Town Council of Merrillville
7820 Broadway Ave - Merrillville, IN 46410
Town Council Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
June 25, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Councilor Bella called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was led by Councilor Bella.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE: A brief invocation was given along with a moment of silence by Pastor Mark Smith of Life Sanctuary Church.

ROLL CALL of COUNCIL – Present at the meeting were Councilors Rhonda Neal, Shauna Haynes-Edwards, Leona Chandler-Felton, Margaret Uzelac, Shawn Pettit, Kesha Hardaway, and Rick Bella. Clerk-Treasurer Eric January was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, AND REMONSTRATIONS

- **Employee of the Month June 2024:**

  Interim Town Manager Griffin and Chief of Police Nuses presented to the council and audience Tiffany Thomas as June's Employee of the Month for the Town of Merrillville. Mrs. Thomas received a certificate of recognition and a gift card on behalf of the Town of Merrillville for her work in the Code Enforcement Department.

PUBLIC HEARING

A.

a) **Town Attorney review of Proof of Publication(s): Ordinance 24-24** – Add Proof Time Publication with public hearing date 06-25-24 regarding Ordinance 24-24.

Attorney Svetanoff reported that he has reviewed the Proof of Publication, and Everything is in order and conforms with the Indiana Code. The council may proceed with the public hearing.

b) Public Hearing: Re ORD 24-24

ORDINANCE NO. 24-24

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TAX INCREMENT REVENUE BONDS (INCLUDING BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES) AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO (BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER NORTHWEST INDIANA INC. INCENTIVE)

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-7-11.9 and 12 (collectively, the "Act") declares that the financing and refinancing of economic development facilities constitute a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the Town of Merrillville, Indiana (the "Town"), is authorized to issue revenue bonds for the purpose of financing, reimbursing or refinancing the costs of acquisition, construction, renovation, installation and equipping of economic development facilities in order to foster diversification of economic development and creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment in or near the Town; and

WHEREAS, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana Inc., and/or one or more subsidiaries, affiliates or joint ventures thereof (collectively, the "Developer"), desires to undertake the acquisition, construction, renovation, and equipping of facilities for use by the Developer in its non-profit recreational and related operations within the Town (the "Development"), which will benefit and serve the Broadway Allocation Area created by the Merrillville Redevelopment Commission (the "Redevelopment Commission") in the Town (the "Allocation Area"), and the Town desires to finance a portion of the costs of the Development (such costs referred to herein as the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Developer has advised the Town, the Town of Merrillville Economic Development Commission (the "Economic Development Commission") and the Redevelopment Commission concerning the Project, and has requested that the Town issue one or more series of economic development revenue bonds of the Town, designated as the "Town of Merrillville, Indiana, Economic Development Tax Increment Revenue Bonds, Series 2024" (with such further series or different series designation as determined to be necessary or appropriate), in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000) (collectively, the "Bonds"), and/or bond anticipation notes, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000), in anticipation of the issuance of such Bonds (the "BANs") under the Act and make (or be deemed to make) the net proceeds of such Bonds available to the Developer for the purpose of financing a portion of the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Commission has rendered a report concerning the proposed financing or refinancing of economic development facilities for the Developer; and

WHEREAS, following a public hearing, pursuant to Section 24 of the Act, the Economic Development Commission found that the financing of the Project complies with the purposes

and provisions of the Act and that such financing will be of benefit to the health and public welfare of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Commission has considered whether the financing will have an adverse competitive effect or impact on any similar facility already constructed or operating in the corporate boundaries of the Town; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with the Act, the Town desires to provide funds necessary to finance a portion of the Project by issuing the Bonds and/or BANs; and

WHEREAS, the Act provides that such bonds may be secured by a trust indenture between an issuer and a corporate trustee; and

WHEREAS, the Town intends to issue the Bonds and/or BANs consistent with the terms of this Ordinance and pursuant to a Trust Indenture, dated as of the date of issuance of the Bonds (the "Indenture"), by and between the Town and a corporate trustee to be selected by the Town (the "Trustee"), in order to secure funds necessary to provide for the financing of a portion of the costs of the Project in accordance with the terms of a Financing Agreement, to be dated as of the date of issuance of the Bonds or BANs (the "Financing Agreement"), by and between the Town and the Developer with respect to the use of the proceeds of the Bonds or BANs and the completion of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Commission has pledged to the Town a portion of the tax increment revenues generated by the Allocation Area (the "Tax Increment Revenues") to pay principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same become due and payable, and to pay administrative expenses in connection with the Bonds, as further described herein; and

WHEREAS, no member of the Town Council of the Town (the "Town Council") has any pecuniary interest in any employment, financing agreement or other contract made under the provisions of the Act and related to the Bonds authorized herein, which pecuniary interest has not been fully disclosed to the Town Council, and no such member has voted on any such matter, all in accordance with the provisions of Indiana Code 36-7-12-16; and

WHEREAS, the forms of the Bonds, the Indenture and the Financing Agreement (collectively, the "Financing Documents"), and a form of this proposed Ordinance were submitted to, and approved by, the Economic Development Commission, which documents were incorporated by reference into the resolution heretofore adopted by the Economic Development Commission, which resolution has been transmitted to the Town Council in accordance with the Act;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, as follows:

SECTION 1. Based upon the resolution adopted by the Economic Development Commission pertaining to the Project, the Town Council hereby finds and determines that the funding approved by the Economic Development Commission for all or a portion of the Project will be of benefit to the health and general welfare of the citizens of the Town and complies with

the provisions of the Act, and the amount necessary to finance a portion of the costs of the Project will require the issuance, sale and delivery of economic development revenue bonds and/or bond anticipation notes in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000).

SECTION 2. It is hereby found, determined, ratified and confirmed that the financing of the economic development facilities referred to in the Financing Documents consisting of the Project, the issuance and sale of the Bonds and/or BANs, and the use of the net proceeds thereof by the Developer to finance a portion of the Project will: (i) result in the diversification of industry, the creation or retention of business opportunities and the creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment within the jurisdiction of the Town; (ii) serve a public purpose, and will be of benefit to the health and general welfare of the Town; and (iii) comply with the purposes and provisions of the Act, and it is in the public interest that the Town take such lawful action as determined to be necessary or desirable to encourage the diversification of industry, the creation or retention of business opportunities, and the creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment within the jurisdiction of the Town.

SECTION 3. The forms of the Financing Documents presented herewith are hereby approved, and all such documents shall be kept on file by the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town (the "Clerk-Treasurer"). Two (2) copies of the Financing Documents shall be kept on file in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer for public inspection.

SECTION 4. The Town is authorized to issue the Bonds and/or BANs in the maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000). Principal on the Bonds shall be payable in the amount of $200,000 each year on August 1 of each year, beginning on August 1, 2024, and the Bonds shall have a term ending not later than August 1, 2033. The Bonds shall bear interest at a rate of 0% per annum. The BANs, if issued, shall have a term not longer than five (5) years, with interest payable on such date or dates as the Town Council President shall determine prior to the issuance of the BANs. The maximum interest rate on the Bonds and/or BANs shall not exceed zero percent (0.0%) per annum with respect to the Bonds and eight percent (8.0%) per annum with respect to the BANs. The Bonds and/or BANs may be issued on either a taxable or tax-exempt basis, and the Bonds may be issued as serial bonds and/or term bonds subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity as determined by negotiations with the purchaser thereof. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be issued in minimum denominations of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000) or integral multiples of One Thousand Dollars ($1,000) in excess thereof. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be issued for the purpose of procuring funds to (a) pay a portion of the cost of acquisition, design, construction, renovation, improvement and equipping of the Project, (b) pay capitalized interest on the Bonds and/or BANs (if necessary), (iii) fund a debt service reserve fund (if necessary), (d) pay all incidental expenses on account of the issuance of the Bonds and/or BANs and acquiring any credit enhancement with respect thereto, and (e) refunding the BANs. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be sold by private negotiation. The Bonds shall be special and limited obligations of the Town, payable solely from the trust estate created and established under the Indenture (the "Trust Estate"), which Trust Estate shall consist of the funds and accounts created under the Indenture together with a pledge by the Redevelopment Commission of all or a portion of the Tax Increment Revenues, upon such

terms and conditions as provided in the Financing Documents and this Ordinance. The principal and interest on BANs shall be payable from the proceeds of the Bonds; provided, that the Town Council President may determine prior to the sale of the BANs that interest thereon shall be payable from Tax Increment Revenues. The Bonds and/or BANs shall never constitute a general obligation of, an indebtedness of, or charge against the general credit of the Town.

