

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY

March 3, 2026

5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pavey called this Board of Works meeting to order at 5:43 p.m. at 330 N. Main Street, Suite 200, Rushville, IN 46173.

ROLL CALL: Gary Cameron, Brad Berkemeier, Phil King, Maria Bridges were present.

MINUTES: Berkemeier motioned to approve Board of Works Meeting Minutes from February 17, 2026; Cameron seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: Ann Copley provided the annual Donations Contract for the Rush County Senior Citizens Services center to be reviewed by the Board. Berkemeier motioned to approve the Donation Contract; King seconded the motion. The motion carried. Copley provided a list of two-year-old checks that she requested be written-off by the Council. The Board requested the total amount to be written off. Berkemeier motioned to table the write-off of the stated two-year-old checks for further review; Cameron seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS: Nothing to report.

PROJECTS/DEPARTMENTS:

- CCMG –
- Housing –
 - Graham School – Development Agreement has been reviewed. Cameron motioned to approve signing authority to the Mayor for Development Agreement; King Seconded the motion. The motion carried.
 - Havens School – Mason researching scope.
 - Boulders- Under Construction (READi 2.0) – Mutual Release of Agreement –
- General –
 - SS4A Plan (FHWA)- Plan – In conversations with Henry County Commissioner Joe Wiley
 - Levee Accreditation – Nothing new to report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Animal Control –
- Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement –
 - Flow Charts – Policy – Practice – Legal counsel has reviewed and returned documents. Mayor will distribute to Board for review.
 - Zoning Ordinance -UDO (Unified Development Ordinance)/Board Education – Meeting scheduled 3/12/26
- Street Department –
 - Solid Waste/Transfer Station – Move forward as weather permits. Meeting scheduled for next Monday.
 - Front End Loader – Mike Land recommended the current loader be repaired instead of replaced. Repairs are estimated to not exceed \$40,000.00, while a new or used loader quotes between \$130,000.00 and \$220,000.00. Our current loader has no trade-in value as it is now, and would require repairs if we wanted to do a trade-in option. Land stated that there are other projects and equipment that money may be better spent on, and suggested to only repair the current front loader.

Berkemeier motioned to approve the repairs to the current loader; King seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- CCMG – Jackson Street & 5th Street – Rebid (Special Meeting) –
 - Miller Pipeline continues to relocate gas lines.
 - O'Mara will start their work once Miller has reached the half-way point.
 - Bids are due on 3/10/2026. Berkemeier motioned to schedule a special meeting to review and accept bids on 3/10/26 immediately before the Utility Board meeting at 5:15 p.m.; Bridges seconded the motion. The motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Fire/Rescue – Innovations conversations are continuing.
- Police Department – Innovations conversations are continuing.
- Police/Fire/Utility – Public Safety Training Campus
 - Status of Project –
 - Deconstruction of old Fire Training Center – Mayor provided status update.
 - Development of Site (Projects): Planning measures are in place with the exception of paperwork finalization for starting utilities. Planning measures include:
 - Utility Easements/Options – (INTAT Lane) – HWC Papering
 - Water/Fiber
 - Septic – Likely a short-term option – Kyle Gardner reached out for comparable prices.
 - Retention/Detention Pond Construction – Civil Engineer and Contractor discussing (Bowles/Ballenger/Coon)
 - Program – Review – Public Safety Committee/Status – School Decisions
 - Commissioners and County Council – Meeting to understand “Big Picture”/Long-term—Plans and conversations are ongoing with Commissioners, County Council, City Council, Board of Works, and School Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Insurance P&C – RFP – Policies renew mid-year; claims data is expected closer to renewal for better RFP development.
- Ordinance 2026-3 – Establishing escalator rate to Existing Stormwater Rate
 - Public hearing set for 3/17/2026

NEW BUSINESS:

- Fire Department
 - Resignation Letter (Lucas Byrd) was received 2/18/26. Byrd's last working shift will start March 8 and end March 9th. His tenure at this date requires him to pay 33%, totaling \$3,182.97, of his claw back. Cameron motioned to approve Byrd's resignation; Berkemeier seconded the motion. The motion carried.
 - Claw Back Agreement does not currently include specific language as to how long a former employee has to complete the payoff amount. Chief Justice suggests review of the agreement to add such language. Berkemeier suggests tabling this matter for further review.
 - Hiring Process Update – Chief Justice stated that 33 applications have been sent out, and only 3 have been received back so far. The deadline for returned applications was set for 3/20/26. Written and physical evaluations are expected to be scheduled for 3/28/26. Chief Justice anticipates Board of Work interviews to occur mid-April.
- SME Contract – 220-224 N Morgan Street - \$21,900.00 – Cameron motioned to approve the SME Contract; Berkemeier seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- Contract for Line Extension Deposited – Indiana Gas/CenterPoint Gas (HWC) - \$47,578.00 – Cameron motioned to approve signing contract; Berkemeier seconded the motion. The motion carries.
- RL Coon – 10-inch Water Main – Extension of Water and Fiber to site – Contract - \$379,817.55 – Utilities will fund two-thirds of the amount; one-third funded from City. Berkemeier motioned to approve signing the contract; King seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Kyle Gardner is working with the county on a process and procedure for appeal for citizen concerns of stormwater rates for adjacent “orphan” properties.

