

**MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA**

**March 3, 2026
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pavey called the Common Council meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. at 330 N Main Street, Suite 200, Rushville, IN 46173.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Those present stood and recited the pledge.

PRAYER: Berkemeier led group in prayer.

ROLL CALL: Bob Bridges, Brad Berkemeier, Rob Hadley, Jemmy Miller, Ron Gardner were present.

MINUTES: Berkemeier motioned to approve Common Council Meeting Minutes for February 17, 2026; Gardner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor wanted to express to department heads that the current appropriation numbers in their recent reports are not the final budget numbers.

CLERK-TREASURER: Nothing at this time

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Nothing at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Special Projects Kyle Gardner –
- LEDO John McCane –
- READI Designation (E.O.M.)
 - READi 1.0 – Project is almost finished up.
 - READi 2.0 – Boulders & Launch Space- Project is moving forward.
- Lily – Blight – Regional Blight Meeting – Havens & Graham – Project is starting to move forward with ideas.
- Lilly Arts & Culture – Art Report – Options are being reviewed.
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Council – Meeting will be rescheduled; more information will be sent out.

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS: Keith Williams was present and spoke of an accident he was a party to on 1/29/26. The accident involved a UTV, which he stated has safety lights reflectors or turn signal. Mr. Williams stated the accident report claimed that his speed was too fast but that he feels the damage does not support claim. He would like to contest the claim of excessive speed in the report. Berkemeier motioned to Chief Tucker for a quick introduction and stated Chief would be the best person to talk to on the matter. Chief Tuck requested Mr. Williams submit his contact information for them to meet and further discuss the report.

Bridges expressed concern for driver safety, specifically related to the new stop signs at railroad crossings. He stated that he has received several calls about the visibility of some of the new signs. Bridges urged driver awareness and caution at railroad crossings and indicated that the 11th Street crossing may be the most concerning location for stop sign visibility. He suggested adding flashing lights on the sign as a possible solution.

Berkemeier gave an update on the residence discussed at the prior meeting which had received complaints about operating a business. The owner was contacted. The structure is zoned as residential and will be utilized as appropriate moving forward.

Berkemeier asked the Mayor and other members of the Council if Rush County Schools had invited the City, in any official capacity, to attend their upcoming meeting. Mayor states that no specific invitation was offered, but as a general courtesy attendance may be encouraged as a demonstration of support and community involvement. Generally, City officials do not have jurisdiction related to Rush County School Corporation affairs.

PROJECTS/DEPARTMENTS:

- 1. CCMG –
- 2. Housing –
 - a. Graham School – Development Agreement – Russell Brown Meeting – Council reviewed the agreement – Berkemeier motioned to approve Mayor signing the contract; Gardner seconded the motion. The motion carried.
 - b. Haven School – Mason is researching the scope.
 - c. Boulders – Builder – Mutual Release of Agreement – Mayor requested to act (sign) on the Agreement and to consider a replacement builder option. Berkemeier motioned to approve the Agreement; Hadley seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 3. General –
 - a. SS4A – Plan (FHWA) – Henry County Commissioner: Joe Wiley – Conversations are ongoing and Corey Murphy has been contacted.
 - b. Levee Accreditation – Nothing new at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- 4. Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement –
 - a. Flow Charting – Police – Practice – Reviewed by legal counsel.
 - b. Work Session – Results – Mayor provided for Council review.
 - c. Zoning Ordinance – UDO (Unified Development Ordinance) with Education Component – APC will participate in the work session.
- 5. Street Department –
 - a. Solid Waste Transfer Station – Meeting schedule for Next Monday. Expected to move forward with weather permitting.
 - b. Front End Load – Repair – 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 only repairing the current front loader. The Board of Works approved repair of the current loader.
 - c. CCMG
 - i. Jackson Street & 5th PH II – Rebid (Special Meeting)
 - 1. Bids are scheduled Due 3/10/2026
 - 2. Special meeting scheduled to review and accept bids on 3/10/26 immediately before the Utility Board meeting at 5:15 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- 6. Fire/Rescue – Innovation meetings and conversations continue.
- 7. Police Department – Innovation meeting and conversations continue.
- 8. Police/Fire/Utility – Public Safety Training Campus –
 - a. Status – Getting closer to starting project.
 - i. Deconstruction of old Fire Training Center – Status
 - ii. Development of Site (Projects)
 - a. Utility Easements/Options – INTAT Lane – HWC Papering
 - b. Water/Fiber
 - c. Septic – Likely to be a short-term option – School
 - d. Retention/Detention Pond Construction – Civil & Contractor discussing (Bowles/Ballenger/Coon)
 - iii. Program – Review – Public Safety Committee Status – School Decisions – Conversations are ongoing.

4. **Interlocal Agreement with Rush County – 911 Funding –** Berkemeier motioned to approve the agreement; Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried and the agreement was signed.

5. **Title VI & ADA Update ATP –** 3-year update for ADA compliance maintenance – Authorization to proceed – Board of Works approved the update.

6. **Ordinance 2026-3 –** Establishing escalation Rate to existing Stormwater Rate – The notice was not published prior to the hearing. Hearing to be held at next available date after advertising requirement.

UPCOMING

SB1 – Impact/Options/Timelines/Strategies

- a. LIT/LOIT – Options (Higher wage earners) – Police/Fire 911
- b. (3) Year Growth Appeal (capture excess growth) – Approved
- c. Hiring Freeze/Attrition
- d. Budget Reduction/Monitoring in spending
- e. Elected Officials Editorials –
- f. Innovation/Reimagination Conversations

CLAIMS & MONTHLY BANK RECONCILIATION: Bridges motioned to approve claims and bank reconciliation as stated; Hadley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: Nothing at this time.

ADJOURN: Berkemeier motioned to adjourn Common Council meeting at 6:53 p.m. Mayor adjourned the meeting.


MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MAYOR


BOB BRIDGES, MEMBER

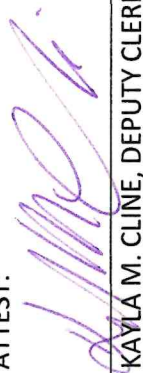

BRADLEY A. BERKEMEIER, MEMBER


ROB HADLEY, MEMBER


RON GARDNER, MEMBER


JEMMY MILLER, MEMBER

ATTEST:


KAYLA M. CLINE, DEPUTY CLERK

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