SECTION 5. The Town Council President and the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town are authorized and directed to sell such Bonds and/or BANs at a price of par (or such percentage thereof as the Town Council President may determine prior to the sale thereof), at a rate of interest not to exceed zero percent (0.0%) per annum with respect to the Bonds and not to exceed eight percent (8.0%) per annum with respect to the BANs, and with a final maturity date of August 1, 2033, with respect to the Bonds and no later than five (5) years after their date of issuance with respect to the BANs.

SECTION 6. Each of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are authorized and directed to execute the Financing Documents, such other documents approved or authorized herein, and any other document which may be necessary, appropriate or desirable to consummate the transaction contemplated by the Financing Documents and this Ordinance, and their execution is hereby confirmed on behalf of the Town. The signatures of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town on the Bonds and/or BANs which may be necessary or desirable to consummate the transaction, and their execution is hereby confirmed on behalf of the Town. The signatures of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town on the Bonds and/or BANs may be facsimile signatures. The Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are authorized to arrange for the delivery of such Bonds and/or BANs to the purchaser, payment for which will be made in the manner set forth in the Financing Documents. The Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town may, by their execution of the Financing Documents requiring their signatures and imprinting of their facsimile signatures thereon, approve any and all such changes therein and also in those Financing Documents which do not require the signature of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer or any other officer of the Town without further approval of this Town Council or the Economic Development Commission if such changes do not affect terms set forth in Sections 27(a)(1) through and including (a)(10) of the Act.

SECTION 7. The provisions of this Ordinance and the Financing Documents shall constitute a contract binding between the Town and the holder or holders of the Bonds and/or BANs, and after the issuance of said Bonds and/or BANs, this Ordinance shall not be repealed or amended in any respect which would adversely affect the rights of such holder or holders so long as said Bonds and/or BANs or the interest thereon remains unpaid.

SECTION 8. No recourse under or upon any obligation, covenant, acceptance or agreement contained in this Ordinance, the Financing Documents or under any judgment obtained against the Town, including without limitation its Economic Development Commission, or by the enforcement of any assessment or by any legal or equitable proceeding by virtue of any constitution or statute or otherwise, or under any circumstances, under or independent of the Financing Documents, shall be had against any member, director, or officer or attorney, as such,

past, present, or future, of the Town, including without limitation its Economic Development Commission, either directly or through the Town, or otherwise, for the payment for or to the Town or any receiver thereof or for or to any holder of the Bonds and/or BANs secured thereby, or otherwise, of any sum that may remain due and unpaid by the Town upon any of such Bonds and/or BANs. Any and all personal liability of every nature, whether at common law or in equity, or by statute or by constitution or otherwise, of any such member, director, or officer or attorney, as such, to respond by reason of any act or omission on his or her part or otherwise for, directly or indirectly, the payment for or to the Town or any receiver thereof, or for or to any owner or holder of the Bonds and/or the BANs, or otherwise, of any sum that may remain due and unpaid upon the Bonds and/or BANs hereby secured or any of them, shall be expressly waived and released as a condition of and consideration for the execution and delivery of the Financing Documents and the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds and/or BANs.

SECTION 9. If any section, paragraph or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. All ordinances, resolutions and orders or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

SECTION 11. It is hereby determined that all formal actions of the Town Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in one or more open meetings of the Council, that all deliberations of the Town Council and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action, were in meetings open to the public, and that all such meetings were convened, held and conducted in compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Indiana Code 5-14-1.5, as amended.

SECTION 12. The Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are hereby authorized and directed, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to execute, attest and deliver such further instruments and documents, and to take such further actions, in the name of the Town as in their judgment shall be necessary or advisable in order fully to consummate the transactions described herein and carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, and any such documents heretofore executed and delivered and any such actions heretofore taken, be, and hereby are, ratified and approved. In particular, at the request of the Developer, the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are hereby authorized and directed, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to execute, attest and deliver, in lieu of a Financing Agreement, a Loan Agreement with the Developer in such form as such officers shall approve, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by their execution thereof.

SECTION 13. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

ALL OF WHICH IS PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2024, BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA.

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, TOWN COUNCIL

No Public comments were given.

It was moved by Councilor Pettit and seconded by Councilor Haynes-Edwards to defer Ordinance 24- 24.

Upon a roll call vote, there were seven affirmatives and no negatives. Councilors Neal, Haynes-Edwards, Chandler-Felton, Uzelac, Pettit, Hardaway, and Bella voted in the affirmative. There were no negatives. The motion passed. The ordinance was deferred to a later date.

a) **Town Attorney review of Proof of Publication(s): Ordinance 24-25** – Add Proof Time Publication with public hearing date 06-25-24 regarding Ordinance 24-25.

   Attorney Svetanoff reported that he has reviewed the Proof of Publication, and everything is in order and conforms with the Indiana Code. The council may proceed with the public hearing.

b) **Public Hearing: Re ORD 24-25**

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ORDINANCE NO.24-25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TAX INCREMENT REVENUE BONDS (INCLUDING BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES) AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO (ANDREAN INCENTIVE)

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-7-11.9 and 12 (collectively, the "Act") declares that the financing and refinancing of economic development facilities constitute a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the Town of Merrillville, Indiana (the "Town"), is authorized to issue revenue bonds for the purpose of financing, reimbursing or refinancing the costs of acquisition, construction, renovation, installation and equipping of economic development facilities in order to foster diversification of economic development and creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment in or near the Town; and

WHEREAS, The Andrean Foundation Inc., and/or one or more subsidiaries, affiliates or joint ventures thereof (collectively, the "Developer"), desires to undertake the acquisition, construction, renovation, and equipping of facilities for use by the Developer in its educational and related operations within the Town (the "Development"), which will benefit and serve the Broadway Allocation Area created by the Merrillville Redevelopment Commission (the "Redevelopment Commission") in the Town (the "Allocation Area"), and the Town desires to finance a portion of the costs of the Development (such costs referred to herein as the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Developer has advised the Town, the Town of Merrillville Economic Development Commission (the "Economic Development Commission") and the Redevelopment Commission concerning the Project, and has requested that the Town issue one or more series of economic development revenue bonds of the Town, designated as the "Town of Merrillville, Indiana, Economic Development Tax Increment Revenue Bonds, Series 2024" (with such further series or different series designation as determined to be necessary or appropriate), in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed One Million Dollars ($1,000,000) (collectively, the "Bonds"), and/or bond anticipation notes, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed One Million Dollars ($1,000,000), in anticipation of the issuance of such Bonds (the "BANs") under the Act and make (or be deemed to make) the net proceeds of such Bonds available to the Developer for the purpose of financing a portion of the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Commission has rendered a report concerning the proposed financing or refinancing of economic development facilities for the Developer; and

WHEREAS, following a public hearing, pursuant to Section 24 of the Act, the Economic Development Commission found that the financing of the Project complies with the purposes

and provisions of the Act and that such financing will be of benefit to the health and public welfare of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Commission has considered whether the financing will have an adverse competitive effect or impact on any similar facility already constructed or operating in the corporate boundaries of the Town; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with the Act, the Town desires to provide funds necessary to finance a portion of the Project by issuing the Bonds and/or BANs; and

WHEREAS, the Act provides that such bonds may be secured by a trust indenture between an issuer and a corporate trustee; and

WHEREAS, the Town intends to issue the Bonds and/or BANs consistent with the terms of this Ordinance and pursuant to a Trust Indenture, dated as of the date of issuance of the Bonds (the "Indenture"), by and between the Town and a corporate trustee to be selected by the Town (the "Trustee"), in order to secure funds necessary to provide for the financing of a portion of the costs of the Project in accordance with the terms of a Financing Agreement, to be dated as of the date of issuance of the Bonds or BANs (the "Financing Agreement"), by and between the Town and the Developer with respect to the use of the proceeds of the Bonds or BANs and the completion of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Commission has pledged to the Town a portion of the tax increment revenues generated by the Allocation Area (the "Tax Increment Revenues") to pay principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same become due and payable, and to pay administrative expenses in connection with the Bonds, as further described herein; and

WHEREAS, no member of the Town Council of the Town (the "Town Council") has any pecuniary interest in any employment, financing agreement or other contract made under the provisions of the Act and related to the Bonds authorized herein, which pecuniary interest has not been fully disclosed to the Town Council, and no such member has voted on any such matter, all in accordance with the provisions of Indiana Code 36-7-12-16; and

WHEREAS, the forms of the Bonds, the Indenture and the Financing Agreement (collectively, the "Financing Documents"), and a form of this proposed Ordinance were submitted to, and approved by, the Economic Development Commission, which documents were incorporated by reference into the resolution heretofore adopted by the Economic Development Commission, which resolution has been transmitted to the Town Council in accordance with the Act;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, as follows:

SECTION 1. Based upon the resolution adopted by the Economic Development Commission pertaining to the Project, the Town Council hereby finds and determines that the funding approved by the Economic Development Commission for all or a portion of the Project will be of benefit to the health and general welfare of the citizens of the Town and complies with

Public Comment:

the provisions of the Act, and the amount necessary to finance a portion of the costs of the Project will require the issuance, sale and delivery of economic development revenue bonds and/or bond anticipation notes in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed One Million Dollars ($1,000,000).

