

A meeting of the Kirklin Town Council was held on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 7:00pm at Kirklin Town Hall while being simultaneously livestreamed at www.youtube.com/@kirklinindiana.

The meeting was opened by Tara Walker. On the call of the roll, the following Council Members were present: Melinda Jobe, Walt Minnick, Jerry Faucett, Craig Hudzinski, and Brent Stetler.

Also present: Billy Walker, Brendon Bright, Kat Bell, Maureen Hayden, Brian Beck, and Tara Walker. Town Attorney Jay Moore was absent but watching the YouTube stream.

ELECTION OF TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT – A motion was made by Brent Stetler to retain Melinda Jobe as town council president. The motion was supported by Jerry Faucett and it carried unanimously. A motion was made by Jerry Faucett to elect Brent Stetler as town council vice-president. The motion was supported by Walt Minnick and it carried unanimously.

The Pledge of Allegiance and prayer were led by Melinda Jobe.

MINUTES – Craig Hudzinski made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the year-end Town Council Meeting held on December 29, 2025. The motion was supported by Jerry Faucett and it passed unanimously.

KIRKLIN LIQUOR STORE – Brian Beck, of Elevation Construction, was present to request three landscaping variance requests for the new location of the Kirklin Liquor Store owned by RPM Investing, LLC. Kat Bell with the Area Plan Commission was also present to answer any question the town council may have. After discussion, Craig Hudzinski made a motion to send a favorable recommendation to the APC to approve the petition for all three variance requests. The motion was supported by Brent Stetler and it carried unanimously. In addition, Billy Walker informed them that they can tie onto the town stormwater system in the alley on the west side of the building.

STORMWATER BOARD – Pursuant to IC § 8-1.5-5-4, Melinda Jobe appointed the following to the Storm Water Management Board members, only two of which are from the same political party: Jerry Faucett for a term of three (3) years; Brent Stetler for a term of two (2) years; and Clinton Poole for a term of one (1) year. Tara Walker explained that going forward the council president will appoint one person each year for a three-year term as the members must have staggered terms. The board will meet at 6:45pm immediately preceding regular town council meetings held on the second Monday of each month but can meet more often if necessary.

DONATION TO KIRKLIN MAIN STREET - The town council tabled the topic of a donation to Kirklin Main Street until the February 9, 2026, council meeting.

RES #2026-1-2 – Brent Stetler made a motion to approve Res #2026-1-2 pertaining to outstanding checks that were at least two years old as of December 31st and will be receipted back into the fund from which they originated. The motion was supported by Craig Hudzinski and it carried unanimously.

RES #2026-1-3 – Brent Stetler motioned to approve Res #2026-1-3 pertaining to outstanding meter deposit refund checks that were at least one year old as of December 31st and will be sent to Indiana Unclaimed. Craig Hudzinski seconded and it carried unanimously.

ORD #2025-12-5 – Brent Stetler made a motion to read Ord #2025-12-5 "Amending the Capital Improvement Plan for the Town of Kirklin, Indiana" by title only. The motion was seconded by Craig Hudzinski and carried unanimously. Brent Stetler made a motion to adopt Ord #2025-12-5 on its second reading. The motion was supported by Craig Hudzinski and it passed unanimously.

SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT – Billy Walker stated that there are still approximately 30% of the residences identified with smoke testing as having issues who have not yet done repairs, or if they did, have not contacted the town stating as such. There are funds remaining from the project that could be used for more smoke testing and suggested sending a final letter with a deadline to those residents who have still not complied to give them one last chance before penalties would apply. Once this part is finished, the next step would be sump pump inspections as they cannot be connected to the sanitary sewer system. He suggests this be done by an independent, third-party with no connections to the town to avoid favoritism.

PARK – Billy Walker gave an update that he anticipates the new playground equipment to be installed sometime in March, depending on weather.

STORMWATER – Tara Walker gave the council some names for a new grant administrator since Amy Miller is retiring. She stated that it is likely not feasible for the town to meet the next OCRA storm water planning grant application deadline in order for the council to do their due diligence

in finding the next grant administrator. Melinda Jobe stated that she would reach out to them. Maureen Hayden with Commonwealth Engineering strongly encouraged the town council to look at their current storm water rate and raise it if needed since the town would need a 10% match for any storm water construction grant that the town would eventually apply for. Tara Walker stated that the town does not have \$75,000.00 in the storm water operating fund to match the maximum possible grant of \$750,000.00 were the town to be awarded that amount. A discussion was had about the difficulty in getting the county surveyor to respond to the Town of Kirklin regarding the county drain tiles that may be causing some of the problems on the east side of town. Melinda Jobe stated that she will find out when the next county drainage board meeting is and Kat Bell said that she may want to call to get on their agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT – Billy Walker provided the council with a written report. Billy added Jim's Heating & Air replaced both thermostats at the water plant for heat.

POLICE – Brendon Bright reported that they had 10 calls for service this month and wrote one ordinance violation warning. They also had 14 traffic stops of which 12 were warnings and 2 citations were written. He stated that they had firearms and rifle training and that the police truck got new tires in December.

CLERK-TREASURER – Tara Walker provided the following reports to the town council prior to the meeting for month ending December 31, 2025: Revenue, Appropriations, Payroll Allowance Docket, Adjustments Register, and the Monthly Statement of Reconciled Accounts; and the Accounts Payable Register ending January 8, 2026. Seeing no questions, the town council signed the Payroll Allowance Docket, Adjustments Register and the Accounts Payable Register. Melinda Jobe also signed the Statement of Reconciled Accounts and reviewed and signed the bank statements. **Invoices** – Walt Minnick motioned to approve the following invoices that arrived after the APV Register was printed: Indiana Underground Plant Protection, \$72.20; Alliance of Indiana Rural Water, \$341.40; Frankfort Bottle Gas, \$1139.40; and, Menards, \$50.42. The motion was seconded by Brent Stetler and it carried unanimously. **PSLOIT** – Tara reminded the town council again that the PSLOIT fund can no longer sustain the police department budget as it once did and action is required. Melinda Jobe stated that she will get with Brendon to determine things that can possibly be done to help and asked that it be put on the next meeting agenda again. Tara also reminded the council about the upcoming LIT changes.

COUNCILMEMBERS – Jerry Faucett inquired about The Bridge's new building at the park. Melinda responded that they are waiting for the architect plans to be finished. Craig Hudzinski would like the subject of multiple dwellings on the same meter be put on the February agenda and wants the new owner of any building sold to have to separate the meters. Billy Walker stated that it is already in an ordinance but has not been enforced. He also stated that the tasting room downtown did what they were supposed to but no one else has.

Seeing no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.



Melinda Jobe, Town Council President

A livestream recording of council meetings, including their agenda and minutes, can be found at the following address for at least 90 days following the date of each meeting, per IC 5-14-1.5-2.9:

www.youtube.com/@kirklinindiana