



## GOSHEN COMMON COUNCIL

### Minutes of the MARCH 24, 2025 Regular Meeting

*Convened in the Council Chamber, Police & Court Building, 111 East Jefferson Street, Goshen, Indiana*

At 6:00 p.m., assisted by Mayor Gina Leichty, Kimberly Guevara (a 4th-grader at Prairie View Elementary School) called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Leichty asked Clerk-Treasurer Aguirre to conduct the roll call.

**Present:** Linda Gerber (At-Large) Phil Lederach (District 5) Doug Nisley (District 2)  
Megan Peel (District 4), Donald Riegsecker (District 1) Matt Schrock (District 3)  
Council President Brett Weddell (At-Large)

**Absent:** Youth Adviser Tageeya Galeb (non-voting)

#### Approval of Minutes:

Mayor Leichty asked the Council's wishes regarding the minutes of the Dec. 16, 2024 Regular Meeting as prepared by Clerk-Treasurer Aguirre. Councilor Nisley moved to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Peel seconded the motion. **Motion passed 7-0 on a voice vote.**

#### Approval of Meeting Agenda:

Mayor Leichty presented the agenda as prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer with the deletion of agenda item #7, *Board Appointment – Recommendation for CRC board appointment*. Councilor Peel moved to approve the agenda as amended. Councilor Lederach seconded the motion. **Motion passed 7-0 on a voice vote.**

#### Privilege of the Floor:

At 6:04 p.m., Mayor Leichty invited public comments for matters not on the agenda. There were none.

#### 1) City financial report and update (Clerk-Treasurer's Office)

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jeffery Weaver provided a financial report and budget update to Councilors.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In a March 24, 2025 memorandum to the Common Council, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Weaver wrote that he was attaching financial reports summarizing the budget and cash balance performance for Civil City funds included in the 2025 budget, which was approved by the Council in October 2024. These reports were intended to provide a reasonable understanding of the City's financial position, although they are unaudited and may require interpretation.

#### **Fund Balance Report**

Weaver wrote that this report shows the cash balance of each fund and is intended to demonstrate that each fund maintains a sufficient balance to support budgeted expenditures.





- As of the end of February, cash balances for the reported funds have decreased by nearly \$7 million. This decline is typical for this time of year, as many funds receive the majority of their funding in June and December.
- The Debt Service funds currently show a negative balance due to bond payments made in January and February, prior to receiving levy revenue in June.

### **Budget Report**

**Weaver** wrote that this report outlined the budget performance for each fund and the departments within the General Fund. Revenues are detailed on the first two pages, while expenditures are reported on the following three pages.

- If expenditures were distributed evenly throughout the year, we would expect 16.7% of the budget to be spent by the end of February, leaving 83.3% remaining.
- Revenue tracking is primarily for internal purposes, as the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) does not closely review this budget. The revenue budget is established to ensure sufficient funds are available to supplement cash balances and cover expenditures. At this time, revenues appear to be in line with expectations.
- Expenditures generally align with expectations, particularly in the "Big Four" funds. However, the Debt Service Fund appears to have 49.9% of its budget remaining, which may seem concerning. This is due to the majority of debt service payments occurring in January. Additionally, the Lippert/Dierdorff TIF Fund currently appears overspent due to an accounting error that has not yet been corrected.

**Weaver** concluded his report by stating that he would be happy to further discuss the report or answer questions.

### **SUMMARY OF MARCH 24, 2025 COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF CITY FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**Mayor Leichty** invited comments from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer **Jeffery Weaver** who said:

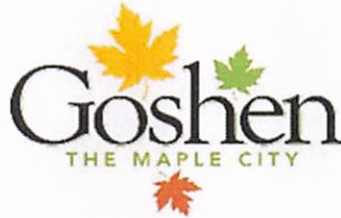
- These financial statements cover the budget the Council approved this past year;
- There are some additional funds on the City's books that are not included in these financial statements;
- The difference between revenues and expenses is \$6 million and not \$7 million as stated in the report;
- Decreased cash balances are fairly typical for this time of year but will increase in June;
- Two funds – the TIF Bond Principal and Interest Payment Fund and the Debt Service Fund – have negative balances but they will be replenished later in the year;
- Funds are not spent evenly through the year, so some have higher balances than others;
- The LECE2 Fund refers to the Law Enforcement Continuing Education Fund;
- The summary of department budgets and activity shows that the percentage of funds remaining among departments ranges from 80.8% to 91.72%;
- The Red Hawk Academy has 69.3% of funds remaining to be spent;
- And there is an error in the TIF Lippert/Dierdorf Fund and the total should be 0% and not 16.77%

**Mayor Leichty** invited questions from Councilors. **Councilor Peel** said, "I'm just really grateful you do this every month. I think it's really helpful." **Councilor Gerber** thanked **Weaver** for his explanation of the LECE2 Fund.

