

**TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2026
6:00 PM**

The Town Council of the Town of Kouts, Indiana met in the Kouts Town Hall, 210 South Main Street, Kouts, Indiana 46347 on the 9th day of February at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting their regular monthly meeting.

Council President Tyler Brock called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Councilors Tyler Brock, Tim Gant, Blake Jefferson, Harold Salyer, and John Schoon. Also present, Clerk-Treasurer Laurie Tribble, Chief James Smith, Asst. Fire Chief Sutter, Park Director and Building Inspector Orville Jefferson, and Kevin Salyer representing Storm Water.

Approval of the Utility Meeting Minutes: The minutes of January 12, 2026, utility meeting minutes were presented to the council for approval. Councilor Schoon motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Councilor Jefferson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes: The minutes of January 12, 2026, regular meeting minutes were presented to the council for approval. Councilor Salyer motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Claims: The Accounts Payable Docket from January 13 to February 9, 2026, was presented to the Council for approval. Councilor Salyer motioned to approve the claims as presented and Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Departmental/Contractual Reports:

***Clerk-Treasurer-Laurie Tribble** reported Rowe Equipment, approved last month for \$704.34 for repair parts for the plow truck, came in at \$795.49, \$91.15 higher than originally approved. Sandberg Electric submitted a quote to repair the lights in the police department in the amount of \$1655.00. Councilor Jefferson motioned to approve the quote as submitted and Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Change Order #2, from IHC asking for an increase in their contract in the amount of \$4,641.14 was submitted. The change order is due to modifying the chemical feed piping, modifying the electrical and controls for the chemical feed pumps, modifying the disconnect for the water heater, and adding a curb stop and box to the water treatment plant building water service line for the Water System Improvements Project. Councilor Salyer motioned to approve the change order in the amount requested with Tyler Brock as signatory. Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

***Attorney**-No report.

***Park**-No report.

***Police Department**-No report.

***Building Inspector-** No report.

***Storm Water Board-** No report.

***Fire Department-**No report.

NEW BUSINESS

SHAWN KLEINPETER, KLEINPETER FINANCIAL GROUP-Shawn Kleinpeter, Dawson Lamb, and Kim Blancett, via Teams, spoke with the council regarding GO Bonds. GO Bonds offer a steady way to pay for capital projects, street, police/fire equipment, park upgrades, vehicles, computers and equipment, sidewalk improvements and small building repairs or renovations. By having this separate Debt Service Levy the town can protect its General Fund from being drained for capital projects. And still pay for improvements on a short-term basis. They answered questions from the council and asked the council to think about what project they have in mind for the future. They further offered to return later to discuss further.

***ORDINANCE 2026-4 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TOWN CODE TITLE VII, CHAPTER 75: OPERATING GOLF CARTS § 75.04 GOLF CART TRAFFIC REGULATIONS-** Councilor Schoon motioned to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2026-4 on the first reading. Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following roll call vote.

Tyler Brock..... Yes
Tim Gant..... Yes
Blake Jefferson..... Yes
Harold Salyer..... Yes
John Schoon..... Yes

Councilor Jefferson motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-4, Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

***RESOLUTION 2026-4-A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF LOIS COVEL-**Tyler Brock read Resolution 2026-4 aloud. Councilor Jefferson motion to approve the resolution and Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

***2026 STREET PAVING BID AWARD-**Bids were received from Milestone-\$371,892.70, Rieth-Riley-\$356,307.50 and Site Services-\$375,419.60. Bids were based on unit prices. Councilor Salyer motioned to accept Rieth-Riley's bid in the amount of \$356,307.50, Councilor Jefferson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

IHC PAY APPLICATION #7 APPROVAL-IHC pay application #7 was submitted for approval in the amount of \$708,303.85 to be paid with loan funds. Councilor Salyer motioned to approve the payment with Tyler Brock as signatory, Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION APPOINTMENT- Councilor Jefferson motioned to appoint Erin Drang to the EDC, Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

PARK BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT: Councilor Jefferson motioned to re-appoint Karley Staal to the Park Board; Councilor Gant seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER-Councilor Jefferson motioned to re-appoint Patricia Gebhardt as Code Enforcement Officer, Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

***ORDINANCE 2025-10-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TOWN CODE TITLE VII, TRAFFIC CODE, CHAPTER 73: PARKING REGULATIONS, § 73.10 RESIDENTIAL PARKING-**After some discussion regarding this ordinance, Councilor Schoon motioned to approve the ordinance as written, Councilor Gant seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-1 with Tyler Brock voting no.


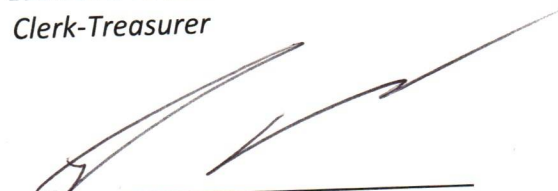
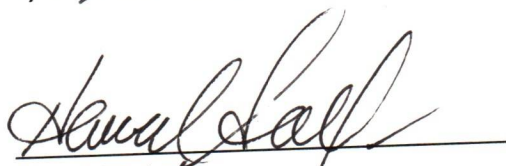
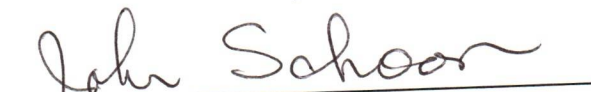
Adjournment

Councilor Jefferson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7 p.m. and Councilor Gant seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Laurie A. Tribble
Clerk-Treasurer


Tyler Brock, President
Blake Jefferson, Vice-President
Harold Salyer
Tim Gant
John Schoon