern about the location of the gas station and the sale of tobacco products.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mr. Fraine submitted Resolution 2026-11, granting a personal property tax abatement to Universal Bearings. Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-11, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention (Miller). Mr. Fraine submitted CF1's for Pro Tec, Universal Bearings, Bremen Solar Array, LLC and 2 CF1 forms for Hardwood Interior Design.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Neher reminded the Council of the upcoming Fireman's Festival.

Mr. Lockwood submitted his report on behalf of the Cemetery Department.

Chief Stouder told the Council that the department had purchased an e-bike and refurbished a pedal bike to resume bike patrols in anticipation of the new trail. Mr. Wagner told the Council that he was working on a new e-bike ordinance.

Mr. Aguayo had no new information to report on behalf of the Water Department.

Mr. Cunningham had no new information to report on behalf of the Wastewater Department.

Mr. Wright had no new information to report on behalf of the Electric Department. Mr. Leman asked Mr. Wright about the soccer field light project, which Mr. Wright described as ongoing.

Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve the Department Head Reports, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ENGINEER: Mr. Byam gave the Council a brief update on the status of the wastewater treatment plant project. He told the Council that the CCMG 2025-1 project would be starting in June, while the CCMG 2026 project began earlier that day. He also informed the Council that the READI permits would be submitted the next day and that JPR was still working on the Zoning Ordinance amendments and the DORA legal description.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mr. Mikel asked Chief Stouder if the Department would be replacing its K-9 iffucer, and chief Stouder replied that he was open to it but he had not requested it of any officers due to the additional responsibility that it carried. Mr. Leman briefly described a Corvilla fundraising event that would take place during the Fireman's Festival. Mr. Fraine thanked Tara Beasley, Melinda Daily and Austin Langdon for getting flowers in the planters after the previous florist was unable to perform the service. Mr. Fraine also gave a brief update on the Bremen Village Shops project.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Mikel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:

Meghan Atkins,
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen

Michael Leman, President