**Mayor Leichty** invited questions from the audience. There were none.

**Mayor Leichty** invited a motion from the Council to approve the report. **Clerk-Treasurer Aguirre** said, "The City Attorney has said in the past that this is not a report that has to be approved." The Mayor responded, "I think it's a benefit, though, just a note for the Council that they've received and approved it." **Aguirre** said, "I'd feel more comfortable if it was an acknowledgment of the report rather than approval of the report."





Councilor Nisley then made a motion to approve the report. Councilor Schrock seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, Councilors passed the motion to approve the Clerk-Treasurer's financial report and budget update by a 7-0 margin, with all Councilors voting yes, at 6:10 p.m.

## 2) Ordinance 5219 – Establishing a Mobile Integrated Health Fund

Mayor Leichty called for the introduction of Ordinance 5219, *Establishing a Mobile Integrated Health Fund*.

Council President Weddell asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read Ordinance 5219 by title only, which was done.

Weddell/Peel made a motion to approve Ordinance 5219 on First Reading.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In a March 24, 2025 memorandum to Councilors, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jeffery Weaver explained that Ordinance 5219, *Establishing a Mobile Integrated Health Fund*, would support the Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) program, a collaborative initiative between the Goshen Fire Department, Goshen Police Department, and community stakeholders. The MIH program is designed to provide community-based healthcare, crisis intervention, and support services to individuals in need, while also working to reduce the burden on emergency services through a proactive, integrated approach.

Weaver wrote that because this program involves multiple departments and relies on various funding sources — including federal and state grants, local grants, donations, and other supplemental revenues — it is necessary to establish a dedicated fund to ensure clear financial tracking, compliance, and sustainability. This fund will allow for proper oversight and management of MIH-related expenses, such as equipment, supplies, and support services essential to the program's success.

Weaver concluded that the creation of this fund is a key step in a larger, ongoing effort that has involved months of preparation and coordination between the Goshen Police and Fire Departments. Establishing a separate fund will help ensure the continued growth and effectiveness of the MIH program while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

### **SUMMARY OF MARCH 24, 2025 COUNCIL CONSIDERATION & APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 5219:**

Mayor Leichty invited a presentation on Ordinance 5219.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jeffery Weaver said whenever the Clerk-Treasurer's Office creates a new fund, the office needs the Council to pass an ordinance that establishes that fund, so that it can both receive money and spend money and be budgeted. In this particular case, Weaver said this fund "is focused primarily on grants and donations that will be received into the fund, and if there's anything else the fund needs to receive, and then we'll be able to spend that out as well."

Weaver said not all financial activity for the Mobile Integrated Health program will go through the fund. He said, "a lot of that feeds through the General Fund departments, primarily Police and Fire right now." So, this new fund, Weaver said, "is primarily just for some of the large purchases, or again, to hold any donations and grants for the short term that will be used to fund the MIH program."

In response to a question from Council President Weddell, Weaver said expenditures also will be tracked through this new fund, which will allow the City to monitor how much the MIH program is costing.

There were no further questions from Councilors.





At 6:13 p.m., Mayor Leichty invited questions about Ordinance 5219 from the audience. There were none.

Mayor Leichty asked if Councilors were ready to vote. The Council President said Councilors were ready.

**On a voice vote, Councilors unanimously passed Ordinance 5219, *Establishing a Mobile Integrated Health Fund*, on First Reading by a 7-0 margin, with all Councilors voting yes, at 6:13 p.m.**

Councilors gave unanimous consent to proceed with a Second Reading and vote on Ordinance 5219.

Mayor Leichty called for the introduction on Second Reading of Ordinance 5219, *Establishing a Mobile Integrated Health Fund*. Council President Weddell asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read Ordinance 5219 by title only, which was done.