UPCOMING: LEAP Managed IT – Revised

CLAIMS:

1. Monthly Project Pay Apps/Claims:
 - Cherry Street Invoices/Claims PH I (Des # 1400772)
 - Cherry Street Invoices/Claims PH II (Des #1600961)
 - Total Cherry Street Claims =
 - CCMG Invoices /Claims
 - a. CCMG
 - i. 5th and Jackson Invoice #
 - ii. Waites Addition – Pay App. #
 - iii. TAMP LTAP – Inv. #
2. Other Claims
 - Public Safet Training Facility - \$218,763.40
 - READI I – Rushville Boulders Development Pay App. #
 - Morgan Street Trail-Bike & Ped (4th-13th St.) – OOR
 - USI
 - Riverside Connector - Inv.
 - Washington Street (Resurface/Stormwater) – Inv. #
 - Wetland Park -
 - HSP Upgrading Pavement Markings (Des #2401641) -
 - Safe Streets for All (SS4A) – ARa – Inv. #
 - F&V
 - Housing Claims
 - Boulders –

Cameron motioned to approve all claims as stated; King seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: Nothing at this time.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police – Chief Tucker provided a quote from C & N Concrete for concrete work that he requested be approved. He has been looking for a concrete company to remove and replace the front sidewalk in front of the Police Station in preparation for the construction of a memorial installment in front of the building. The total bid was \$27,390.00 and was already earmarked for the project in the Donations Fund. The funds were the product of a memorial contribution from a recently deceased citizen who wished to remain anonymous. Berkemeier motioned to approve the C & N Concrete bid for sidewalk work to be done in front of the Police Station contingent on proof of contractor bond and insurance requirements; Cameron seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Fire – Engine #2 is still out of service. The ECM (vehicle computer) was repaired but has not fixed the problem. A new wiring harness was ordered due to broken wires.

Rescue #1 was towed to a shop in Indianapolis shop for repairs on a bad A/C compressor. Repairs are expected to mostly be covered under a warranty.

Street – Guardrail was repaired on Sexton Street front damages incurred over the winter.

Two outstanding handicap renewals are in process, but renewals are otherwise wrapped up.

Team has been working on filling or repairing potholes for the last few weeks.

Team will work on cleaning storm drains for the rest of this week.

Park – All of the picnic tables were completed, and most were placed out in their designated areas. Work on the benches begins next.

The bed trails of truck #12, the Parks dump truck were replaced.

Two seasonal part-time employees were confirmed to return for the 2026 season.

Programs

- Yoga in the gallery will continue at Booker T Washington Thursdays at 6 PM through at least the end of May.
- Nature school continues tomorrow at 10:30 AM
- Tot time continues Fridays at 10 AM at Mathews shelter.
- Earth Day celebration is scheduled for 4/22 from 5 PM to 7 PM at Carol Jenkins Park.

Animal Control – A beagle on a home-trial escaped and is on the loose. The dog has been elusive and transient which makes identifying a good location for a trap difficult. The dog is highly food-motivated and that is expected to be good bait in any effort to catch him.

An emaciated dog was found in Carthage and taken to Buck Creek for medical care. Through posting the dog on Facebook, donations over \$1,900.00 have been made to this dog's medical care. The dog's condition is being closely monitored, and her recovery has a long way to go. There is an active abuse/neglect investigation, though no charges have been filed.

City Utilities – Meter Project continues with new meters being installed and valves replaced at select water mains.

Neighborhood Development – Copley is working on compiling statistics and attending training sessions for the Army Corps of Engineers' "Turn Around, Don't Drown" initiative.

The APC will participate in a work session to discuss potential implementation of a UDO (Unified Development Ordinance).

There has been an increase of improvement permits applications for the coming spring.

Two new foundations were started in the Washington Street extension and another in the Boulders.

The application process began for two fill-in lots to be developed, which will provide three new residences in the City.

Special Projects - Nothing new to report.

ADJOURN: Berkemeier motioned to adjourn Board of Works meeting at 6:33 p.m.;
Cameron seconded the motion. The motion carried.


MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MAYOR


BRADLEY A BERKEMEIER, MEMBER


MARIA BRIDGES, MEMBER

ATTEST:


KAYLA M. CLINE, DEPUTY CLERK


GARY M. CAMERON, MEMBER

PHIL KING, MEMBER
