

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025
GARRETT COMMON COUNCIL
GARRETT, INDIANA 46738

Meeting opened with the Pledge to the Flag and called to order at 7:00pm; Garrett City Hall Council Chambers by the Chair Mayor Todd A. Fiandt.

Members present – Toby Jordan, Amanda Charles, Dave Demske, Bobby Diederich and Brian Best
Also, present – Clerk Treasurer Marcie Conkle, City Attorney Chad Rayle, Police Chief Gerald Kline, Fire Chief Doug Castator and City Planner Madalyn Sade-Bartl.

MOTION DIEDERICH TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2, 2025, SECOND JORDAN – UNANIMOUS

MAYOR CLOSED REGULAR MEETING AND OPENED UP PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AT 7:01PM

- Greg from (FSG) explaining 2026 Budgets and Budget Estimates
- Form 3 has been advertised.
- Quotient 4% - ½ will be taken away in 2026/ recommended increase at 2%
- 2028 lose all income taxes
- 3.26% increase in general overall
- Fire went up \$98000.00 / \$90000.00 of that is lease
- MVH update
- Greg asked council if they had any questions? Toby – 2% increase in salary, asked about utilities? 8% for electric, 3.5% water, 3% wastewater. \$75000.00 in study. Bobby – If we do 8% rate increase are we still behind. Discussion on electric wages and rate study. Demske – stated that budget public hearing has nothing to do with utilities, as they are not budgeted. Bobby asked Greg if the electric department underpaid or over paid? Has not done study. Jordan – just want to be fair across the board.
- Jordan asked about police straight time? Discussion was held. Also brought up about Fire budget. Believe we need to look at full-time, asked Amanda about discussion.
- Clerk gave an update on study
- Greg also gave update on possible districts in county. Will be required.
- Bobby has also heard this and county will give us their ladder truck.
- Demske stated plan/study has been recommended

2025-07 BUDGET ORDINANCE

MOTION DEMSKE TO INTRODUCE AND PASS 1ST READING ON BUDGET ORDINANCE, SECOND DIEDERICH – UNANIMOUS. BEST YES, DIEDERICH YES, DEMSKE YES, CHARLES YES, JORDAN YES.

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING, REOPEN REGULAR COMMON COUNCIL MEETING.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Dept. – Chief Kline

- Stats to date
- Best asked about the remote radar. Has it been moved yet? Complaints on Taylor Rd cars going too fast. Kline **says he can move it to Taylor Rd.**
- Diederich – Thank you for doing business checks

STAFF REPORTS:

City Planner – Madalyn Sadi-Bartl

- Introduced herself and trying to get things in order. Diederich thanked Madalyn for doing a well job.
- Kiracofe Plat submitted.

BOARD MEMBERS:

- Bobby Diederich – having a hard time giving same increase to all, are we really looking at industry?
- Toby Jordan – Same,
- Amanda Charles – Same
- Mayor stated we have constant discussions on Electric and Police departments
- Jordan thanked the mayor for looking into skilled trades.
- Brain Best – Wage salary would be beneficial
- Dave Demske – feels we are somewhere in the middle. Longevity has not been an issue
- Toby Jordan asked about security
- Amanda Charles – Ordinance committee will meet in November

2025-08 WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

MOTION DEMSKE TO INTRODUCE AND PASS ON 1ST READING ON WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE FOR APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES, SECOND CHARLES. BEST YES, DIEDERICH NO, DEMSKE YES, CHARLES YES, JORDAN NO.

2025-09 WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE POLICE/FIRE

MOTION CHARLES TO INTRODUCE AND PASS ON 1ST READING ON WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE FOR POLICE AND FIRE, SECOND DIEDERICH – UNANIMOUS. BEST YES, DIEDERICH YES, DEMSKE YES, CHARLES YES, AND TOBY YES.

2025-10 WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

MOTION CHARLES TO INTRODUCE AND PASS ON 1ST READING ON WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS, SECOND DEMSKE – UNANIMOUS, BEST YES, DIEDERICH YES, DEMSKE YES, CHARLES YES, TOBY YES.

RESOLUTION 07/2025 TIFF REDUCTION

MOTION JORDAN RESOLUTION REDUCTION TIF \$500,000 IN 2025 FOR 2026, SECOND DIEDERICH – UNANIMOUS. BEST YES, DIEDERICH YES, DEMSKE YES, CHARLES YES, TOBY YES.

MAYOR, TODD A FIANDT

- Cowen Street parking and why certain areas are not done.
- visitors from out of town enjoyed our parks, pool and Dave's Burger all in walking distance.

Meeting Adjourned – **MOTION DIEDERICH TO ADJOURNED MEETING, SECOND BEST – UANANIMOUS**

Mayor, Todd A. Fiandt

Clerk-Treasurer, Marcie L Conkle