**Weddell/Riegsecker made a motion to approve Ordinance 5219 on Second Reading.**

The Mayor invited further comments or questions from the Council and the audience. There were none. Council President Weddell said Councilors were ready to vote.

**On a voice vote, Councilors unanimously passed Ordinance 5219, *Establishing a Mobile Integrated Health Fund*, on Second Reading by a 7-0 margin, with all Councilors voting yes, at 6:14 p.m.**

**3) Ordinance 5218 – Amend Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, to Add Positions Eligible to Receive the Tool/Work Show/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance**

Mayor Leichty called for the introduction of Ordinance 5218, *Amend Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, to Add Positions Eligible to Receive the Tool/Work Shoe/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance*. Council President Weddell asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read Ordinance 5218 by title only, which was done.

**Weddell/Schrock made a motion to approve Ordinance 5218 on First Reading.**

**BACKGROUND:**

Ordinance 5218 would amend Ordinance 5198, *2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees*, to add positions eligible to receive the tool/work shoe/inclement weather gear allowance.

According to the Ordinance 5218:

- Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, was passed by the Goshen Common Council on Oct. 28, 2024.
- Ordinance 5198 has been amended by Ordinance 5214.
- The City administration now wishes to add certain positions to the list of positions eligible to receive the \$350 tool/work show/inclement weather gear allowance in 2025.

If passed by the Council, Ordinance 5218 would amend Ordinance 5198 to read as follows:





(A) Each employee in a position set forth in paragraph (B) below is eligible to receive a tool/work shoe/inclement weather gear allowance. The **employee may be reimbursed up to \$350 per year** for the purchase of tools, work shoes, and/or inclement weather gear to be used in their employment. The reimbursement shall be processed in the same manner as the clothing/work boot/physical fitness allowance.

**(B) Positions eligible to receive the tool/work shoe/inclement weather gear allowance include:**

- (1) Central Garage - Fleet Maintenance Director
- (2) Central Garage - Fleet Maintenance Manager
- (3) Central Garage - Assistant Fleet Maintenance Manager
- (4) Parks and Recreation Department - Park Maintenance Manager
- (5) Street Department - Street Commissioner
- (6) Street Department - Assistant Street Commissioner
- (7) Street Department – Street Foreman
- (8) Wastewater Department - Wastewater Superintendent
- (9) Wastewater Department - Environmental Compliance Administrator
- (10) Wastewater Department - Wastewater Maintenance Manager
- (11) Wastewater Department - Assistant Wastewater Maintenance Manager
- (12) Water and Sewer Departments - Water and Sewer Superintendent
- (13) Water and Sewer Departments - Water Quality Manager
- (14) Water and Sewer Departments – Water and Sewer Construction and Distribution Supervisor
- (15) Environmental Resilience Department – Environmental Resilience Director
- (16) Environmental Resilience Department – Urban Forester
- (17) Environmental Resilience Department – Urban Forester Assistant
- (18) Engineering Department – Engineering Inspector
- (19) Engineering Department – Stormwater Coordinator
- (20) Engineering Department – Stormwater Inspector
- (21) Engineering Department – Stormwater Specialist
- (22) Building & Grounds – Building & Grounds Director
- (23) Building & Grounds – Building & Grounds Manager
- (24) Building & Grounds – Building & Grounds Maintenance Assistant
- (25) Building Department – Building Commissioner
- (26) Building Department – Code Compliance Officer

**SUMMARY OF MARCH 24, 2025 COUNCIL CONSIDERATION & APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 5218:**

**Mayor Leichty** said the Legal Department circulated an amended version to Ordinance 5218 (EXHIBIT #1). The Mayor said two positions in the Building Department – the Building Commissioner and the Code Compliance Officer – were omitted from the original ordinance and needed to be included.

After Ordinance 5218 was formally introduced, Council President Weddell made a motion that the Council substitute the redline version of the ordinance circulated by the Legal Department with the original version in the Council packet. Councilor Nisley seconded the motion.





Mayor Leichty invited Council comments or questions about the motion. There were none.

On a voice vote, Councilors unanimously passed the Weddell/Nisley motion to substitute the redline version of Ordinance 5218 that was circulated by the Legal Department for the original version in the Council packet by a 7-0 margin, with all Councilors voting yes, at 6:15 p.m.

