

**Enrolled Minutes of the Thirty-Second Regular Meeting or Special Meeting  
For the Thirtieth Highland Town Council Regular Plenary  
Business Meeting (In person) Monday, April 14, 2025**

The Thirtieth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in its regular plenary session on Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:30 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

\*This meeting was convened as an in person meeting and lived streamed to the Town of Highland Facebook. Facebook permits the public to observe and record the proceedings but allows no interaction between and among the Town Council and members of the public. The public is able to participate in person. Councilor Georgeff, Councilor Doug Turich, Councilor Alex Robertson, Councilor Tom Black, Councilor Philip Scheeringa all participated in person.

Pursuant to HMC Section 2.05.130(A)(2), the Town Council considered and reviewed the agenda in an informal proceeding in the plenary meeting room before the president called the meeting to order.

The Town Council President George Georgeff presided over the meeting. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak, was present to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Doug Turich reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and offering a prayer.

**Roll Call:** Present on roll call were Councilors George Georgeff, Doug Turich, Alex Robertson, Thomas Black, Philip Scheeringa were present as indicated. Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak was also present. A quorum was attained.

**Additional Officials Present:** Alex Brown, CPRP, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Metropolitan Police Chief Ralph Potesta; Mike Pipta, Fire Chief; Ed Dabrowski, Director of Information Technology, Kenneth J. Mika, Building Commissioner, Mark Knesek, Public Works Director, Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra, John Reed, Attorney with JPR Legal Services were present.

*Guests:* Theresa Badovich (remotely) and Robin Carlascio (remotely) of the Idea Factory were also present.

**Minutes of the Previous Meetings:** The minutes of the March 24, 2025 Plenary meeting were approved by general consent.

**Special Orders:**

1. **Consideration of Proposed Additional Appropriations:** (controlled and non-controlled funds): Proposed Additional Appropriations in Excess of the 2025 Budget for the Redevelopment Capital Fund in the amount of \$51,489.60.

(a) Attorney verification of Proofs of Publication: The TIMES 27 March 2025.



See Proof on Next Page

### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Northwest Indiana Times  
601 W. 45th Ave.  
(219) 933-3333

State of Pennsylvania, County of Lancaster, ss:

I, Bailee Liston, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath depose and say that I am an agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Publisher of Northwest Indiana Times, a publication that is a "legal newspaper" as that phrase is defined for the city of Munster, for the County of Lake, in the state of Indiana, that this affidavit is Page 1 of 2 with the full text of the sworn-to notice set forth on the pages that follow, and that the attachment herelo contains the correct copy of what was published in said legal newspaper in consecutive issues on the following dates:

**Publication Dates:**

- Mar 27, 2025

Notice ID: BjLM7pPUjPmQ877xMlaV

Publisher ID: COL-IN-100529

Notice Name: Additional Appropriation April 14, 2025

Publication Fee: \$31.09

*Bailee Liston*

Agent

**VERIFICATION**

State of Pennsylvania  
County of Lancaster

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal  
Nicole Burkholder, Notary Public  
Lancaster County  
My commission expires March 30, 2027  
Commission Number 1342120

Signed or attested before me on this: 03/31/2025

*Nicole Burkholder*

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND  
NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL  
APPROPRIATIONS  
Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, that the Town Council of said Municipality in said Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, at 6:30 p.m. on the 14th day of April 2025, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year in the following funds:  
Redevelopment Capital Fund  
4406-0000-31019 Landscape Services  
\$1,489.60  
Total for 300 Series:  
\$1,489.00  
Total for the Fund:  
\$51,489.60  
Funds to support these additional appropriations in the Redevelopment Capital Fund shall be supported by miscellaneous revenue, unreserved unobligated fund balance on deposit to the credit of the fund.  
Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The additional appropriations, as finally made, will be filed with the Department of Local Government Finance, for its review. The Department of Local Government Finance shall make a written determination of the sufficiency of funds within fifteen days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.  
TOWN COUNCIL of HIGHLAND  
George Georgeff, President  
By: Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer  
3/27 - COL-IN-100529

HSPAXLP

(b) Public Hearing: No comments from the public.

(c) Action on **Appropriation Enactment No. 2025-09**: An Enactment Appropriating Additional Moneys in Excess of the Annual Budget for the **Redevelopment Capital Fund**, all pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18, and I.C. 36-5-3-5

Councilor Black introduced and moved for the consideration of Appropriation Enactment No. 2025-09 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Scheeringa seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The enactment could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Black moved for the passage adoption of Appropriation Enactment No. 2025-09 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Scheeringa seconded.

Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no (0) negatives, with Councilors Robertson, Black, Scheeringa, Turich and Georgeff voting in the affirmative. The motion passed. The enactment was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.

**Town of Highland**  
**APPROPRIATION ENACTMENT**  
**Enactment No. 2025-09**

**An Enactment Appropriating Additional Moneys in Excess of the Annual Budget for the Redevelopment Capital Fund, all pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-18, I.C. 36-5-3-5, et seq.**

**WHEREAS**, Following a public hearing advertised pursuant to I.C. 5-3-1, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for the **Redevelopment Capital Fund**, and the **Redevelopment General Fund**;

**WHEREAS**, It has been determined that such additional appropriations as may be approved by this enactment, will not increase the levy set under I.C. 6-1.1-17, all pursuant to I.C. 36-5-3-5;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, as follows:

**Section 1.** That for the expenses of said municipality, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the **Redevelopment Capital Fund** and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

REDEVELOPMENT CAPITAL FUND

*Increase account:*

4406-0000-31019 Landscape Services

\$ 51,489.60



Total for 300 Series: \$ 51,489.60

TOTAL for FUND: \$ 51,489.60

**Section 2.** That the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized and instructed to inform the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance of this action and that these moneys be made available for expenditure **subject to an order** of the Commissioner, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-18.

