



TOWN OF NEW CHICAGO

122 Huber Blvd

Hobart, IN 46342

Telephone: (219)962-1157 Fax: (219)962-5386

June 11, 2025

Town Council Meeting

6:00 pm

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to Order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Member Anderson	present
Vice-President Gibson	present
Member Grecco	present
Member Swallow	absent
President Szwedo	absent

Minutes:

Member Anderson made motion to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2025 Meeting, seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills:

Member Grecco made motion to approve the May 2025 bills, seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Fund & Appropriation Reports:

Member Grecco made motion to approve May 2025 Fund & Appropriation Reports; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

A representative from Abonmarche spoke to the Town Council on the Community Crossings 2025 Call 1. Milestone Contractors bid the lowest amount of money to complete the road projects with \$393,567.50. Abonmarche recommends the Town accept the bid from Milestone to complete the 2025 road project. Member Grecco made motion to approve; Member Anderson seconded motion; motion carried unanimously.

The Park Board President spoke to the Town Council requesting approval to purchase a laptop to stream live meetings as required by State Law as of July 1, 2025. The cost of laptop is \$581.00 on clearance; normally \$1,000.00. This laptop will meet the requirements to stream the meetings live. Member Grecco made motion to approve purchase; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence/Clerk Treasurer

- The Clerk Treasurer requested to move forward with WorldPay after the meeting with the Centier Bank Manager and the Representative from WorldPay to accept Debit/Credit Card Payments for water payments and other services paid for in Town Hall. Member Grecco made motion to approve; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- The Clerk Treasurer distributed copies of House Enrolled Act 1509 to inform the Town Council about a new law that went into effect for Agenda and Public Meeting Notice requirements.
- The Clerk Treasurer distributed correspondence to the Town Council about Senate Enrolled Act (“SEA 1”), signed into law by Governor Braun on April 15, 2025 concerning Local Income Taxes (LIT).

Ordinances:

- Ordinance 2025-08 (Amendment to 2024-15) – ARPA – Member Anderson made motion to approve; seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions:

- Resolution 2025-04 – CDBG (Parks) – Member Grecco made motion to approve; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution 2025-05 - Regarding Purchase of Land - Member Grecco made motion to approve; seconded by Member Anderson; motion carried unanimously.

Departments:

Police

- For the month of May the following were issued:
 - a) 120 citations; 34 of the citations were Local Ordinances.
 - b) 50 towed vehicles.
 - c) 16 drug-related arrests.
 - d) 25 traffic -related arrests.
 - e) 4 weapon-related arrests.
 - f) 13 warrant arrests.
- A significant event took place at the pink building attached to Seven Elephants. Charges have been secured; maintaining 100% charge filing and acceptance rate with the Lake County Prosecutor’s Office.
- Vehicle Maintenance:
 - a) All vehicles are operational. However, routine maintenance is required.

- The New Chicago Police will continue to maintain a presence at the River Forest High School and Rosser Hall for community engagement and safety patrols.
- Staffing:
 - a) Excluding the Police Chief there are currently three paid officers on staff.
 - b) Officer Hubbell will be attending the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy from June 16-June 20 to make up for the week of firearms missed due to illness.
 - c) Reserve Officers continue to be an integral part of operations. The Town currently has seven Reserve Officers. Each Reserve Officer is fully trained and capable of handling road duties independently.
- Equipment:
 - a) All new radios have been issued to Officers.
 - b) New body-worn cameras will be distributed in the upcoming week.
- Thank you for your continued support of the New Chicago Police. Should you have any questions or require further details please reach out to the Police Chief.

Police Commission – None.

Fire

- June 16 a representative from MacQueen Safety will come to the Fire Station for the annual flow test for the harnesses for the Firemen’s SCPA’s which is a requirement from OSHA.
- The New Chicago Fire Department will participate in the Lake Station 4th of July Parade.
- The New Chicago Fire Department plans to set up a day to participate in the Lunch and Learn Program at Twin Oaks Park.

Town Manager

- The Town Manager has recently attended multiple meetings.
- The Town Manager recently met with the Lake County Council and Lake County Commissioners and met with the HUD representatives for the Parks. The Town Manager will keep the Town Council informed as to what is going on.

Parks Board

- The plans for the 55th Anniversary Celebration for Twin Oaks Park will be post-phoned for now due to working with the CDBG Grant.
- The Parks Department is currently getting quotes for a new roof for the Garage/Bathroom building. Two quotes are in so far; a third quote is coming. The Parks Department will vote on the quotes at the next Parks Board Meeting.
- Lunch and Learn has been averaging about 30-40 people a day in attendance.
- A new Renter’s Checklist has been created for Park Rentals.
- The Parks Department is looking at possibly getting internet service for Twin Oaks Park. This will enable cameras to be hooked up to observe security at the park after dark.

Plan Commission – None.

Sewer

- Everything is functioning well.

Streets

- The chipper is in the shop. There is no date as of when it will be repaired.

Sanitation

- The contract with Total Disposal expires at the end of the year.

Water

- Pittsburgh Tank contacted the New Chicago Water Department about inspecting the Water Tower. The last inspection was done in March 2022. The Utility Supervisor advised another inspection to be done for preventative maintenance. Pittsburgh Tank will send a proposal to the Town Manager. Member Anderson made motion to approve; seconded by Member Grecco; motion carried unanimously.
- Radio reads installation is being handled by Abonmarche; as updates come in the Town Council will be informed.
- Tomorrow the Clerk Treasurer and a Town Council Member will attend a mandatory IFA Meeting in Portage.
- A new notice about service calls for Water Customers has been posted in the Water Department for the public to read.

Stormwater

- The MS4 Coordinator distributed a handout to the Town Council for a mandatory conference that the MS4 Coordinator will be attending. This will enable The Town of New Chicago to be in full compliance.

Old Business

- The Town is waiting on the forms for NIRPCY. The Town Council Vice President will temporarily fill in for the Town Council President. Member Grecco made motion to make the Town Council Vice President the Proxy for NIRPCY if necessary; Member Anderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- The Town Attorney will do more research into the new laws concerning using funds for the New Chicago Fire Department from the LIT Fund.

Legal Report

- Tomorrow is court for the resident that has been issued tickets for the condition of his residence; pictures will be provided to the court.
- Tickets are \$100.00 for late dog registration. If a resident brings a ticket in; the resident is to see the Police Clerk; the Police Clerk will contact the Police Chief.

Announcements – None.

Other Business to Come Before the Council – None.

Open Forum

- A resident of the Town of New Chicago spoke to the Town Council about a parking issue that is occurring with neighbors. A survey of the property has to be done before proceeding with the complaint.

Comments from Board Members – None.

Member Grecco made motion to Adjourn, seconded by Vice President Gibson; motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Signed,

Sharon Szwedo
Town Council President

ATTEST:
Tammy L Bucko
Clerk Treasurer