Mayor Leichty invited Council questions or comments about the proposed ordinance in its amended form. There were none.

At 6:16 p.m., Mayor Leichty invited questions from members of the audience. There were none.

Mayor Leichty asked if Councilors were ready to vote. They indicated that they were.

On a voice vote, Councilors unanimously passed amended Ordinance 5218, *Amend Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, to Add Positions Eligible to Receive the Tool/Work Show/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance*, on First Reading by a 7-0 margin, with all Councilors voting yes, at 6:16 p.m.

Councilors gave unanimous consent to proceed with a Second Reading and vote on Ordinance 5218.

Mayor Leichty called for the introduction on Second Reading of Ordinance 5218, *Amend Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, to Add Positions Eligible to Receive the Tool/Work Show/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance*. Council President Weddell asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read Ordinance 5218 by title only, which was done.

Weddell/Schrock made a motion to approve amended Ordinance 5218 on Second Reading.

The Mayor invited further comments or questions from the Council and the audience. There were none.

On a voice vote, Councilors unanimously passed amended Ordinance 5218, *Amend Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, to Add Positions Eligible to Receive the Tool/Work Show/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance*, on Second Reading by a 7-0 margin, with all Councilors voting yes, at 6:17 p.m.

**4) Public hearing on the approval of Lease Agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation (lessor) and City of Goshen (lessee) for the new municipal pool at Shanklin Park**

Mayor Leichty said it was time for a public hearing and approval of a Lease Agreement – Between Goshen Municipal Building Corporation (lessor) and City of Goshen (lessee) for the new municipal pool at Shanklin Park.

Mayor Leichty asked Assistant City Attorney Don Shuler if it would be OK to explain some new information obtained this afternoon before convening the public hearing. Shuler said it would be appropriate to explain the issue.





**Mayor Leichty** said that she sent an email to Councilors before the meeting that she had previously proposed proceeding with approval of the lease agreement tonight and then not take additional steps forward on the pool. The Mayor said the City would close out the first phase of the design work and then commence with additional fundraising, and grant writing to raise additional funds before the project returned to the Council with a recommendation to proceed with the bond sometime either next year or when additional funds had been raised. However, shortly before tonight's meeting, the **Mayor** said she received word from the City's bond attorney recommending that if the City proceeded with tonight's public hearing, and then it made any changes between now and next year, the City would have to repeat that part of the process anyway. So, the bond counsel recommended that the City table the public hearing, which would make it easier to later resume the process.

**Mayor Leichty** said she was proposing that the Council table the public hearing and the approval of the lease agreement. She invited feedback from **Councilors** and comments from **Assistant City Attorney Shuler**.

**Councilor Riegsecker** asked for an update on the status of the pool project. **Mayor Leichty** said **City Superintendent of Parks & Recreation Tanya Heyde** could provide an update followed by an update on the process from **Shuler**.

Before that could happen, **Council President Weddell** asked if the Council could table a public hearing that had already been scheduled and advertised. **Shuler** said the public hearing was being held simply as part of the resolution approval process and could be legally tabled the same as any other agenda item.

In response to **Councilor Riegsecker's** question, **Shuler** said the City was fairly close to the end of the design process. He said the goal was to eventually use the building corporation lease model as a way to finance the project with bonds. So, if the issue was tabled today, the design part would be mostly complete. He said the City would later have to convene a public hearing on the lease agreement unless changes in the financing or design forced additional discussions and approvals.

**Councilor Riegsecker** confirmed his understanding of the process. He also confirmed that there will be no further work on the pool and that was now closed and locked up.

**Superintendent Heyde** said "we are really close to 100% design with HWC Engineering. They're working alongside DJ Construction." She said the contract was approved by the Redevelopment Commission and the plans are expected to be completed soon.

**Heyde** said if the work is halted, the City will need to break its contract with DJ Construction and finish out the contract with HWC Engineering.

**City Redevelopment Director Becky Hutsell** said, "I will note that within the CMC Contract, there was a pre-construction scoping agreement done so we had committed to \$20,000 to bring them on board at the end of last year to work with us through all of the pricing, so that we had real local construction estimate pricing and then we had not yet established our guaranteed maximum price when we would commit to them to funding a portion of the project. So, we have an established fee in our contract with DJ Construction right now. I think, as staff, we're just looking to make sure we're giving them notice as soon as we have it on whether or not this would be a 2025 or 2026 project or further out."