SECTION 2. It is hereby found, determined, ratified and confirmed that the financing of the economic development facilities referred to in the Financing Documents consisting of the Project, the issuance and sale of the Bonds and/or BANs, and the use of the net proceeds thereof by the Developer to finance a portion of the Project will: (i) result in the diversification of industry, the creation or retention of business opportunities and the creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment within the jurisdiction of the Town; (ii) serve a public purpose, and will be of benefit to the health and general welfare of the Town; and (iii) comply with the purposes and provisions of the Act, and it is in the public interest that the Town take such lawful action as determined to be necessary or desirable to encourage the diversification of industry, the creation or retention of business opportunities, and the creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment within the jurisdiction of the Town.

SECTION 3. The forms of the Financing Documents presented herewith are hereby approved, and all such documents shall be kept on file by the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town (the "Clerk-Treasurer"). Two (2) copies of the Financing Documents shall be kept on file in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer for public inspection.

SECTION 4. The Town is authorized to issue the Bonds and/or BANs in the maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed One Million Dollars ($1,000,000). Principal on the Bonds shall be payable in the amount of $100,000 each year on August 1 of each year, beginning on August 1, 2024, and the Bonds shall have a term ending not later than August 1, 2033. The Bonds shall bear interest at a rate of 0% per annum. The BANs, if issued, shall have a term not longer than five (5) years, with interest payable on such date or dates as the Town Council President shall determine prior to the issuance of the BANs. The maximum interest rate on the Bonds and/or BANs shall not exceed zero percent (0.0%) per annum with respect to the Bonds and eight percent (8.0%) per annum with respect to the BANs. The Bonds and/or BANs may be issued on either a taxable or tax-exempt basis, and the Bonds may be issued as serial bonds and/or term bonds subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity as determined by negotiations with the purchaser thereof. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be issued in minimum denominations of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000) or integral multiples of One Thousand Dollars ($1,000) in excess thereof. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be issued for the purpose of procuring funds to (a) pay a portion of the cost of acquisition, design, construction, renovation, improvement and equipping of the Project, (b) pay capitalized interest on the Bonds and/or BANs (if necessary), (iii) fund a debt service reserve fund (if necessary), (d) pay all incidental expenses on account of the issuance of the Bonds and/or BANs and acquiring any credit enhancement with respect thereto, and (e) refunding the BANs. The Bonds and/or BANs shall be sold by private negotiation. The Bonds shall be special and limited obligations of the Town, payable solely from the trust estate created and established under the Indenture (the "Trust Estate"), which Trust Estate shall consist of the funds and accounts created under the Indenture together with a pledge by the Redevelopment Commission of all or a portion of the Tax Increment Revenues, upon such

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terms and conditions as provided in the Financing Documents and this Ordinance. The principal and interest on BANs shall be payable from the proceeds of the Bonds; provided, that the Town Council President may determine prior to the sale of the BANs that interest thereon shall be payable from Tax Increment Revenues. The Bonds and/or BANs shall never constitute a general obligation of, an indebtedness of, or charge against the general credit of the Town.

SECTION 5. The Town Council President and the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town are authorized and directed to sell such Bonds and/or BANs at a price of par (or such percentage thereof as the Town Council President may determine prior to the sale thereof), at a rate of interest not to exceed zero percent (0.0%) per annum with respect to the Bonds and not to exceed eight percent (8.0%) per annum with respect to the BANs, and with a final maturity date of August 1, 2033, with respect to the Bonds and no later than five (5) years after their date of issuance with respect to the BANs.

SECTION 6. Each of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are authorized and directed to execute the Financing Documents, such other documents approved or authorized herein, and any other document which may be necessary, appropriate or desirable to consummate the transaction contemplated by the Financing Documents and this Ordinance, and their execution is hereby confirmed on behalf of the Town. The signatures of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town on the Bonds and/or BANs which may be necessary or desirable to consummate the transaction, and their execution is hereby confirmed on behalf of the Town. The signatures of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town on the Bonds and/or BANs may be facsimile signatures. The Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are authorized to arrange for the delivery of such Bonds and/or BANs to the purchaser, payment for which will be made in the manner set forth in the Financing Documents. The Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town may, by their execution of the Financing Documents requiring their signatures and imprinting of their facsimile signatures thereon, approve any and all such changes therein and also in those Financing Documents which do not require the signature of the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer or any other officer of the Town without further approval of this Town Council or the Economic Development Commission if such changes do not affect terms set forth in Sections 27(a)(1) through and including (a)(10) of the Act.

SECTION 7. The provisions of this Ordinance and the Financing Documents shall constitute a contract binding between the Town and the holder or holders of the Bonds and/or BANs, and after the issuance of said Bonds and/or BANs, this Ordinance shall not be repealed or amended in any respect which would adversely affect the rights of such holder or holders so long as said Bonds and/or BANs or the interest thereon remains unpaid.

SECTION 8. No recourse under or upon any obligation, covenant, acceptance or agreement contained in this Ordinance, the Financing Documents or under any judgment obtained against the Town, including without limitation its Economic Development Commission, or by the enforcement of any assessment or by any legal or equitable proceeding by virtue of any constitution or statute or otherwise, or under any circumstances, under or independent of the Financing Documents, shall be had against any member, director, or officer or attorney, as such,

past, present, or future, of the Town, including without limitation its Economic Development Commission, either directly or through the Town, or otherwise, for the payment for or to the Town or any receiver thereof or for or to any holder of the Bonds and/or BANs secured thereby, or otherwise, of any sum that may remain due and unpaid by the Town upon any of such Bonds and/or BANs. Any and all personal liability of every nature, whether at common law or in equity, or by statute or by constitution or otherwise, of any such member, director, or officer or attorney, as such, to respond by reason of any act or omission on his or her part or otherwise for, directly or indirectly, the payment for or to the Town or any receiver thereof, or for or to any owner or holder of the Bonds and/or the BANs, or otherwise, of any sum that may remain due and unpaid upon the Bonds and/or BANs hereby secured or any of them, shall be expressly waived and released as a condition of and consideration for the execution and delivery of the Financing Documents and the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds and/or BANs.

SECTION 9. If any section, paragraph or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. All ordinances, resolutions and orders or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

SECTION 11. It is hereby determined that all formal actions of the Town Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in one or more open meetings of the Council, that all deliberations of the Town Council and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action, were in meetings open to the public, and that all such meetings were convened, held and conducted in compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Indiana Code 5-14-1.5, as amended.

SECTION 12. The Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are hereby authorized and directed, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to execute, attest and deliver such further instruments and documents, and to take such further actions, in the name of the Town as in their judgment shall be necessary or advisable in order fully to consummate the transactions described herein and carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, and any such documents heretofore executed and delivered and any such actions heretofore taken, be, and hereby are, ratified and approved. In particular, at the request of the Developer, the Town Council President, the Clerk-Treasurer and any other officer of the Town are hereby authorized and directed, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to execute, attest and deliver, in lieu of a Financing Agreement, a Loan Agreement with the Developer in such form as such officers shall approve, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by their execution thereof.

SECTION 13. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

ALL OF WHICH IS PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2024, BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA.

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, TOWN COUNCIL

Public Comments:

1. Bryon Messer Merrillville, Indiana voiced his concerns regarding giving money to a religious institution (Andrean High School).

2. Michael Manogue Merrillville, Indiana voiced his concerns regarding the council ethics requirements, especially about conflicts of interest.

3. Darian Collins Merrillville, Indiana voiced her concerns regarding Andrean High School's gift of TIF funding and splash pads at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center.

It was moved by Councilor Pettit and seconded by Councilor Hardaway to approve Ordinance 24-25 on the second and final reading.

Upon a roll call vote, there were five affirmatives and two negatives. Councilors Neal, Uzelac, Pettit, Hardaway, and Bella voted in the affirmative. Councilors Haynes-Edwards and Chandler-Felton voted in negative. The motion passed. The ordinance was approved on the second and final reading.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Accts. Payable Register Voucher Approval for June 25^{h}, 2024
- AP Register Summary for ARP Purchases for June 25, 2024
- Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 11th, 2024

It was moved by Councilor Pettit and seconded by Councilor Uzelac to approve the consent agenda.