**Section 3.** That in satisfaction and for the purposes of the provisions set out in I.C. 36-5-2-9.6, I.C. 36-5-3-5, I.C. 36-5-4-2, this enactment shall be deemed properly filed and introduced before the Town Council at a regular or special meeting, properly called and convened pursuant to I.C. 5-1.5-14 *et seq.*

Introduced and Filed on the 14th Day of April 2025. Consideration on the same day or at same meeting of introduction sustained a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8.

**DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2025, by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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**George Georgeff, President (IC 36-5-2-10)**

**ATTEST:**

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**Mark Herak**  
**Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)**

2. Presentation from Dan Botich of DEF Consulting Mr. Botich was invited by the Redevelopment Director to present the Annual Redevelopment Report. Per I.C. 36-7-14-13, the Redevelopment Commission's Annual Report must be uploaded into Gateway no later than April 15<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

Councilor Black acknowledged receipt of the FY 2024 Annual Report of the Redevelopment Commission.

Dan Botich presented to the Council, an Executive Summary of the FY 2024 Annual Report:

## Executive Summary

FY 2024 Annual Report of the Highland Redevelopment Commission  
April 14, 2025



The report shall include, in accordance with IC 36-7-14-13(b) the following information:

- The names of the then qualified and acting commissioners.
- The names of the officers of the Commission.
- The number of regular employees and their fixed salaries or compensation.
- The amount of the expenditures made during the preceding year and their general purpose.
- An accounting of tax increment revenues expended by any entity receiving the tax increment revenues as a grant or loan from the Commission.
- The amount of funds on hand at the close of the calendar year.
- Other information necessary to disclose the activities of the Commissioners and the results obtained.

Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner
Doug Turich	George Georgeff	Phillip Scheeringa	Tom Black	Alex Robertson
1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024

Commissioner	Office Held	Term
George Georgeff	President	01-01-2024 through 12-31-2024
Doug Turich	Vice-President	01-01-2024 through 12-31-2024
Alex Robertson	Secretary	01-01-2024 through 12-31-2024

Title	Name	Salary	Employment
Redevelopment Director	Maria Becerra	\$ 70,791.20	1.1.2024 to 12.31.2024
Recording Secretary	Maria Becerra	688.56	3.1.2024 to 12.31.2024
Redevelopment Assistant	Kendra Hernandez	26,624.25	5.28.2024 to 12.31.2024
Total of Salaries: \$		98,104.01	

Company	Professional Service	Fees	Contact Person
American Structure Point	Financial Consulting	\$ 41,383.94	John Kennedy
DEF Consulting	Finance Consulting	29,137.50	Dan Botich
Abrahamsen Reed & Blise	Legal Services	4,370.00	John Reed
Arsh Group	Consulting	22,906.00	Taghi Arshami
Bochnowski Appraisal	Appraisal Services	6,800.00	Thomas Bochnowski
Police Facility Design Group	Finance Consulting	5,000.00	James Estes
Austgen, Kulper, Jasaltis	Legal Services	9,116.00	Mike Jasaltis
K&S Engineering	Engineering	3,000.00	Rahman Babur
London Witte Group	Financial Consulting	8,307.70	Jim Higgins
NIES Engineering	Engineering	8,431.36	Derek Snyder
Sekerez Land Surveying	Surveying	1,800.00	Randy Serekez
Vale Appraisal Group	Appraisers	5,200.00	Jeff Vale

Total of Professional Fees: \$ 145,452.50

The Commission did not grant or loan tax increment revenue to any entity during fiscal year 2024.

## Executive Summary

FY 2024 Annual Report of the Highland Redevelopment Commission  
April 14, 2025



Allocation Area	DLGF TIF Code	Spring Installment June 22, 2024	Fall Installment December 20, 2024	FY TOTAL
Highland Acres	T45451	\$ 71,063.20	\$ 71,063.18	\$ 142,126.38
Highland Redevelopment – Downtown <sup>1</sup>	T45452	99,731.97	66,639.47	166,371.44
Highland Commercial Corridors <sup>1</sup>	T45453	599,333.05	426,291.89	1,025,624.94
Cardinal Campus	T45454	221,693.21	192,319.15	414,012.36
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>\$ 991,821.43</b>	<b>\$ 756,313.69</b>	<b>\$ 1,748,135.12</b>

**Note:**  
1. On December 12, 2023 the Commission approved Resolution No. 2023-15 as a Confirmatory Resolution which merged and consolidated the Highland Redevelopment (Downtown) Allocation Area and the Highland Commercial Corridors Allocation Area as the Highland Consolidated Allocation Area with each continuing to exist as sub-allocation areas within the Highland Consolidated Redevelopment Area.