**Councilor Nisley** asked if the City will have to pay additional costs if Councilors table the project tonight.

**Hutsell** responded, "We'll have the full design cost, which we already anticipated, and then we'll have the \$20,000 for DJ Construction. And then there'll be no additional expenses beyond that."

**Mayor Leichty** asked if there were additional questions from Councilors or a motion.





Councilor Peel made a motion to indefinitely table the public hearing on the approval of the Lease Agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation (lessor) and City of Goshen (lessee) for the new municipal pool at Shanklin Park. Councilor Riegsecker seconded the motion.

Clerk-Treasurer Aguirre asked for a clarification. He said, "We have been doing public notifications for at least a month and a half that tonight would be the opportunity for the public to comment on this project. Are we anticipating not taking any comment?"

Mayor Leichty responded, "Yes, per the question the Council President asked of Attorney Shuler. Attorney Shuler clarified that that would be acceptable and that tabling the hearing would be the same as tabling any other item. So, the council had agreed to move forward with that consideration in Council."

Aguirre said, "Would it do any harm to allow anybody who may have come tonight to say something about it?"

Council President Weddell said, "Because it seems like there's some question about whether we should actually be holding the public hearing based on bond counsel, so maybe reopen at the end of the meeting – open Privilege of the Floor. That way if anyone wants to talk, they can say anything about that."

Mayor Leichty said, "I think that would be an appropriate way to handle it and accomplish what you're trying to just provide the opportunity as well to open for public comment." She asked Shuler if he would have an issue with doing that. Shuler said he would not.

Mayor Leichty asked if Councilors had any comments about the motion on the floor. They did not.

At 6:28 p.m., Mayor Leichty invited comments about the motion from the audience. There were none.

On a voice vote, Councilors unanimously approved the motion by Councilors Peel and Riegsecker to indefinitely table the public hearing on the approval of the Lease Agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation (lessor) and City of Goshen (lessee) for the new municipal pool at Shanklin Park, by a 7-0 vote, at 6:28 p.m.

The Mayor and Councilors agreed that a further opportunity for public comment on the matter would be provided at the end of the Council meeting.

Councilors also clarified the procedures for tabling the proposed agreement.

**5) Resolution 2025-06 – Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation and the City of Goshen, Indiana for the Municipal Pool Project**

Mayor Leichty called for the introduction of Resolution 2025-06 *Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation and the City of Goshen, Indiana for the Municipal Pool Project*. Council President Weddell asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read Resolution 2025-06 by title only, which was done.

Weddell/Nisley made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-06.





#### **BACKGROUND:**

Resolution 2025-06 would approve and authorize the execution of a lease agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation and the City of Goshen for the Municipal Pool Project.

According to Resolution 2025-06:

- The Goshen Municipal Building Corporation (the "Corporation") has been organized pursuant to the Indiana Non-Profit Corporation Act of 1991 for the purpose of acquiring a site or sites, constructing, renovating, expanding, and equipping governmental buildings, including the construction of a new municipal pool, together with all necessary appurtenances, related improvements, and equipment (the "Project") for use by the City of Goshen, Indiana (the "City");
- The Corporation proposes to construct the Project and lease the Project to the City;
- A notice of public hearing on the proposed lease was published in the Goshen News on March 6, 2025, and the Goshen Common Council held the public hearing on March 24, 2025, in which all persons were given the right to be heard upon the necessity for the execution of the lease, and upon whether the lease rental provided for therein to be paid to the Corporation by City is fair and reasonable rental for the proposed Project;
- The proposed Lease Agreement (the "Lease"), a copy of which is attached to this resolution, is to provide for the financing of the construction of the Project. The proposed Lease will be for a maximum term of twenty (20) years with a maximum annual lease rental of \$1,200,000 with regard to the Interim Tracts (as defined in the Lease) and, at the end of the Interim Period (as defined in the Lease), a maximum annual lease rental of \$1,500,000. The maximum annual lease rentals have been estimated based upon an estimated principal amount of bonds of \$14,000,000, estimated interest rates ranging from 3.50% to 4.75%, and total estimated interest costs of \$7,050,000. The City's current debt service levy is \$350,585 and the current debt service rate is \$0.0197. After the City enters into the proposed lease agreement and the bonds are issued, the debt service levy will increase by a maximum of \$710,565 and the debt service rate will increase by a maximum of \$0.0399.