Upon a voice vote, the motion passed. The Consent Agenda was approved.

PRESENTATION of DECLARATIONS

NONE

STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES REPORTS

BUDGET & FINANCE - NEAL – Councilor Neal reported that meetings are upcoming for the 2025 budget session and more information will be reported later.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS- PETTIT – Councilor Pettit reported that at the workshop held on Monday, June 24, 2024, ordinances were discussed. Interim Town Manager, Attorney Svetanoff, and Attorney Aguirre are working on ordinances. A Council Affairs

Committee will be scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. to review the ordinances.

Upon a question from Councilor Pettit regarding giving notice for the July 2nd meeting, Interim Town Manager Griffin affirmed he would take care of the public notice.

STREET DEPARTMENT- UZELAC– Councilor Uzelac reported that she met with the Chapel Hill Homeowners Association. The following items were discussed at the Chapel Hill meeting:

- repair of aprons on driveways
- elevation shots
- paving
- streetlights
- curbs/sidewalks
- speed bumps
- signs

Councilor Uzelac also reported that Ward 4 is still waiting on the speed bumps and that Director King of the Street Department suggested elevation shots for some driveways that are flooding.

Upon a question from President Bella regarding a section of a sidewalk that is missing in Chapel Hill, Councilor Uzelac responded that the issue was discussed at the meeting. Director King stated that the sidewalk will be repaired.

Upon a question from President Bella regarding including an update on the empty gas tanks in his reporting under Department Reports, Director King responded that the update would be given in his report.

ELECTIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS, & TOWN BEAUTIFICATION - NEAL- Councilor Neal reported that the next meeting for the gateway signs will be on July 1, 2024. The committee is meeting with the signage company every two weeks.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS- PETTIT – Councilor Pettit deferred to Director Lake of Stormwater.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS – HARDAWAY- Councilor Hardaway reported that she has an item to add to the agenda.

It was moved by Councilor Hardaway and seconded by Councilor Pettit to add to the agenda the Baker and Tilly proposal.

Upon a roll call vote, there were seven affirmatives and no negatives. Councilors Neal, Haynes-Edwards, Chandler-Felton, Uzelac, Pettit, Hardaway, and Bella voted

in the affirmative. There were no negatives. The motion passed. The Baker and Tilly proposal was added to the agenda.

Interim Town Manager Griffin explained the Baker and Tilly proposal to conduct a Comprehensive Compensation Study for the Town of Merrillville.

Interim Town Manager Griffin also reported that funding is available for this study in the Town Administration budget.

It was moved by Councilor Hardaway and seconded by Councilor Pettit to approve the Baker and Tilly proposal for the Comprehensive Compensation Study with the proper officers authorized to execute the agreement.

Upon a question from Councilor Uzelac regarding the start date for the Comprehensive Compensation Study, Interim Town Manager Griffin responded that upon the council's approval of the proposal Baker and Tilly would start the process.

Upon a question from Clerk-Treasurer Eric January regarding the expertise of the Human Resources Director to conduct a Comprehensive Compensation Study, Interim Town Manager Griffin responded that he didn't express those sentiments and that this isn't a criticism of our Human Resources staff skills set. The department, which is a staff of two, doesn't have the capacity nor the specialized expertise that is needed to conduct this in-depth study.

Upon a question from Councilor Haynes-Edwards regarding the terms of service and how the recommendations will be used, President Bella responded that the terms are until the study is finished and the Town will use the recommendation.

Upon a question from Councilor Uzelac regarding interviewing Department Heads, President Bella responded that he wasn't sure of the entire process.

By leave of President Bella, Interim Town Manager Griffin explained the services and fees stated in the Baker and Tilly proposal.

Upon a question from Clerk-Treasurer Eric January regarding Baker and Tilly looking at qualifications for current positions, Interim Town Manager Griffin responded that there would be a meeting with the policy-making leadership who will have to execute or implement the findings. The study may not address incumbents' qualifications but may address general qualifications and pay for similar positions.

Upon a question from Councilor Uzelac regarding Department Heads' salaries and interviewing each employee, Interim Town Manager Griffin responded that Baker and Tilly would be looking at wages and benefits. The organization will also survey the employees.

Upon a roll call vote, there were seven affirmatives and no negatives. Councilors Neal, Haynes-Edwards, Chandler-Felton, Uzelac, Pettit, Hardaway, and Bella voted in the affirmative. There were no negatives. The motion passed. The Baker and Tilly proposal was approved.

PUBLIC SAFETY- HARDWAY- Councilor Hardaway reported that a meeting was held with the Fire Marshall, Chief Yerga, and Chief Nuses regarding ordinances that need to be revised. The committee will work with Attorney Svetanoff and other staff of the law firm on these revisions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-PETTIT – Councilor Pettit had nothing to report at this time.

PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY CENTER COMMITTEE - PETTIT – Councilor Pettit reported that a committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27th at 5:00 p.m. at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center.

Upon a question from President Bella regarding adding splash pads to the meeting agenda, Councilor Pettit responded that splash pads will be added to the agenda.

Councilor Uzelac added there is an abundance of weeds surrounding Crescent Lake Park and Mr. Rodriguez moved the construction equipment from Jennings Street Pary. Director Lake reported that mowing for the time being is the best solution for Crescent Lake Park.

UTILITY LIAISON – CHANDLER-FELTON – Councilor Chandler-Felton reported that she and Interim Town Manager Griffin attended a luncheon on June 12th with NIPSCO's new President and got a chance to speak with Alexius Barber who will help us to contact other representatives of NIPSCO and hopefully a meeting will be scheduled for July 18th.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ABANDONED-BLIGHTED PROPERTIES - HAYNES-EDWARDS & CHANDLER-FELTON– Councilor Haynes-Edwards reported that the committee met last week with Interim Town Manager Griffin, Attorney Ricardo Aguirre, Attorney Hall, and others. Councilor Haynes-Edwards asked Interim Town Manager Griffin to give a synopsis of the meeting.

Interim Town Manager Griffin reported that the discussion pertains to the process of the hearing, and the responsibilities or the new ways to execute the parts of 3616 which allows the Town to do an enforcement action by telling owners to clean their lots. If the Town has to clean up the lot, we will bill the owner and have it attached to the owner's

taxes. The unsafe business premises, building law, and the Chief Code Enforcement Officer's retirement were discussed at the meeting. The next meeting will be on July 19th.

SEMI-QUINCENTENNIAL COMMITTEE - HAYNES-EDWARDS – Councilor Haynes-Edwards had nothing to report at this time.

SPECIAL TOWN PROJECTS - NEAL – Councilor Neal reported the following;

- The annual Juneteenth Celebration was a success.
- The annual July 4th Fireworks will be on July 3rd at Merrillville High School in the parking lot. The event will start at sundown.
- The annual July 4th parade will be held on July 4th. We have 63 participants to date. The lineup starts at 10:00 a.m. The actual parade will start at 11:00 a.m. at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center and continue southward to 80th Place. The Town has a new voting system that will allow residents to cast a vote for the best float this year.

Councilor Neal also reported that she is working with Chas and statistics regarding the Town's social media pages will be forthcoming at the next Town Council meeting. A meeting is scheduled on June 26th with a group to discuss the Town's first bike club.

Upon a question from President Bella regarding updates on the entrance and welcoming signs, Councilor Neal responded there is a meeting scheduled for Monday, July 1st to finalize the design.

DEPARTMENT & COMMISSION REPORTS

LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT-NEAL– Councilor Neal reported that a meeting is scheduled for July 11th. occurred last week. There are a lot of updates for Lake County Solid Waste Management (LCSWM) on their website. Lake County residents can visit their website at www.lcswm.com for more information.

Councilor Neal also updated the council on the following items:

- Hazardous Waste Collection is on July 7th at Highland Public Works located on 800 Kennedy Avenue from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and is still available by appointment only.
- The composite is still available. A half a cubic yard that is free to all Lake County residents. You will have to show proof of residency. Residents can call (219) 337-8341 to make an appointment.

NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION-HARDAWAY – Councilor Hardaway reported that the next meeting will be on September 19th.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT RESOURCES-LAKE – Director Matt Lake reported on the following projects:

- Hendrick Street – Director Lake had a meeting with VS Engineering regarding the drainage project north of 73rd. This project should be completed soon.
- Independent Cell Third Addition – We have a draft set of plans and will be seeking federal dollars to help with the construction of the project.
- 56th Grant Regional Detention Project – This is a massive project, and we got a commitment from Little Calumet Rivera for $1,000,000.00 towards the project. This project will go out for bid in late summer or early fall.
- Town Orchard – All the apple trees are planted in Rosenbaum and Pruzin parks. The Student Conservation Association will be taking care of the trees for the season.
- Fee Study Retention Pond – the fee study is completed and will be presented to the Stormwater and later to the Town Council for review.is meeting with Carl Cender and Robinson Engineering to go over a fee study for retention ponds and maintenance. A report will be forthcoming to present to the council

Upon a question from Councilor Pettit regarding fence posts that were removed from the project site, Director Lake responded that the fence posts would be replaced.

Upon a question from President Bella regarding the number of apple trees that were planted, Director Lake responded that 279 trees were planted.

SOUTHSHORE VISITORS AND CONVENTION AUTHORITY-PATENA – Deanne Patena wasn't present at the meeting.

FIRE TERRITORY BOARD - NEAL & HARDAWAY – Councilor Hardaway reported that a meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27th.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/INTERIM TOWN MANAGER

Clerk-Treasurer Eric January – Office of the Clerk-Treasurer

Clerk-Treasurer Eric January reported that his staff is attending a training hosted by State Boards of Accounts. He also reported that collectively between Stormwater,

Redevelopment, and all other organizations associated with the Town, we have over $27,240,000.00.

Clerk-Treasurer Eric January deferred to his attorney for the rest of his report. Attorney Lloyd Mullins who represents the Clerk-Treasurer Eric January addressed the council and audience regarding Clerk-Treasurer Eric January's rights to break a tie vote and cast the deciding vote. He reported what the council should do to avoid litigation.

Director King – Street Department

Direct King updated the council on the following projects;

- Speed Hump – Speed Humps are being installed throughout the Town. The contractor is under staff but working diligently to complete the speed humps installation project.
- Hendricks Street Railroad Crossing – CN completed the project.
- 61st Avenue Road Project – This project was completed on June 24th.
- Asphalt Patching – The Street Department hopes to finish up the patching work this week.
- Concrete and Sidewalks – Next week, the Street Department began doing concrete and sidewalks work all over the Town.
- Planter and Trash – The planters are being maintained, and we are still picking up trash all over the Town including signs.
- Fuel Tanks – The diesel fuel tanks are being removed on Wednesday, June 25th. The tanks have failed from the inside causing the whole system to fail. These tanks have been in the ground for fifty years. The life expectancy is twenty years.

Interim Assistant Director Roberts – Parks and Recreation

Interim Assistant Director Roberts reported on the following events at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center:

- Dana Evans Basketball Camp was held today, and we had 120 participants in attendance including small children and adults.
- Interim Assistant Director Roberts reported that at Stefek Park garbage cans are being set on fire. She is going to look into why the security camera isn't showing the individual who is setting the fires.

Upon a question from Councilor Uzelac regarding receiving money from the Food and Beverage Tax, Interim Assistant Director Roberts responded that to her knowledge the answer is no.

Clerk-Treasurer Eric January stated that revenue has been received from the Food and Beverage Tax but hasn't been appropriated to the Parks Department. It will be appropriated at the council's discretion.

Upon a question from Councilor Uzelac regarding action on the Food and Beverage Tax, President Bella responded that we have an amount that we can use.

Upon a question for Councilor Uzelac regarding the amount received from the Food and Beverage Tax, Clerk-Treasurer Eric January responded about $268,000.00 as of this meeting.

By leave of President Bella, Interim Town Manager Griffin added that as of June 20, 2024, there is $165,300.17. His recommendation is to let the funds accumulate and report the amounts to the council.

Chief Nuses – Police Department

Chief Nuses reported the unofficial numbers as of June 25th:

- Calls for Service – a little over 2.000 calls
- Traffic Stops – 460 traffic stops
- Arrest – 20 arrests

Chief Nuses also reported that the Police Motorcycles will be out in sub-divisions and the ATVs and UTVs will be out on the bike trails. The Lake County Task Force raided another home in Gary, Indiana for illegal narcotics. Officer Osborne from Merrillville Police Department was part of the team that conducted the raid. The Police Department is also conducting a review of operations. He reported to the council a spike in the number of homeless individuals in the Town of Merrillville

Director Shine - Building and Planning

Director Shine was absent from the meeting.

Interim Town Manager Griffin – Town Administration

A written report was given to the council members and Clerk-Treasurer Eric January.

GENERAL ORDERS

A. Ordinances:

First Reading:
NONE

Second Reading:

1. **Ordinance 24-22 (Discussion and Roll Call Vote)**
   An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville Indiana, Providing That the Zoning Ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana be Amended by Changing the Established C-3, Highway Commercial Zoning District Classification to a Planned Unit Development Zoning District Classification.

By leave of President Bella, Mr. Anderson explained the project related to Ordinance 24-22.

It was moved by Councilor Pettit and seconded by Councilor Uzelac to approve Ordinance 24-22 on the second and final reading.

Mr. Arie Macy elaborated on the self-storage project.

Upon a question from Councilor Pettit regarding the total investment of the project, Mr. Macy reported that the total investment would be $8,500,000.00.

Councilor Uzelac added that this project was approved by the Plan Commission and looked over by the council.

Public Comments:

1. Michael Manogue Merrillville, Indiana voiced his concerns regarding his camper parked on his property and ethics requirements, especially about conflicts of interest of council members.

2. Bryon Messer Merrillville, Indiana voiced his concerns regarding TIF zones and TIF funding.

Upon a roll call vote, there were seven affirmatives and no negatives. Councilors Neal, Haynes-Edwards, Chandler-Felton, Uzelac, Pettit, Hardaway, and Bella voted in the affirmative. There were no negatives. The motion passed. The ordinance was approved on the second and final reading.

(The original is on file in the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer.)

3. **Ordinance 24-23 (Discussion and Roll Call Vote)**
   An ordinance to Amend the Wage & Salary Ordinance No. 24-02 Establishing the Waage and Salary Rates of the Elected Officers, the Non-Elected Officers, and the Employees of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana.

Digest: An ordinance to amend the existing Wage and Salary Ordinance to modify pay rates for the Police Chief and the Assistant Chief to be aligned more equitably with the base pay for the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief. **The change in salary is funded by actions taken by the town council at its prior meeting, is within the adopted budget for 2024, and is sustainable.** ***(Digest included pursuant to MCC Sec.2-69(d))***

ORDINANCE No. 24-23
of the
TOWN of MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

AN ORDINANCE to AMEND THE WAGE & SALARY ORDINANCE No. 24-02 ESTABLISHING THE WAGE and SALARY RATES of the ELECTED OFFICERS, the NON-ELECTED OFFICERS, and the EMPLOYEES of the TOWN of MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA.

WHEREAS, Title 36, Article 1 Chapter 4 of the Indiana Code confers certain general corporate powers on the several units of government in Indiana;

WHEREAS, Section fifteen of that chapter specifically provides that a unit of government may fix the level of compensation of its officers and employees; and

WHEREAS, I.C. 36-5-3-2 further provides in pertinent part that the town legislative body shall provide reasonable compensation for the other town officers and employees;

WHEREAS, I.C. 36-5-3-2(b), still further provides that the Town Legislative body shall, by ordinance fix the compensation of its own members and the Town Clerk-Treasurer;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 36-8-9-5, the town legislative body shall appropriate a sum sufficient to pay the salaries of the members of the town police department;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to IC 36-8-9-4(b), the town legislative body shall determine the compensation to be paid to members of the police department in amounts that are just and reasonable;

WHEREAS, I.C. 36-5-3-2(c) still further provides that the compensation of an elected town officer may not be changed in the year for which it is fixed, nor may it be reduced below the amount fixed for the previous year;

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of MERRILLVILLE, as the town legislative body, adopted Ordinance No. 23-26 and later Ordinance No 24-02 fixing the compensation of its elected officers, appointed officers, and employees of the Town for the year 2024 and thereafter; and,

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of MERRILLVILLE, as the town legislative body, has been reliably advised that a modification is necessary or desirable to that ordinance, so it now desires to fix the compensation of its elected officers, appointed officers and employees of the Town for the year ensuing and thereafter,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of MERRILLVILLE, Lake County, Indiana, that the Wages, Salaries, of the Officers and Employees of the Town of MERRILLVILLE, are hereby established and fixed, pursuant to the provisions indicated herein and as follows:

Section 1. (A) That except as otherwise expressly provided in this ordinance or the personnel policy manual, an ordinance dealing with standing matters of compensation, the salaries or wages outlined in this ordinance is hereby authorized for all regular full-time employees of the municipality who occupy an authorized position of the municipality at the time of its passage and adoption, with any changes set forth herein to be effective from the date indicated in this ordinance;

Section 2. (A) That unless otherwise provided by this ordinance, the rates, and salaries for the elected or appointed officers and employees of the municipality represent the **maximum** that may be paid for each discretely identified position set forth in this ordinance;

(B) *Approved workforce levels.* That the approved staffing levels for certain positions in the various offices and departments, shown under the column heading styled hiring limit, are hereby fixed, and *approved* as indicated by a parenthetical number, or in the absence of a discrete number, are limited to the combined total wage and salary budgetary limit set forth in the same column. If a position has no discrete number or a wage and salary budgetary limit, there is no authorization to hire, without an amendment to this ordinance;

(C) *Town Council Stipend.* Whenever a member of the Town Council is appointed as a legislative member to the Plan Commission, in addition to the salary authorized in this ordinance, a stipend as identified in this ordinance shall be added to the existing salary as a continuing stipend, payable while serving on the plan commission, pursuant to IC 36-5-3-2 (a)(3).

