

**TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 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 March 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, Blake Jefferson, Harold Salyer, and John Schoon. Also present, Clerk-Treasurer Laurie Tribble, Attorney Schwerd, Lieutenant Kevin Young, Code Enforcement Patty Gebhardt and Asst. Fire Chief Sutter. Tim Gant was absent from the meeting.

2018 Ford Explorer Bid Opening-*Council President Tyler Brock opened the bids for the 2018 Ford Explorers. The first bid was from Mark Gaudino in the amount of \$2476 for the VIN ending 37168 and the second bid from Mark Gaudino was in the amount of \$407 for the VIN ending in 37170. The next bids were from Ringwood Motors in the amount of \$3000 for the VIN ending in 37168 and \$780 for the VIN ending in 37170. The last bid was from Arthur Domigala in the amount of \$6001 for both vehicles. Councilor Jefferson motioned to accept the bid for both vehicles in the amount of \$6001 from Arthur Domigala, Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.*

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes: *The minutes of February 9, 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 4-0.*

Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes: *The minutes of February 23, 2026, special 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 4-0.*

Approval of Claims: *The Accounts Payable Docket from February 10 to March 9, 2026, was presented to the Council for approval. Councilor Salyer motioned to approve the claims as presented and Councilor Jefferson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*

Departmental/Contractual Reports:

Clerk-Treasurer-Laurie Tribble reported the annual report has been filed and enclosed in their packet is a fund report.*

Attorney-No report.*

**Park-No report.*

**Police Department-No report.*

**Code Enforcement-*

**Building Inspector- No report.*

**Storm Water Board- Don Sutter reported they are waiting for NIPSCO to move gas lines so they can move forward with the Ross Ave. Drainage Project.*

**Fire Department-No report.*

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN FOR THE WWTP-*The ERP was reviewed and approved by Attorney Schwerd after a few suggested changes. Councilor Jefferson motioned to approve the ERP as submitted, Councilor Schoon seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.*

UPDATE AND APPROVAL OF THE SEWER USE ORDINANCE 2026-5-*The Sewer Use Ordinance was updated, reviewed, and approved by Attorney Schwerd. Councilor Jefferson motioned to approve the ordinance as submitted on the first reading, Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:*

*Tyler Brock..... Yes
Blake Jefferson..... Yes
Harold Salyer..... Yes
John Schoon..... Yes*

Councilor Jefferson motioned to approve the ordinance as submitted, Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Other Matters:

Ricco Semento-*Mr. Semento reported he has some bands booked for the Pork Festival. He is looking for sponsors for the fireworks show for July 4th at the Pleasant Twp. ball parks. The presenters of the show carry a \$10,000,000 insurance policy in case of any incidents related to the show.*

Karyl VanDyke, Pleasant Twp Trustee-*Karyl asked the board to consider paying half the cost of signs to honor the boy's baseball team. The council directed her to the EDC for funding. Second, she asked the council to consider a free complimentary fill of 170,000 gallons of water for the swimming pool each year due to the excessive costs of running the pool. It was explained that*

according to town ordinance the water cannot be discounted. The town pays for the water to be pumped, chemicals to treat the water to provide safe water, and energy to move the water. Those fees are used for the repayment of the loans and to repair and build new infrastructure. Third, she asked that we allow her to "pledge" to pay the water bill. She further would like no late fees and the water not to be shut off. We must charge late fees. Council will investigate changing the ordinance.

Adjournment

Councilor Jefferson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. and Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

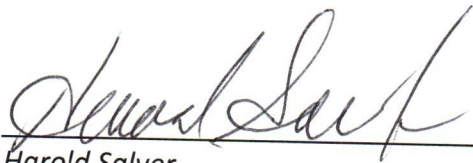
Respectfully submitted,



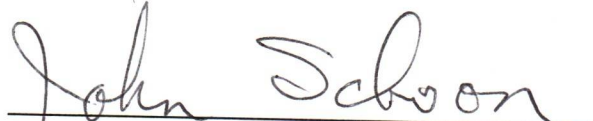
Laurie A. Tribble
Clerk-Treasurer

Tyler Brock, President

Blake Jefferson, Vice-President



Harold Salyer

Tim Gant

John Schoon