**If Resolution 2025-06 was passed by Councilors it would be resolved that:**

1. The Common Council finds that the necessity for the execution of such Lease Agreement and the lease rentals provided therein are fair and reasonable rentals for the Project.
2. The Common Council approves and authorizes the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to execute the proposed Lease Agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation as Lessor and the City of Goshen, Indiana as Lessee for the Project in substantially the form as attached to this resolution, together with any minor modifications deemed necessary or appropriate to finalize the Lease.

#### **SUMMARY OF MARCH 24, 2025 COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2025-06:**

After Resolution 2025-06 was formally introduced, Council President Weddell made a motion to table Resolution 2025-06. Councilor Nisley seconded the motion.

Mayor Leichty invited questions from the Council. There were none.

At 6:29 p.m., Mayor Leichty invited comments from the audience. There were none.





On a voice vote, Councilors voted to approve the motion by Councilors Weddell and Nisley to indefinitely table Resolution 2025-06, *Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Agreement between the Goshen Municipal Building Corporation and the City of Goshen, Indiana for the Municipal Pool Project*, by a 7-0 vote, at 6:30 p.m.

**6) Ordinance 5216 – County Road 40 Annexation**

Mayor Leichty called for the introduction of Ordinance 5216, *County Road 40 Annexation*. Council President Weddell asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read Ordinance 5216 by title only, which was done.

Weddell/Nisley made a motion to approve Ordinance 5216 on Second Reading.

**BACKGROUND:**

Ordinance 5216 would approve the City of Goshen's annexation of municipally-owned real estate for the new South Fire Station. According to Ordinance 5216:

- Pursuant to Resolution 2025-01, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Goshen, and Indiana Code § 36-4-3-5.1, 100% of the landowners of the real estate described in this ordinance have petitioned the Goshen Common Council to adopt an ordinance to annex the real estate as described in the legal description attached to this ordinance as Exhibit A and identified on the map attached to this ordinance as Exhibit B, hereinafter referred to as the "Annexation Area."
- At least one-eighth (1/8) of the aggregate external boundaries of the Annexation Area is contiguous with the corporate limits of the City of Goshen.
- The Annexation Area is municipally owned, is or will be zoned A-1, and will be used for the construction and operation of the New South Fire Station, a critical public safety facility to the City of Goshen and its residents.
- A written fiscal plan and policy has been developed for the Annexation Area and adopted by resolution of the Goshen Common Council.
- The Annexation Area is a logical extension of the City's corporate boundaries and the area is needed and can be used for the continued development and managed growth of the City of Goshen.
- Pursuant to notice given, the Goshen Common Council conducted a public hearing in which all interested parties were given the opportunity to testify on the proposed annexation.

Upon passage of Ordinance 5216 it would be ordained that:

**Annexation Area Described: Acreage**

(A) The real estate consists of a single parcel of approximately eight (8) acres, owned by the City of Goshen, Indiana, located at 17120 County Road 40, more particularly described in the Legal Description attached to this Ordinance as Exhibit A and identified on the map attached to this Ordinance as Exhibit B. The real estate described in Exhibit A and depicted in Exhibit B shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Annexation Area."

(B) The Annexation Area also includes any public highway and rights-of-way of the public highway that are contiguous to the Annexation Area to the extent required by Indiana Code § 36-4-3-2.5. said public highways include approximately Seven Hundred Forty-four (744) feet of County Road 40.

(C) The total acreage of the Annexation Area is approximately 8.14 acres, more or less.





### **Zoning**

(A) The Annexation Area will be zoned as A-1 Agricultural District upon the effective date of annexation into the City of Goshen.

### **Council District**

(A) The Annexation Area is assigned to Goshen City Council District Five (5).

### **Effective Date**

(A) The effective date of the annexation of the real estate identified as the Annexation Area shall be at least thirty (30) days after the adoption of the annexation ordinance and publication of notice, and upon the filing and recording of the ordinance pursuant to Indiana Code § 36-4-3-22(a), but in no event before April 24, 2025.