Section 3. That subject to the provisions of this ordinance, the salary and wages for the elected officers, non-elected officers, and employees of the Town of MERRILLVILLE are hereby fixed for its departments and offices as follows:

Elected Officials	Compensation			
	Hiring Limit	Pay Frequency	Pay Rate	Pay Annualized
Town Council President (Municipal Executive)	1	Monthly	$ 1,433.33	$ 17,199.96
Town Council Members	6	Monthly	$ 1,333.33	$ 15,999.96
Stipend as legislative appointments to Plan Commission (monthly)	3	Monthly	$ 50.00	$ 600.00
Clerk-Treasurer	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,326.94	$60,500.44
Town Court Judge	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,269.24	$59,000.24

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Town Administration				
Town Manager/Director of Municipal Operations	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,557.69	$92,499.94
Interim Town Manager/Director of Municipal Operations	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,557.69	$92,499.94
Administrative Manager, Special Ass't. to Town Manager & Town Council	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,919.35	$49,903.10
Information Technology Idirector (Partial PNR)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,692.30	$69,999.80
Content Manager (1,000 hours)	$25,000	Hourly	$ 25.00	
Town Hall Building Maintenance	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,260.72	$32,778.72
Human Resource Department				
Human Resources Director	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,626.50	$68,289.00
Administrative Secretary	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,616.30	$42,023.80
Economic Development Department				
Economic Development Director	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,626.50	$68,289.00
Administrative Secretary	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,616.30	$42,023.80
Town Court				
Judge Pro Tempore	1	Bi-weekly	$ 698.46	$18,159.96
Part-Time Judge Pro Tempore		Bi-weekly	$ 557.70	
Administrative Assistant, Court	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,138.85	$55,610.10
Civil Court Administrator	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,750.00	$45,500.00
Secretary, Class I, Court	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,509.62	$39,250.12
Secretary, Class II, Court		Bi-weekly	$ 1,375.00	
Secretary, Class III, Court	2	Bi-weekly	$ 1,192.31	
Part-Time Secretaries, Court	$ 55,915.00	Hourly	$ 15.79	
Public Defender I	1	Bi-weekly	$ 663.46	$17,249.96
Public Defender II	1	Bi-weekly	$ 625.01	$16,250.26
Court Bailiff (Full time)		Bi-weekly	$ 1,365.39	$35,500.14
Part-Time Court Bailiffs	$ 39,690.00	Hourly	$ 15.00	
Probation Officer	1	Bi-weekly	$ 598.46	$15,559.96
Part-Time Staff, Court		Hourly	$ 13.04	
Office of Clerk-Treasurer				
Administrative Bookkeeper, Clerk-Treasurer	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,295.79	$59,690.54
Office Manager, Clerk-Treasurer	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,978.83	$51,449.58
Payroll Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,978.83	$51,449.58
Administrative Secretary, Class I, Clerk-Treasurer	3	Bi-weekly	$ 1,650.59	$42,915.34
Administrative Secretary, Class II, Clerk-Treasurer		Bi-weekly	$ 1,591.35	$41,375.10
Administrative Secretary, Class III, Clerk-Treasurer		Bi-weekly	$ 1,495.09	$38,872.34
Administrative Secretary, Class II, Clerk-Treasurer (F&H)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,591.35	$41,375.10
Part-Time Secretary	$15,000	Hourly	$ 16.60	
Police Department				
Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commission, Members	5	Monthly	$ 100.00	$ 1,200.00
Police Chief	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,556.07	$92,457.82
Assistant Police Chief	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,310.29	$86,067.54
Operations Commander	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,937.88	$76,384.88
Police Captain		Bi-weekly	$ 2,876.68	$74,793.68
Police Department Commander	3	Bi-weekly	$ 2,876.68	$74,793.68
Police Lieutenant	5	Bi-weekly	$ 2,815.46	$73,201.96
Shift Commander	4	Bi-weekly	$ 2,815.46	$73,201.96
Police Sergeant	4	Bi-weekly	$ 2,754.26	$71,610.76
Police Corporal	6	Bi-weekly	$ 2,693.06	$70,019.56
Detective	7	Bi-weekly	$ 2,693.06	$70,019.56
Patrol Officer, Special First Class	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,070.18	$79,824.68
Master Patrol Officer		Bi-weekly	$ 2,631.86	$68,428.36
Patrol Officer, First Class (After 24 months service in good standing)	32	Bi-weekly	$ 2,631.86	$68,428.36
Patrol Officer, Second Class (13 to 24 months service in good standing)		Bi-weekly	$ 2,550.24	$66,306.24
Patrol Officer, Probationary (1 to 12 months service in good standing)		Bi-weekly	$ 2,468.63	$64,184.38
Administrative Assistant (Executive Assistant), Police	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,946.52	$50,609.52
Senior Secretary, Class I, Police	1	Hourly	$ 21.50	$36,915.50

Police Department Continued					
Senior Secretary, Class II, Police	1	Hourly	$ 19.96	$34,271.32	[1]
Secretary, Class I		Hourly	$ 19.42		
Secretary, Class II		Hourly	$ 18.81		
Secretary, Class II, Probation	1	Hourly	$ 17.84	$37,107.20	[2]
Secretary, Part-Time		Hourly	$ 16.60		
Law Enforcement Technician	1	Hourly	$ 21.50	$44,720.00	
Information Technology Technician	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,222.42	$57,782.92	
Special Service Officer	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,666.82	$43,337.32	
Animal Control Officer, Part-Time	$ 10,000.00	Hourly	$ 15.00		

[1] Annual salary listed is based on 64 hours pay period schedule, with additional for holiday pay.

[2] Annual salary listed is based on 80 hours pay period schedule.

Code Enforcement				
Director of Code Enforcement	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,060.77	$53,580.02
Code Enforcement Officer	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,571.86	$40,868.36
Code Enforcement Officer	2	Bi-weekly	$ 1,373.86	$35,720.36

Planning & Building				
Board of Zoning Appeals Member (Not from the Plan Commission)	3	Monthly	$ 100.00	$ 1,200.00
Plan Commission Member (non legislative appointees)	4	Monthly	$ 200.00	$ 2,400.00
Planning & Building Director	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,030.58	$78,795.08
Planning & Building Assistant	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,777.93	$46,226.18
Fire Inspector	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,020.38	$52,529.88
Senior Secretary, Planning & Building	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,600.15	$41,603.90
Secretary, Planning & Building	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,535.49	$39,922.74
Secretary, Part-Time Planning & Building	$ 26,520.00	Hourly	$ 20.00	

Public Works/Street Department					
Public Works Director/ Engineering Administrator	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,111.38	$80,895.88	
Street Superintendent	1	Hourly	$ 28.69	$59,675.20	[2]
Public Works Administrative Secretary	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,666.82	$43,337.32	
Part Time Secretary		Hourly	$ 16.60		[2]
Foreman	1	Hourly	$ 27.63	$57,470.40	[2]
Senior Operator	4	Hourly	$ 24.81	$51,604.80	[2]
Mechanic/Shop Foreman	1	Hourly	$ 26.04	$54,163.20	[2]
Mechanic/Shop Foreman	2	Hourly	$ 24.81	$51,604.80	[2]
Operator II	5	Hourly	$ 24.41	$50,772.80	[2]
Operator I	1	Hourly	$ 24.04	$50,003.20	[2]
Labor Class II	3	Hourly	$ 23.51	$48,900.80	[2]
Labor Class I	7	Hourly	$ 22.73	$47,278.40	[2]
Summer Help Class I	$ 60,000	Hourly	$ 14.60		
Summer Help Class II		Hourly	$ 15.10		
Part Time, Regular	$ 40,762	Hourly	$ 21.64		

[2] Annual salary listed is based on 80 hours pay period schedule.