**SOURCE:** FORM 22-TIFs as provided by the Office of the Lake County, Indiana Auditor for tax increment distribution to the Town of Highland, Indiana Redevelopment Commission. Distributions of tax increment included the LOIT-CAGIT property tax credit relief distributions.

Department Fund (Fund No.)	(1/1/2024) Beginning Balance	(Debits) Revenues	(Credits) Expenses	(12/31/2024) Ending Balance
Redevelopment General (2216)	\$ 604,566.39	\$ 462,477.67	\$ 370,564.66	\$ 696,479.40
Redevelopment Bond & Interest (3311)	187,707.34	0.00	106,312.50	81,394.84
Redevelopment Capital (4406)	1,848,957.20	65,156.56	185,000.87	1,729,112.89
* Highland Redevelopment-Downtown (4445) <sup>1</sup>	1,105,693.72	166,371.44	378,712.20	893,352.96
* Highland Acres (4446)	919,248.86	142,126.38	0.00	1,061,375.24
* Highland Commercial Corridors (4447) <sup>1</sup>	5,790,594.95	1,088,626.81	0.00	6,879,221.76
* Cardinal Campus (4448)	176,926.50	414,012.36	398,619.71	192,319.15
<b>2023 Consolidation and Merger Action</b>				
Highland Consolidated Allocation Area <sup>1</sup> (Funds 4445 + 4447)	6,896,288.67	1,254,998.25	378,712.20	7,772,574.72
<b>* All Allocation Funds</b>				
* Funds 4445 + 4446 + 4447 + 4448	7,992,464.03	1,811,136.99	777,331.91	9,026,269.11

**Notes:**  
\* Commission funds specifically established for designated allocation areas.  
1. On December 12, 2023 the Commission approved Resolution No. 2023-15 as a Confirmatory Resolution which merged and consolidated the Highland Redevelopment (Downtown) Allocation Area and the Highland Commercial Corridors Allocation Area as the Highland Consolidated Allocation Area with each continuing to exist as sub-allocation areas within the Highland Consolidated Redevelopment Area. The ending balance of the Highland Consolidated Allocation Fund was \$7,772,574.72 on December 31, 2024, a fund balance increase of \$876,286.05 from December 31, 2023.

**SOURCE:** Town of Highland, Indiana Department of Redevelopment reports and Department of Local Government Finance Annual Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2024 for the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

**Executive Summary**  
 FY 2024 Annual Report of the Highland Redevelopment Commission  
 April 14, 2025



**Town of Highland, Indiana Redevelopment District Bonds, Series 2014 (\$2,000,000)**  
 Property Acquisition in furtherance of the Redevelopment Plan

Interest Rate: Variable, 2.50 percent  
 First Principal Payment: August 1, 2014  
 Final Principal Payment: February 1, 2024  
 Source: Ad Valorem Taxes of the Redevelopment District

<u>Payment Due</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Interest Amount</u>	<u>Fiscal Total</u>
February 1, 2024	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 1,313.00	\$ 106,313.00

As of December 31, 2024  
 Outstanding Principal Balance Due: \$ 0.00

**Town of Highland, Indiana Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2018 (\$5,810,000)**  
 Economic Development and Real Property Improvements for the Cardinal Campus Project

Interest Rate: Fixed, 1.00 percent  
 First Principal Payment: February 1, 2020  
 Final Principal Payment: February 1, 2038  
 Source: Tax Increment Revenue Allocation Area: Cardinal Campus

<u>Payment Due</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Interest Amount</u>	<u>Fiscal Total</u>
February 1, 2024	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 23,200.00	\$ 173,200.00
August 1, 2024	150,000.00	22,450.00	172,450.00
			\$ 345,650.00

As of December 31, 2024  
 Outstanding Principal Balance Due: \$ 4,340,000

**Town of Highland, Indiana Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2024 (\$9,220,000)**  
 Economic Development and Real Property Improvements for the Cardinal Campus Project – Phase II

Interest Rate: Fixed, 1.00 percent  
 First Principal Payment: August 1, 2027  
 Final Principal Payment: February 1, 2044  
 Source: Tax Increment Revenue Allocation Area: Cardinal Campus

<u>First Payment Due</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Interest Amount</u>	<u>Fiscal Total</u>
August 1, 2027	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 46,100.00	\$ 296,100.00

As of December 31, 2024  
 Outstanding Principal Balance Due: \$ 9,220,000

**Executive Summary**  
FY 2024 Annual Report of the Highland Redevelopment Commission  
April 14, 2025



Allocation Area	Total Individual Components	Gross Assessed Value	Net Assessed Value	Base Assessment	Incremental Assessment
Highland Acres Allocation Area (T45451) -	10	6,990,400	6,990,400	1,271,120	5,719,280
Highland Consolidated Allocation Area:	408	82,138,700	63,066,972	56,113,032	6,953,941
Highland (Downtown) Sub-Allocation Area (T45452) -					
Highland Consolidated Allocation Area:	367	231,109,900	220,138,285	177,498,300	42,640,006
Highland Commercial Corridors Sub-Allocation Area (T45453) -					
Cardinal Campus Allocation Area (T45454) -	15	15,508,000	15,508,000	0	15,508,000
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>335,747,000</b>	<b>305,703,657</b>	<b>234,882,452</b>	<b>70,821,227</b>
		Percent of AA NAV:		76.83%	23.17%