### **Filing and Recording of Ordinance**

(A) This ordinance shall be filed with the Auditor of Elkhart County, the Circuit Court Clerk of Elkhart County, the Board of Registration of Elkhart County, the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Office of Census Data established by Indiana Code § 2-5-1.1-12, and recorded in the Office of the Elkhart County Recorder pursuant to Indiana Code § 36-4-3-22.

### **SUMMARY OF MARCH. 24, 2025 COUNCIL CONSIDERATION & APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 5216:**

Mayor Leichty asked if there were Councilor questions, comments or a motion on Ordinance 5216.

Council President Weddell confirmed that Ordinance 5216 would preemptively annex property for the proposed possible fire station.

Having confirmed that a motion was pending, the Mayor conducted a vote.

**On a voice vote, Councilors unanimously passed Ordinance 5216, County Road 40 Annexation, on Second Reading by a 7-0 margin, with all Councilors voting yes, at 6:31 p.m.**

### **Privilege of the Floor (reopened):**

At 6:31 p.m., Mayor Leichty invited additional public comments regarding any item removed from today's agenda. There were no comments.

### **Elected Official Reports:**

Mayor Leichty asked if Councilors had any reports on any of their activities from the past month,

Councilor Peel said the Economic Improvement District met and was scheduled to have a planning session. However, a few members were absent, so the session has been rescheduled.

Council President Weddell said the Goshen Chamber of Commerce had a wonderful **State of the City** event last Thursday. He said he wasn't able to attend the secondary event Friday at the Goshen Theater, but was sure it was well received. Mayor Leichty thanked the Council President for his comments.





**Councilor Gerber** thanked the **Mayor** for her email earlier in the day about the pool project. She noted that the Mayor commented that she wanted to monitor the potential impacts of State and Federal policy on City revenues. Councilor Gerber said, "I know this is a moving target, and that's something that we've all discussed, and with some level of frustration, because we're not able to provide to constituents any clear idea of how the Federal DOGE cuts will affect our community as well as what's happening from the State under Gov. Braun." She asked if it was possible to develop a memo laying out the potential cuts.

**Mayor Leichty** responded, "We can certainly provide what has been proposed. There's a bit of a moving target in regard to the State funding under Senate Bill 1 and the amalgamation of Senate Bill 1 and House Bill 1402, which are under consideration right now through Senate Bill 1. But we could provide a summary of that of those implications. I know that would probably be helpful to the public as well."

**Council President Weddell** and **Councilor Gerber** discussed the information that has been provided by Accelerate Indiana Municipalities (AIM). The Council President said more information would be helpful.

**Mayor Leichty** said, "We can certainly talk about what we know that has been proposed thus far from those bills, and the implications of what that would mean for the City, some of which we covered in the State of the City address."

**Councilor Lederach** said, "It doesn't seem like there's been much movement since the last Third House meeting (of local legislators), and at that meeting it was simply saying, we don't know what it's going to be, and we might not know until the final vote of the final day."

**Council President Weddell** said he's spoke to **Sen. Blake Doriot**, but he hasn't been able to provide much information because he's not directly involved in the tax-writing committee. He added, "I've been doing a number of meetings with other community representatives, whether it's county officials, Nappanee or Middlebury. They're all in the same boat – frustrated not knowing."

**Mayor Leichty** agreed that the delay of information has been frustrating, but added, "The City's not waiting. We're not just sitting around on our laurels waiting for things to happen. We are doing strategic planning and scenario planning. So, we'll be working with each department." She added that leaders will be considering possible budget cuts, "so we can take a strategic and surgical approach to making the adjustments that we need to make if there are revenue losses, and where there might be opportunities for gains as well."

**Council President Weddell** said there also needs to be some planning for the pool project and an analysis of the amount of donations and grants that will be needed "because if there's a group of community members that want to start a capital campaign, we've got to be able to say with some assurance" how much would need to be raised.

**Mayor Leichty** said in the previous pool plan, it was expected that about one-third of the revenue for the project would come from grants and private fundraising. She added, "A lot of it depends on the grant revenues that are available. The other consideration is how are the City's revenues going to be modified."