Parks Department				
Parks Director (Pay partial from PNRO Fund)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,030.57	$78,794.82
Assistant Director (Pay partial from PNRO Fund)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 2,002.60	$52,067.60
Recreation Coordinator/Office Manager (Pay from PNRO Fund)	2	Bi-weekly	$ 1,616.31	$42,024.06
Building Manager (Pay partial from PNRO Fund)	2	Bi-weekly	$ 1,616.31	$42,024.06
Site Supervisor, Full-time (Pay from PNRO Fund)	$ 120,000	Hourly	$ 15.76	
Site Supervisor, Part-time (Pay from PNRO Fund)		Hourly	$ 15.30	
Front Desk Supervisor (Pay from PNRO Fund)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,616.31	$42,024.06
Front Desk Attendant, Level I (Pay from PNRO Fund)	$ 80,000	Hourly	$ 13.00	
Front Desk Attendant, Level II (Pay from PNRO Fund)		Hourly	$ 9.00	
Event Center Manager (Pay from PNRO Fund)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,616.31	$42,024.06
Event Center Coordinator (Pay from PNRO Fund)	$ 50,000.00	Hourly	$ 15.00	
Maintenance Supervisor (Pay partial from PNRO Fund)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,818.35	$47,277.10
Custodian (Pay from PNRO Fund)	2	Bi-weekly	$ 1,260.72	$32,778.72
Maintenance Crew (Pay partial from PNRO Fund)	$ 40,000	Hourly	$ 15.30	
Maintenance Crew (Pay partial from PNRO Fund)		Hourly	$ 14.89	
Laborer (Pay partial from PNRO Fund)	$ 25,000	Hourly	$ 11.00	
Activity Leader, Level I (Pay from PNRO Fund)	$ 10,000	Hourly	$ 15.00	
Activity Leader, Level II (Pay from PNRO Fund)		Hourly	$ 9.00	
Fire Protection Territory				
Fire Chief	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,556.07	$92,457.82
Deputy Fire Chief	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,310.29	$86,067.54
Fire Captain	3	Bi-weekly	$ 2,818.69	$73,285.94
Lieutenant	3	Bi-weekly	$ 2,683.49	$69,770.74
Firefighter/EMT (Special)	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,082.14	$80,135.64
Firefighter/EMT	$ 331,227	Bi-weekly	$ 2,548.29	$66,255.54
Firefighter Probationary		Bi-weekly	$ 2,376.22	$61,781.72
Fire Department Administrative Assistant	1	Hourly	$ 25.73	$53,518.40
Volunteer Firefighter (on scene)	$ 440,000	Per call	$ 22.04	
Volunteer Firefighter (on standby)		Per call	$ 17.15	
Volunteer Firefighter (in training)		Per Training	$ 24.51	
Volunteer Officer (on scene)		Per call	$ 24.51	
Part Time Firefighter		Hourly	$ 16.50	
Part Time Firefighter/EMT		Hourly	$ 22.00	
Stormwater Management Department				
Stormwater Management Board of Directors	3	Monthly	$ 100.00	$ 1,200.00
Stormwater Executive Director	1	Bi-weekly	$ 3,580.00	$93,080.00
Stormwater Administrative Secretary	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,968.60	$51,183.60
Stormwater Superintendent	1	Bi-weekly	$ 1,736.94	$45,160.44
Stormwater Senior Operator	1	Hourly	$ 28.31	$58,884.80 [2]
Stormwater Crew Member/Part Time I	$ 44,000	Hourly	$ 20.00	
Stormwater Crew Member/Part Time II		Hourly	$ 20.00	

[2] Annual salary listed is based on 80 hours pay period schedule

Section 4. *Longevity/Full Time Employees.* The Longevity Program is again adopted for full time employees and elected officials. Please refer to Section 6.12 in the Personnel Policy Manual for the policy and levels of longevity compensation.

Section 5 *Holidays.* The Holiday Schedule for Calendar Year 2024 is to follow that adopted by the Town Council in Resolution 23-42, or any superseding Resolution thereto.

Section 6. *Overtime, Holiday Pay, Vacation Leave, Sick Leave and Personal Days.* Refer to the current Personnel Policy Manual for the Overtime, Holiday Pay, Vacation Leave, Sick Leave, and Personal Days policies.

Section 7. *Merrillville Police Depart specific policies.* The policies outlined in the APPENDIX A involving the employees of the Merrillville Police Department are hereby adopted.

Section 8. *Merrillville Fire Protection Territory specific policies.* The policies outlined in the APPENDIX B involving the employees of the Merrillville Fire Protection Territory are hereby adopted.

Section 9. That all portions of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed and are of no further force nor effect. Further, that wages and salaries paid in the year 2023, in the positions that are being particularly amended with this ordinance, that were or may have been paid pursuant to this amended ordinance prior to its passage and adoption are hereby ratified and approved, all pursuant to IC 36-1-4-16.

Section 10. That except where otherwise noted herein, other compensation and benefits matters not expressly provided herein for salaried and hourly employees and the other officers of the municipality, shall be as set forth in the Personnel Policy Manual, Codified as Section 2-87 of the Merrillville Municipal Code, commonly called the personnel Policy Manual as amended from time to time.

Section 11. Pay Period. *Except where expressly defined differently for public safety sworn workers, and for those officers whose pay frequency is monthly,* the pay period for salaried and hourly employees is hereby defined as bi-weekly. The bi-weekly term for such pay represents the fourteen (14) day period, commencing at 12:01 a.m. Sunday and extending to and concluding just before Midnight of the second, following Saturday, immediately preceding the week of the scheduled payday; beginning on December 31, 2023, and continuing thereafter;

Section 12. (A) That an emergency exists for the immediate taking effect of this ordinance, which, shall become effective and shall remain in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and adoption, subject to any express provisions herein, and to any express effective dates herein described to the contrary and until its repeal or amendment by subsequent ordinance;

(B) That for those workers whose positions are highlighted in yellow, whose pay was reduced in previous iterations of the wage and salary ordinance from what was previously paid, the Clerk-Treasurer is authorized and instructed to provide for corrective pay based upon the disparity between the former rate of pay and the pay rate that was used to calculate their pay on the pay days of January 19, 2024 and February 2, 2024, retroactive to the pay period that began on 31 December 2023, through the second pay period ending January 27, 2024;

(C) That the annualized limitation for salaried workers is based upon a year in which 26 paydays occur. For those years for which there is an additional or 27th pay period, the annualized limit is waived. Further, for those officers whose pay frequency is monthly, the payday or time that the pay should be remitted should be as close to the end of the month as possible so as to comply with IC 5-7-3 et seq., which prohibits officers from drawing their pay in advance;

(D) That for the salaries authorized by the passage and adoption of this ordinance for the police chief and the assistant police chief, these bi-weekly salaries are effective retroactively from the pay period commencing on December 31, 2023 and consistent with Section 12 (E) of this ordinance, the Clerk-Treasurer is instructed and requested to implement the change authorized by this ordinance with all due deliberation and dispatch;

(E) That the Clerk-Treasurer shall have authority to implement the provisions of this ordinance pursuant to the authority expressly set forth in IC 36-5-6-6 (a) (3) & (4).

Introduced and Filed 11th day of June 2024.

DULY ORDAINED and ADOPTED this _____ Day of June ____ 2024, by the Town Council of the Town of MERRILLVILLE, Lake County, Indiana

TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

_____
Rick Bella, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

_____
Eric O. January
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5; IC 36-5-2-10.2)

APPENDIX A TO ORDINANCE 24-23

The following sections relate to the employees of the Merrillville Police Department.

Section A-1. *Credit for Previous Law Enforcement Service.* An individual hired for the Merrillville Police Department as a sworn officer will be given a credit for previous service for salary purposes only if he or she was a sworn full-time officer in another police department for at least two (2) years. The individual will be compensated as a 2nd Class patrolman for the first year of employment and as a first-class patrolman for the second year of employment.

Section A-2. *Specialty Pay.* The Chief of Police will establish approved categories classified as Specialists. Officers on the approved Specialist list will receive an additional $500.00 annually. Specialists serving on more than one (1) approved category will receive no more than $500.00 annually.

Section A-3. *Overtime and Compensatory Time.* Notwithstanding this ordinance or the provisions of the Personnel Policy Manual the following provisions shall govern the manner in which overtime and compensatory time is managed in the police department:

(A) Full time employees of the Police Department who work additional hours which would be deemed overtime in relationship to any federal, state or county grant or for a specific law enforcement purpose approved by the Chief of Police is entitled to receive overtime compensation at a rate of one and one half (1 ½) times their calculated base hourly pay.