**Percentages of Total Certified Net Assessments:**

1.1.2023 Pay 2024 - Certified Real Property AV: 1,552,852,181  
1.1.2023 Pay 2024 - Certified Personal Property AV: 65,261,890  
**TOTAL: Certified Assessment: 1,618,214,071**

	Net Assessed Value	Base Assessment	Incremental Assessment
Percent of AA TOTAL Certified NAV:	18.89%	14.51%	4.38%

**TAX RATE & TAX LEVY IMPACT ANALYSIS (of Captured Assessment)**

**Tax Rate Impact:**

Pay 2024 Tax Rate: \$ 2.5950  
Captured Assessment (January 1, 2023): \$ 70,821,227  
Tax Rate Impact of Captured Assessment: \$ 0.0832 (3.2071%)  
Adjusted Tax Rate, if 100% Released: \$ 2.5118

**Tax Levy Impact:**

Lake County CCD Fund: \$ 20,397  
North Township CCD Fund: 3,824  
Town of Highland CCD Fund: 32,861  
**TOTAL (Tax Levy Impact): \$ 57,082**

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF REDEVELOPMENT

Schedule of Tax Rate:  
Town of Highland (Unit 026)  
2023 Pay 2024

2023 Pay 2024					TAX RATE & TAX LEVY IMPACT ANALYSIS						
Assessment Year (January 1, ____): Collection Year:	2023	Percentage: Total Rate	Certified Net Assessed Valuation	Certified Levy	Estimated Captured Assessment	Percent Impact on CMV	If Assessed NOT Captured				
							Tax Rate Impact	Estimated Pay 2024 Rate	Percent of Adjusted Tax Rate	Percent Change	Cumulative Fund Impact
Lake County											
General	\$ 0.4719	18.18%	\$ 30,568,328,328	\$ 144,251,941	\$ 70,821,227	0.2317%	\$ (0.001093)	\$ 0.4708	18.74%	0.56%	
2015 Property Reassessment	0.0100	0.39%	30,568,328,328	3,056,833	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000023)	0.0100	0.40%	0.01%	
Debt Service	0.0243	0.94%	30,568,328,328	7,428,104	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000036)	0.0242	0.97%	0.03%	
(1a) Cumulative Bridge	0.0066	0.33%	30,568,328,328	2,828,876	70,821,227	0.2317%	-	0.0066	0.34%	0.01%	
Health	0.0054	0.21%	26,204,206,493	1,415,027	70,821,227	0.2703%	(0.000015)	0.0054	0.21%	0.01%	
Drain Improvement	0.0078	0.30%	30,568,328,328	2,384,330	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000016)	0.0078	0.31%	0.01%	
PSP Operating	0.0039	1.31%	27,000,154,048	8,159,846	70,821,227	0.2621%	(0.000089)	0.0038	1.35%	0.04%	
County School Distribution/Supplemental	0.0116	0.45%	30,568,328,328	1,545,928	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000027)	0.0116	0.48%	0.01%	
Park & Recreation	0.0165	0.71%	30,568,328,328	5,655,141	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000043)	0.0165	0.73%	0.02%	
Park Bond	0.0029	0.11%	30,568,328,328	886,482	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000007)	0.0029	0.12%	0.00%	
Park Bond #2	0.0071	0.27%	30,568,328,328	2,170,351	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000016)	0.0071	0.28%	0.01%	
(1a) Cumulative Park & Recreation	0.0023	0.09%	30,568,328,328	703,072	70,821,227	0.2317%	-	0.0023	0.09%	0.00%	
(f) Cumulative Capital Development	0.0286	1.11%	30,568,328,328	8,893,879	70,821,227	0.2317%	-	0.0286	1.15%	0.04%	\$ 20,397
Total County Rate	\$ 0.8331	24.48%		\$ 182,889,607			\$ (0.001387)	\$ 0.8317	25.15%	0.75%	\$ 20,397
North Township											
General	\$ 0.0110	0.42%	\$ 10,240,433,668	\$ 1,126,448	\$ 70,821,227	0.0916%	\$ (0.000076)	\$ 0.0109	0.43%	0.01%	
Township Assistance (Poor Relief)	0.0488	1.88%	10,240,433,668	4,997,352	70,821,227	0.0916%	(0.000037)	0.0485	1.93%	0.05%	
Recreation	0.0117	0.45%	10,240,433,668	1,188,151	70,821,227	0.0916%	(0.000081)	0.0116	0.46%	0.01%	
(f) Cumulative Park & Recreation	0.0054	0.21%	10,240,433,668	552,983	70,821,227	0.0916%	-	0.0054	0.21%	0.01%	\$ 3,824
Total Township Rate	\$ 0.8789	2.93%		\$ 7,874,933			\$ (0.000404)	\$ 0.8784	3.04%	0.06%	\$ 3,824
Town of Highland											
General	\$ 0.4433	17.06%	\$ 1,516,563,908	\$ 6,722,924	\$ 70,821,227	4.6698%	\$ (0.007010)	\$ 0.4228	16.82%	-0.28%	
Debt Service	0.0533	2.05%	1,516,563,908	808,329	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.002483)	0.0590	2.02%	-0.03%	
Police Pension	0.0001	0.00%	1,516,563,908	1,517	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.000005)	0.0001	0.00%	0.00%	
Park and Recreation	0.0026	3.57%	1,516,563,908	1,404,338	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.004324)	0.0083	3.51%	-0.05%	
Park Bond	0.0023	3.17%	1,516,563,908	1,248,132	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.003843)	0.0085	3.12%	-0.05%	
(f) Cumulative Capital Development (CCD)	0.0464	1.78%	1,516,563,908	703,686	70,821,227	4.6698%	-	0.0464	1.85%	0.06%	\$ 32,361
Redevelopment General	0.0217	0.84%	1,516,563,908	329,094	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.001013)	0.0207	0.82%	-0.01%	
Total Corporation Rate	\$ 0.7397	26.50%		\$ 11,218,033			\$ (0.003371)	\$ 0.7473	28.16%	-0.24%	\$ 12,801
Highland Town School Corporation											
Debt Service	\$ 0.5839	22.50%	\$ 1,516,563,908	\$ 8,955,217	\$ 70,821,227	4.6698%	\$ (0.007267)	\$ 0.5558	22.16%	-0.34%	
Operations (CPT) Transportation/Bus Replacement	0.2832	11.30%	1,516,563,908	4,446,585	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.013692)	0.2795	11.15%	-0.17%	
Total School Rate	\$ 0.8771	33.80%		\$ 13,381,782			\$ (0.040859)	\$ 0.8381	33.28%	-0.17%	\$ -
Lake County Public Library											
General	\$ 0.0824	3.18%	\$ 17,067,351,555	\$ 14,055,259	\$ 70,821,227	0.4152%	\$ (0.000342)	\$ 0.0821	3.27%	0.09%	
Total Library Rate	\$ 0.8124	3.18%		\$ 14,055,259			\$ (0.000342)	\$ 0.8121	3.27%	0.09%	\$ -
Special District(s)											
Highland Water District - Debt Service	\$ 0.0283	1.04%	\$ 1,516,563,908	\$ 407,856	\$ 70,821,227	4.6698%	\$ (0.001236)	\$ 0.0256	1.02%	-0.02%	
Highland Sanitary - General	0.0172	0.66%	1,516,563,908	260,840	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.000803)	0.0164	0.65%	-0.01%	
Highland Sanitary - Debt Service	0.1169	4.58%	1,516,563,908	1,903,194	70,821,227	4.6698%	(0.005552)	0.1133	4.51%	-0.07%	
Solid Waste Management District (Lake County)	0.0228	0.88%	30,568,328,328	6,969,579	70,821,227	0.2317%	(0.000553)	0.0227	0.91%	0.03%	
	\$ 0.1858	7.18%					\$ (0.007693)	\$ 0.1781	7.09%	-0.07%	\$ -
Total Gross Tax Rate	\$ 2.5600						\$ (0.003124)	\$ 2.5110		0.24%	\$ 57,002
LOT PTIC Percentage:	16.63280%						Variance Rate %:	-1.2071%			