**Councilor Schrock** asked if anyone attended today's public transportation meeting and whether Goshen bus routes were discussed. **Mayor Leichty** said it was a meeting with the Indiana Department of Transportation and that **City Director of Public Works & Utilities Dustin Sailor** might have an update about plans to add a sidewalk on US 33. **Sailor** said the discussion was about possible improvements on Indiana Avenue and Greene Road and adding a three-mile sidewalk path in 2031.





At the request of Clerk-Treasurer Aguirre, Assistant City Attorney Shuler clarified that Ordinance 5216 was approved on First Reading in February and tonight was approved on Second and Final Reading.

Councilor Riegsecker said that property tax bills can now be viewed online.

Adjournment:

Councilor Nisley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Schrock seconded the motion.

By a 7-0 voice vote, Councilors unanimously approved the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Leichty adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

**EXHIBIT #1:** *An amended version of Ordinance 5218, Amend Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, to Add Positions Eligible to Receive the Tool/Work Show/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance. Two positions in the Building Department – the Building Commissioner and the Code Compliance Officer – were omitted from the ordinance and needed to be included. This redline version of the ordinance was amended into the original ordinance and eventually approved by the Council.*

APPROVED:

A blue ink signature of Gina Leichty, Mayor of Goshen, written over a horizontal line.

Gina Leichty, Mayor of Goshen

ATTEST:

A blue ink signature of Richard R. Aguirre, City Clerk-Treasurer, written over a horizontal line.

Richard R. Aguirre, City Clerk-Treasurer



**ORDINANCE 5218**

**Amend Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, to Add Positions Eligible to Receive the Tool/Work Shoe/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance**

WHEREAS, Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, was passed by the Goshen Common Council on October 28, 2024.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 5198 has been amended by Ordinance 5214.

WHEREAS, the City administration wishes to add certain positions to the list of positions eligible to receive the \$350 tool/work shoe/inclement weather gear allowance in 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Goshen Common Council amends Ordinance 5198, 2025 Compensation for Civil City and Utilities Employees, Section 16, Tool/Work Shoe/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance, to read as follows:

**SECTION 16 Tool/Work Shoe/Inclement Weather Gear Allowance**

- (A) Each employee in a position set forth in paragraph (B) below is eligible to receive a tool/work shoe/inclement weather gear allowance. The employee may be reimbursed up to Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350) per year for the purchase of tools, work shoes, and/or inclement weather gear to be used in their employment. The reimbursement shall be processed in the same manner as the clothing/work boot/physical fitness allowance.
- (B) Positions eligible to receive the tool/work shoe/inclement weather gear allowance include:
- (1) Central Garage - Fleet Maintenance Director
  - (2) Central Garage - Fleet Maintenance Manager
  - (3) Central Garage – Assistant Fleet Maintenance Manager
  - (4) Parks and Recreation Department - Park Maintenance Manager
  - (5) Street Department - Street Commissioner
  - (6) Street Department - Assistant Street Commissioner
  - (7) Street Department – Street Foreman
  - (8) Wastewater Department - Wastewater Superintendent
  - (9) Wastewater Department - Environmental Compliance Administrator
  - (10) Wastewater Department – Wastewater Maintenance Manager



- (11) Wastewater Department - Assistant Wastewater Maintenance Manager
- (12) Water and Sewer Departments - Water and Sewer Superintendent
- (13) Water and Sewer Departments - Water Quality Manager
- (14) Water and Sewer Departments – Water and Sewer Construction and Distribution Supervisor
- (15) Environmental Resilience Department – Environmental Resilience Director
- (16) Environmental Resilience Department – Urban Forester
- (17) Environmental Resilience Department – Urban Forester Assistant
- (18) Engineering Department – Engineering Inspector
- (19) Engineering Department – Stormwater Coordinator
- (20) Engineering Department – Stormwater Inspector
- (21) Engineering Department – Stormwater Specialist
- (22) Building & Grounds – Building & Grounds Director
- (23) Building & Grounds – Building & Grounds Manager
- (24) Building & Grounds – Building & Grounds Maintenance Assistant
- (25) Building Department – Building Commissioner
- (26) Building Department – Code Compliance Officer

PASSED by the Goshen Common Council on \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gina M. Leichty, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard R. Aguirre, Clerk-Treasurer

PRESENTED to the Mayor of the City of Goshen on \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, at the hour of \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard R. Aguirre, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED and ADOPTED on \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gina M. Leichty, Mayor