**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL**
**TOWN OF BOURBON, INDIANA**
**April 14, 2026**

The Town Council of the Town of Bourbon, Indiana, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at the Bourbon Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council Members Jonah Best, Les McFarland and Terry Clemens were present. Also present were Kimberly Berger, Clerk-Treasurer; Sargeant Carl Amsden, Police Department; Chief Chad Stepp, Fire Department; Roger Terry, Superintendent of Public Works; Susie Schaetzle, Plan Director and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

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

**MINUTES:** Mr. McFarland made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Clemens and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Council revisited the large item trash pick-up change requested by Stafford. Ms. Berger told the Council that she was told they were trying to create a more efficient process for collecting those items. The Council discussed the request but took no action.

Mr. Best asked the Council Members how they would like to address the retired police vehicle. The Council briefly discussed whether other communities could make use of the vehicle. Mr. Clemens suggested selling the vehicle and then asked if it had any trade in value. Mr. Best said that he believed they were offered approximately $5,600.00 for the vehicle. The Council discussed setting the reserve at the trade in value. Mr. Clemens made a motion to sell the vehicle through the sealed bid process with a reserve of $5,000.00, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Matthew Muir appeared on behalf of the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks and explained that his group organized in opposition to propose federal legislation that would increase truck weight limits. Mr. Muir gave a brief history of federal regulations regarding truck weight limits and described some of the harmful consequences from increasing those limits. Mr. Muir explained that Representative Rudy Yakim may not have made a decision on the subject yet and asked for letters of opposition to be sent to Representative Yakim and other legislators. The Council thanked him for his presentation.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

Ms. Berger submitted the docket of claims for numbers 8348 – 8462 in the amount of $437,546.53. Mr. Clemens made a motion to approve the claims as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

Ms. Berger then asked the Council to approve the quote to replace the platform and steps at McBride Field. Mr. Best expressed concern regarding the construction process. The

Council discussed the problems with the construction. Mr. Best made a motion to approve the quote subject to inspection and final approval by the Marshall County Building Inspector and final approval by the Town Council, which was seconded by Mr. Clemens and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

Ms. Berger presented a request from Chastity Dillon to have the Farmer's Market at the Park Pavillion on Mondays from June through September. The Council expressed support for the event, but asked Ms. Berger to have Ms. Dillon review the facility clean-up policy. Mr. McFarland made a motion to approve the use of the Park Pavillion for the Farmer's Market on Mondays from June through September, which was seconded by Mr. Clemens and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

Ms. Berger asked the Council how they wished her to respond to the invoices she continues to receive from the Marshall County Economic Development Corporation. She noted that the current billing includes amounts from 2025 as well. Mr. Best stated that his recollection was that the Town agreed to pay the first quarter in 2025 but has not been getting quarterly reports since then. Mr. Best added that he thought the funding was better applied to efforts to create new housing. Mr. Wagner asked if there was a written agreement with MCEDC and the Council stated that they did not recall such an agreement. Mr. McFarland asked Mr. Wagner to send a letter to MCEDC, and Mr. Wagner requested that Ms. Berger send him minutes from the 2024 meeting where the matter was discussed.

Sergeant Carl Amsden submitted his report on behalf of the Police Department and noted that they had received a grateful message complimenting several officers for exceptional service. Mr. Amsden also submitted the resignation of officer Callie Prater. Mr. Best made a motion to accept the resignation, which was seconded by Mr. Clemens and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Amsden gave a brief report on the department's armor plate inventory. Mr. Amsden also requested permission to advertise for applications for the police department's position. The Council discussed how the position would be advertised. Mr. Clemens made a motion to advertise the open position, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Amsden also asked to hire Devin Johnson as a part-time officer and briefly described his qualifications. Mr. McFarland made a motion to approve the hiring of Mr. Johnson as a part-time officer, which was seconded by Mr. Clemens and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

Roger Terry submitted the activity reports on behalf of the Public Works Department and submitted two quotes for the concrete approach at cold storage building at the Town garage from Steel Ridge and Hensley & Son, LLC. He explained that the Steel Ridge quote was for 6-inch concrete while the Hensley quote was for 8-inch concrete with sealer. The Council confirmed that the amount would be paid from the storm sewer fund and discussed the project dimensions. Mr. Clemens made a motion to approve the Hensley & Son, LLC quote for $6,900.00, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Terry also asked the Council to approve the new mowing contract with Hoffer Lawn Services. The Council reviewed the areas governed by the contract and the areas that the Town mows itself. Mr. Clemens made a motion to approve the new mowing

contract which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Terry reported that the Water Department would be replacing eight (8) fire hydrants and valves. Mr. Clemens asked if they could be replaced all at once and Mr. Terry replied that it would require shutting off water to most of the Town at once, so staggering the installation made more sense. The Council discussed the process for notifying affected residents. Mr. Terry also explained that the work would be contracted out and should start in two to three weeks. Ms. Berger added that the project is part of the SRF loan from the water plant construction with remaining funds. Mr. Clemens made a motion to proceed with the fire-hydrant replacement, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

Chief Stepp told the Council that the department had responded to twelve (12) calls since the previous meeting and that they had received approval from the County for the $50,000.00 grant to purchase the air tank filler apparatus. He told the Council that the department still planned on having a community open house on June 13. Chief Stepp told the Council that the department's AED unit needed to be replaced and that he had been quoted a price of $1,700.00 for a replacement unit. He explained that he had consulted with Lutheran Ambulance Service about getting the same units that they use, and they confirmed that the price was likely as low as he could find. Chief Stepp added that the Police Department's AEDs were outdated and should be replaced as well. Ms. Berger asked whether a Marshall County Community Foundation grant could be sought as the purchase had not been budgeted, and the Council discussed whether the units would last until the fall application cycle. The Council asked whether the donation fund could cover the purchase and Ms. Berger told them the current balance was approximately $54,000.00. Chief Stepp offered that the department had discussed having a fundraiser, but they did not think it was feasible for the amount raised. Mr. McFarland suggested using the donation fund, and Ms. Berger noted that would require additional appropriations. Mr. Best made a motion to approve the purchase of the AED units using the donation fund, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

Ms. Schaetzle informed the Council that the Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals had agreed to move their meetings to the fourth Monday of each month in order to allow more time between the Council meeting. She also reported one resignation, each from the BZA and the Plan Commission. She nominated Mark Cottrill to serve on the Plan Commission and Tim Berger to serve on the BZA. Mr. McFarland made a motion to approve both appointments, which were seconded by Mr. Clemens and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** Mr. Wagner gave a brief update on the status of the Plan Commission reorganization.

**PATRON COMMENTS:** Drew Westafer asked about the police car being sold and estimated its worth at least $5,000.00.

Bobby Goodman appeared and requested permission to host travel baseball games at the park field over the course of several Saturdays. He confirmed that the schedule would not interfere with any other Town league games. The Council expressed support for the initiative. Mr. Clemens made a motion to approve the request as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Goodman expressed appreciation for the field and the well-maintained condition and expressed hope that it could see more use.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** The Council asked Mr. Wagner to prepare a resolution honoring the state-finalist Triton High School boys' basketball team.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Clemens made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. McFarland and carried by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:

Kimberly Berger,
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bourbon

Jonah Best, President