NOTE:

(f) Funds controlled by a State-liable maximum tax rate or rate cap/levy funds.

(g) Controlled (cumulative) levies within the maximum levy, meaning the levies are less sensitive and not rate sensitive.

Impact to \$/M of Commerce (Manufacturing Land Use): \$ 893.81  
Cumulative Fund Leverage Analysis (\$1 CCD to \$ \_\_\_ Tax Increment Revenue): \$ 30.63

\*the full report is on file in the Office of Redevelopment Director



**TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
HIGHLAND REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**Annual Report of the Redevelopment Commission:**  
Activities of the Redevelopment Commission and  
Designated Allocation Areas  
*(Pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-14-13 and Indiana Code 36-7-14.5-9)*

Fiscal Year 2024  
January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

April 1, 2025

Prepared for:  
Maria Becerra, Redevelopment Director and the  
Highland Redevelopment Commission



Dan Bolich, President + Sr. Development Economic Finance Professional  
Development Economic Finance LLC

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## Redevelopment Commission TOWN OF HIGHLAND

3333 Ridge Road ♦ Highland, Indiana 46322 ♦ 219-972-7598 ♦ fax 219-972-5097

April 1, 2025

Mr. George Georgeff, President  
Common Council  
Highland Municipal Building  
3333 Ridge Road  
Highland, Indiana 46322

Dear Council President Georgeff,

In accordance with Indiana Code 36-7-14-13 and Indiana Code 36-7-14.5-9, as amended, the Town of Highland, Indiana Redevelopment Commission (Commission) shall file with the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF), an annual report (Report) setting out Commission activities during the preceding calendar year, by April 15, 2025. The Commission must also report on the activities of each designated allocation area within the Highland Redevelopment District for the previous year.

In addition, a copy of this Report must be submitted to DLGF in electronic format under Indiana Code 5-14-6 titled Electronic Transmission of Reports to the General Assembly. The DLGF requires that the Commission submit its report through the Indiana Gateway for Government Units ("Gateway").

Therefore, enclosed is Commission's Annual Report describing the activities of the Commission for the previous fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 (Fiscal Year 2024) pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-14-13 and Indiana Code 36-7-14.5-9.

Should you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me.