(B) The full-time employees of the Police Department will receive in lieu of overtime compensation, compensatory time off at a rate of not less than one- and one-half hours for each hour of employment for which overtime compensation is required pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Amendments of 1985.

(C) Such employees shall receive compensatory time off in lieu of overtime for hours worked according to a 28-day 7(k) work period system.

(D) Such employees may accrue not more than four hundred eighty (480) hours of compensatory time for hours worked after April 14, 1986. Any employees who accrue four hundred eighty (480) hours of compensatory time off shall, for additional overtime hours of work, be paid overtime compensation.

(E) An employee who has accrued compensatory time off

authorized to be provided hereunder shall, upon termination of employment, be paid for the unused compensatory time off at a rate of compensation not less than:

(1)The average regular rate received by such employee during the last three (3) years of the employee's employment; or
(2) The final regular rate received by such employee, whichever is higher.

(F) An employee under this SECTION who has accrued compensatory time off who has requested the use of such compensatory time, shall be permitted by the Town to use such time within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operation of the Town.

(G) An employee under this SECTION who agrees to be employed on a special detail by a separate or independent employer, such hours the individual was employed by such separate and independent employer, shall be excluded by the Town in the calculation of compensation, if the Town:

(1) Required that the employee be hired by a separate and independent employer to perform the special detail;
(2) Facilitates the employment of such employees by a separate and independent employer; or
(3) Otherwise affects the condition of employment of such employees by a separate and independent employer.

(H) If an employee under this SECTION on an occasional or sporadic basis and solely at his or her option, has part time employment for the Town which is in a different capacity from any capacity in which the employee is regularly employed with the Town, the hours such employee was employed in performing the different employment shall be excluded by the Town in a calculation of the hours for which the employee is entitled to overtime compensation.

Section A-4. *Sick Leave.* Police Officers may accumulate sick leave from year to year, up to a maximum of three hundred sixty (360) hours. Sick leave is accumulated at six (6) hours per month of service.

End of APPENDIX A TO ORDINANCE 24-23

APPENDIX B TO ORDINANCE 24-23

The following sections relate to the employees of the Merrillville Fire Protection Territory.

Section B-1. *Additional Compensation.* The Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief are authorized to fill in any open duty rig positions that are available. These positions need to be filled due to call-offs, vacations, compensatory days, or lack of part-time firefighter/EMT's to fill in. This is necessary to have adequate staffing to provide service. When the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief fills in, the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief will be compensated at the part-time firefighter/EMT rate for hours worked beyond the daily respective schedule, which is additional compensation to the respective salary listed herein.

End of APPENDIX B TO ORDINANCE 24-23

Town Manager Griffin explained Ordinance 24-23

Ordinance 24-23 is actually to take steps to bring parody between the Police Chief, Assistant Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Deputy Fire Chief to a base pay. Our compensation is a bit different party due to resources and history. If adopted, this ordinance will resolve the issuer. We have the funding in the budget to retroactive the pay to December 31st, 2023.

It was moved by Councilor Pettit and seconded by Councilor Chandler-Felton to approve Ordinance 24-23 on the second and final reading.

Upon a question from Councilor Uzelac regarding wages and salaries of Elected Officials included in this ordinance, by leave of President Bella, Interim Town Manager Griffin responded that the rate for the Elected Officials hasn't changed in at least 10 years.

Councilor Pettit added that it has been 21 years at that fixed amount.

Interim Town Manager Griffin reported that if the council is interested in increases, he will do his best to find the resources, but it is ultimately a policy of the council.

Public Comments:

1. Bryon Messer Merrillville, Indiana voiced his concerns regarding the wage disparity process.

2. Chanda Flowers Merrillville, Indiana voiced her concerns regarding wage disparity among department heads and her longevity pay.

3. Darian Collins Merrillville, Indiana voiced her concerns regarding the wage study, and how vendors are solicited by the Town for services,

Upon a question from Clerk-Treasure Eric January regarding retroactive laws being constitutional, Attorney Svetanoff responded that the council can approve retroactivity.

Upon a roll call vote, there were seven affirmatives and no negatives. Councilors Neal, Haynes-Edwards, Chandler-Felton, Uzelac, Pettit, Hardaway, and Bella voted in the affirmative. There were no negatives. The motion passed. The ordinance was approved on the second and final reading.

(The original is on file in the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer.)

4. **Ordinance 24-24 (Discussion and Roll Call Vote)**
An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, Economic Development Revenue Bonds (Including Bond Anticipation Notes) and Approving and Authorizing Other Actions in Respect Thereto (Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana Incentive).

Ordinance 24-24 was deferred under the public hearing section.

(The original is on file in the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer.)

c) **Ordinance 24-25 (Discussion and Roll Call Vote)**
An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, Economic Development Revenue Bonds (Including Bond Anticipation Notes) and Approving and Authorizing Other Actions in Respect Thereto (Andrean Incentive).

Ordinance 24-25 was approved under the public hearing section.

(The original is on file in the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer.)

B. Resolutions:

1. **Resolution 24-15 (Discussion and Voice Vote)**
An Exigent Resolution Proving for the Transfer of Appropriation Balances from and Among Major Budget Classifications in the Town Council Department in the General Fund as Requested By the Proper Officer and Forwarded to the Town Council for its Action Pursuant to I.C. 6-1-.1-18-6.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-15
TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

AN EXIGENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING for the TRANSFER of APPROPRIATION BALANCES from and AMONG MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATIONS in the TOWN COUNCIL DEPARTMENT in the GENERAL FUND as REQUESTED BY THE PROPER OFFICER AND FORWARDED to the TOWN COUNCIL for its ACTION PURSUANT TO I.C. 6-1.1-18-6.

WHEREAS, It has been determined that certain exigent conditions have developed since adoption of the original budget and it is now necessary to transfer certain appropriations into different categories than were initially appropriated for the various functions of the **Town Council Department in the GENERAL Fund;**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana as follows:

Section 1. That for the expenses of said municipality, the following appropriations are hereby transferred and set apart out of the funds hereinafter named for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same, such sums herein transferred unless otherwise stipulated by law;

Section 2. That it has been shown that certain existing unobligated appropriations of the **Town Council Department of the GENERAL Fund,** which are not needed at this time for the purposes for which originally appropriated, and may be transferred to a newly authorized category of appropriation in order to satisfy an existing need and further that a new a as follows:

Decrease:	
1101.002.141.000 General/IT Director	$ 5,500.00
Total Decrease:	**$ 5,500.00s**
Increase and create the following account:	
1101.002.243 General/ Other Supplies	$ 5,500.00
Total Increase:	**$ 5,500.00**

Section 3. That the Clerk-Treasurer shall take steps needed to execute the changes set forth in this appropriation transfer resolution as this change to the budget

DULY RESOLVED and ADOPTED by the TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of MERRILLVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, this____ day of _____, 2024.

TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

Interim Town Manager Griffin explained Resolution 24-15.

It was moved by Councilor Pettit and seconded by Councilor Neal to approve Resolution 24-15.

Upon a voice vote, the motion passed. The resolution was approved.

(The original is on file in the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer.)

C. BZA & LARGE GATHERING ACTIONS

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Darian Collins Merrillville, Indiana voiced her concerns regarding the splash pads and Utility Liaison Committee.

2. Michael Manogue Merrillville, Indiana voiced his concern regarding a council ethics policy and the Community Center's lack of equipment for people under a certain height requirement.

3. Dennis Hunter, Gary Indiana gave a synopsis of his vacation club and how he would like to work with the Town of Merrillville

4. Bryon Messer Merrillville, Indiana voiced his concerns regarding safety vests for the Code Enforcement employees, donation of Town property, programs for the Community Center, and working together to make the Town better.

5. Pat Thompson Merrillville, Indiana voiced her concerns regarding the installation of a pool at Dean and Barbara White Community Center, the lack of equipment in the parks, and the civility of council members during a meeting.

   Councilor Pettit explained the lack of a pool at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Council President announced the following:

- Town Council Meeting Tuesday, July 9th at 6:30 p.m.
- Fireworks show July 3rd at Merrillville High School's Parking Lot at sundown.
- July 4th Parade July 4th at 11:00 a.m. starting at 6600 Broadway and heading South towards 80th Place.

- Job Fair July 24th from 11:30a.m – 2:30 p.m. at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed all items on the agenda, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Rick Bella, Town Council President

Eric O. January, Clerk-Treasurer

Respectfully Submitted By Angela Lewis