Respectfully,

  
**Maria Becerra**  
Redevelopment Director  
Highland Redevelopment Commission

Enclosure

cc: Mark Herak, Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Highland  
Members of the Highland Redevelopment Commission  
John P. Reed, Legal Counsel to the Commission and the Town Common Council

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**CERTIFICATE OF THE CLERK-TREASURER**

State of Indiana       )  
                                  )       SS:  
County of Lake        )

I, the undersigned duly elected official and serving Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana ("Town"), having offered affirmation upon my oath, do hereby certify as follows:

1. That as the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town, I serve as both fiscal officer and disbursing officer for the Town as a political subdivision.
2. That, as treasurer of the Highland Redevelopment Commission pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-14-8(b), I have reviewed the FY 2024 Annual Report as prepared in accordance with Indiana Code 36-7-14-13 by the Highland Redevelopment Commission.
3. That I make this certificate for the purposes of affirming to the President of the Common Council of the Town as the municipal executive, the Common Council as the fiscal body of the Town and the Department of Local Government Finance ("DLGF") as to this review and the financial data contained in the attached Annual Report of the Commission for Fiscal Year 2024 and presenting it as the report in satisfaction of Indiana Code 36-7-14, more specifically Sections 8(b), and Section 13(a), 13(b) and 13(c).
4. That financial data represented in this Annual Report of the Commission for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 (Fiscal Year 2024) to which this certificate refers, to the best of my knowledge and belief, ties to the financial records of the Town, which are in my custody and care as the financial officer of the Town and its executive departments, which includes the Redevelopment Department of the Town, pursuant to Indiana Code 36-5-6, et seq., Indiana Code 36-7-14-8, and Indiana Code 36-7-14-13.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and the Corporate Seal of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana this \_\_\_\_ day of April 2025. I certify that I am duly elected, qualified and serving as the Clerk-Treasurer for the Town, and as such empowered pursuant to Indiana Code 33-42-4-1 and Indiana Code 36-5-6-5 to make such acknowledgement.

Authority Expiration: The Director of the Lake County Combined Board certified my election as the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana. I was qualified to office upon my oath as administered to serve a four-year term as Clerk-Treasurer for the Town, and until a successor is elected and qualified, pursuant to Indiana Code 36-5-6-2(b).

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Mark Herak, Clerk-Treasurer  
Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana

## SECTION I

### Purpose of the Report

On March 19, 2012, Governor Mitch Daniels signed into law Senate Enrollment Act 19 ("SEA 19"), which amended Indiana Code ("IC") 36-7-14-13 and specified additional reporting requirements for redevelopment commissions and required redevelopment commissions to submit copies of required reports to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance (the "DLGF").

Pursuant to IC 36-7-14-13(a) as amended under SEA 567-2015 [P.L. 5-2015, Section 67 and P.L. 87-2015, Section 2], the commissioners or their designees of the Town of Highland, Indiana (the "Town") Redevelopment Commission (the "Commission") not later than April 15 of each year shall file with the unit's executive and its fiscal body a report setting out their activities during the preceding calendar year.

The report shall include, in accordance with IC 36-7-14-13(b) the following information:

- The names of the then qualified and acting commissioners.
- The names of the officers of the Commission.
- The number of regular employees and their fixed salaries or compensation.
- The amount of the expenditures made during the preceding year and their general purpose.
- An accounting of tax increment revenues expended by any entity receiving the tax increment revenues as a grant or loan from the Commission.
- The amount of funds on hand at the close of the calendar year.
- Other information necessary to disclose the activities of the Commissioners and the results obtained.

In accordance with IC 36-7-14-13(d), a copy of the report as filed under IC 36-7-14-13(a) must be submitted to the DLGF in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 titled Electronic Transmission of Reports to the General Assembly. The DLGF requires that the Commission submit its report through the Indiana Gateway for Government Units ("Gateway").<sup>1</sup>

The purpose of this Annual Report of the Commissioners: Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024 (the "2024 Annual Report") is to meet the statutory disclosure and filing requirements in accordance with IC 36-7-14-13 and the filing requirement pursuant to DLGF Memorandum dated January 21, 2016.

## SECTION II

### Redevelopment Department and Commission Establishment

Pursuant to the Highland Municipal Code, as amended through December 31, 2024, Chapter 14.10 titled "Department of Redevelopment and Redevelopment Commission", more specifically Section 14.10.020(a):

*"There is established a department of redevelopment in the town, to be controlled by and pursuant to the provisions of IC 36-7-14-1 through 36-7-14-52 as may be amended from time to time. The department is composed of the Highland redevelopment commission and such persons it may employ."*

The Department and the Commission were established by the Council to overcome and alleviate conditions that created "areas needing redevelopment" in designated areas of the Town through new development, redevelopment and rehabilitation activities designed to improve economic and physical conditions under its jurisdiction

<sup>1</sup> Memorandum dated January 9, 2014 from Micah G. Vincent, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, to redevelopment commissions discussing new reporting requirements for 2014 for redevelopment commissions. A follow-up Memorandum dated January 21, 2016 from Geoff Kuester, Director of Data Analysis titled 2016 TIF Management Application Launched discussed the revisions in reporting requirements for 2016 pursuant to SEA 567-2016.

(the "Redevelopment District") – which is coterminous with the corporate boundaries of the Town<sup>2</sup> – in accordance with IC 36-7-14 titled "Redevelopment of Areas Needing Redevelopment Generally; Redevelopment Commissions" and IC 36-7-25 titled "Additional Powers of Redevelopment Commissions" (together, the "Acts").

It is the duty of the Commission in accordance with IC 36-7-14-11 to:

- Investigate, study, and survey areas needing redevelopment within the Redevelopment District.
- Investigate, study, and determine, to the extent possible, combat the causes of areas needing redevelopment.
- Promote the uses of land in the manner that best serves the interests of the Redevelopment District and its inhabitants.
- Cooperate with the Town, its departments and other governmental entities and agencies in the manner that best serves the purposes of the Acts.
- Make findings and reports on their activity under the Acts and to keep reports open to inspection by the public at offices of the Department and/or the Commission.
- Select and acquire the areas needing redevelopment to be redeveloped under the Acts.
- Replan and dispose of areas needing redevelopment in the manner that best serves the social and economic interests of the Redevelopment District and its inhabitants.

The Commission is a separate, legal entity; however, the Council serves as the legislative body, approving legislative actions of the Commission and is the fiscal body of the Town.

The Redevelopment Director coordinates budget and reporting requirements, along with the preparation of the Commission meeting agendas, notifications, and minutes as well as the daily administration and management of the Department on behalf of the Commission.

The Commission retains various professional services to provide guidance and advice to the Commission related to legal, financial matters, financial reporting and economic development-finance as it relates to tax increment revenue from designated allocation areas of the Redevelopment District, as well as other redevelopment and economic development planning and strategic matters.

### SECTION III

#### Members and Officers

Qualifications to be a member of the Commission include, in accordance with IC 36-7-14-7(d), that each Commission member shall be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the Town.

The terms of office shall be in accordance with IC 36-7-14-7 with each Commission member, upon taking and subscribing to an oath of office as certified with the Clerk-Treasurer, serving for a period of one year from the first day of January after appointment and until a qualified successor is appointed.

The Commission is comprised of five members as appointees by the appropriate appointing authorities in accordance with IC 36-7-14-6.1. The following individuals were qualified and appointed as Commission members ("Commissioners") during fiscal year 2024.

Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner
<b>Doug Turich</b>	<b>George Georgeff</b>	<b>Phillip Scheeringa</b>	<b>Tom Black</b>	<b>Alex Robertson</b>
1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024	1-1-2024 to 12-31-2024

<sup>2</sup> Highland Municipal Ordinance, Chapter 14.10 titled "Department of Redevelopment and Redevelopment Commission", more specifically Section 14.10.020(c). [Ordinance 1627, §1, 2016].

Furthermore, in accordance with IC 36-7-14-6.1(a) the municipal executive (President of the Council) shall also appoint an individual to serve as a nonvoting advisor to the Commission beginning July 1, 2008. Pursuant to Section 6.1(d), the nonvoting member must also be a member of a school board of a school corporation that includes all or part the Redevelopment District, serving for a term of two (2) years or until a successor is appointed and at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

The municipal executive (the President of the Council) appointed the following nonvoting advisor for terms ending December 31, 2024:

- Patrick Krull (Highland Town School Corporation)

#### Commission Officers

The members of the Commission nominated and elected the following from its membership as Commission officers for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

Commissioner	Office Held	Term
George Georgeff	President	01-01-2024 through 12-31-2024
Doug Turich	Vice-President	01-01-2024 through 12-31-2024
Alex Robertson	Secretary	01-01-2024 through 12-31-2024

#### Treasurer of the Commission

Pursuant to IC 36-7-14-7.1 effective January 1, 2016, the fiscal officer of the unit establishing a redevelopment commission is the treasurer of the Commission. Notwithstanding any other provision of IC 36-7-14, the treasurer has charge over and is responsible for the administration, investment, and disbursement of all funds and accounts of the redevelopment commission in accordance with the requirements of state laws that apply to other funds and accounts administered by the fiscal officer.

The treasurer of the Commission during Fiscal Year 2024 was Mark Herak, the Clerk-Treasurer for the Town.

The Office of the Clerk-Treasurer regular business hours are 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday, exempt for specified holidays and office closures, for which financial records of the Commission are available for review and inspection.

The treasurer of the Commission oversees payroll services, accounts payable, capital projects, grants for the Commission as well as assisting Commission staff with the preparation of the Commission's budget, invests Commission funds, compiles accounting data to prepare annual financial reports, and is responsible for the annual audit report to the State Board of Accounts ("SBOA").

## SECTION IV

### Standing Committees

The Commission did not establish any standing committees to research or provide advice to the full Commission.



## SECTION V

### Commission Meetings

Meeting schedules were advertised by the Highland Clerk-Treasurer and effective January 1, 2024.

The Commission advertised study sessions would convene on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. The Commission advertised that study sessions would convene on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. followed by a regularly schedule monthly plenary business meeting. It was advised that due to holidays, or other circumstances, meetings throughout the year may be rescheduled or cancelled. All rescheduled meetings were advertised accordingly. Minutes are bound and archived within the municipal building and available for review and inspection during regular business hours. Minutes are also posted on the Town's website and available for public review.

Following is a list of the dates that public meetings and full study session were held. The Commission held the following categorized meeting during calendar year 2024.

Regular Plenary Meetings:	16
Special Meetings:	5
Study Sessions:	11
Executive Sessions:	2
<b>Total Meetings:</b>	<b>34</b>

Month	Regular Meetings	Special Meetings	Study Sessions	Executive Sessions
JAN	(1) January 22, 2024	(1) January 29, 2024		
FEB	(2) February 26, 2024	(2) February 12, 2024	(1) February 5, 2024	
MAR	(3) March 11, 2024 (4) March 25, 2024	(3) March 04, 2024	(2) March 18, 2024	(1) March 04, 2024
APR	(5) April 8, 2024 (6) April 22, 2024		(3) April 1, 2024 (4) April 15, 2024	(2) April 01, 2024
MAY	(7) May 13, 2024 (8) May 28, 2024		(5) May 6, 2024 (6) May 20, 2024	
JUNE	(9) June 10, 2024 (10) June 24, 2024			
JULY	(11) July 15, 2024	(4) July 22, 2024	(7) July 1, 2024	
AUG	(12) August 19, 2024	(5) August 5, 2024		
SEPT	(13) September 16, 2024		(8) September 9, 2024	
OCT	(14) October 21, 2024		(9) October 7, 2024	
NOV	(15) November 18, 2024		(10) November 18, 2024	
DEC	(16) December 16, 2024		(11) December 2, 2024	

## SECTION VI

### Commission Staff

The Commission utilized the following staff of the Department and the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer to provide daily administrative and management services as well as document retention. Town staff members' salaries (Office of the Clerk-Treasurer) are not supplemented for services provided to the Commission.

Title	Name	Salary	Employment
Redevelopment Director	Maria Becerra	\$ 70,791.20	1.1.2024 to 12.31.2024
Recording Secretary	Maria Becerra	688.56	3.1.2024 to 12.31.2024
Redevelopment Assistant	Kendra Hernandez	26,624.25	5.28.2024 to 12.31.2024
Total of Salaries:		\$ 98,104.01	

## SECTION VII

### Professional Services

The Commission engaged the following professional services through contractual agreement during Fiscal Year 2024. Professional services retained were for the purpose of Commission administrative and management support, including redevelopment services for the maintenance of real property owned by the Department of Redevelopment.

Company	Professional Service	Fees	Contact Person
American Structure Point	Financial Consulting	\$ 41,383.94	John Kennedy
DEF Consulting	Finance Consulting	29,137.50	Dan Botich
Abrahamsen Reed & Bilse	Legal Services	4,370.00	John Reed
Arsh Group	Consulting	22,906.00	Taghi Arshami
Bochnowski Appraisal	Appraisal Services	6,800.00	Thomas Bochnowski
Police Facility Design Group	Finance Consulting	5,000.00	James Estes
Austgen, Kuiper, Jasaitis	Legal Services	9,116.00	Mike Jasaitis
K&S Engineering	Engineering	3,000.00	Rahman Babur
London Witte Group	Financial Consulting	8,307.70	Jim Higgins
NIES Engineering	Engineering	8,431.36	Derek Snyder
Sekerez Land Surveying	Surveying	1,800.00	Randy Serekez
Vale Appraisal Group	Appraisers	5,200.00	Jeff Vale
Total of Professional Fees:		\$ 145,452.50	

## SECTION VIII

### FY 2024 Resolution Action

The Commission adopted, approved and ratified certain resolutions during calendar year 2024 as official action of the Commission as it related to Department projects and programming establishment, administration, monitoring for the permanent record.

**APPENDIX A** titled "Summary of Commission Resolutions" is a summary of those resolutions approved by the Commission from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

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## SECTION IX

### FY 2024 Goals

The Commission identified the following goals, projects, programs, and major tasks for implementation during FY 2024. Below is an overview of the Commission's progress on this list for implementation and to re-assess for FY 2024.

#### Goals Achieved

- **Development of Business Park South Kennedy Avenue and Main Street**
  - a. Expansion of the Commercial Corridor Allocation Plan for future south Kennedy development
    - i. **Declaratory Resolution** – Redevelopment approved
    - ii. **Plan Commission** – Approved
    - iii. **Town Council** – Approved
    - iv. **Confirmatory Resolution** to be approved by Redevelopment Commission Final
- **Development of North Kennedy Corridor of Downtown Highland in conjunction with south Kennedy development efforts.**
- **Development 8113 – 8200 Indianapolis Boulevard (6 acres) Town owned parcels - Offered for future Development**
  - a. Commercial appraisals completed
  - b. Offered for Development
    - i. Bids first quarter of 2025
- **Development Commercial Corridor - Acquisition of Property – 7941 -7950 Kennedy Avenue**
  - a. Appraisals completed
  - b. Phase I completed
  - c. Survey conducted
  - d. Acquired: December 2024
- **Development of the 8100 Indianapolis Parcel – ongoing conversations with out-of-town owner**
- **Comprehensive Master Plan Update**
  - a. Request for Proposals developed and advertised May 2024 due were June 13: 2024
  - b. Proposals scored by a scoring committee
  - c. August 19, 2024 Contract approved
  - d. Consultant:
    - i. Website development,
    - ii. Public survey issued
    - iii. Anticipate 2025 for completion
- **Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan Federal Award Grant \$240,000 (local match \$60,000)**
  - a. SS4A Federal contract signed March 11, 2024
  - b. Request for proposal developed and advertised April 1, 2024 and due May 1, 2024
  - c. Consultants scored/selection contract approved June 10, 2024
  - d. SS4A Federal Quarterly Progress Reports & Financial Reports filed and approved
  - e. Public Outreach and surveys, dept heads & Town Council members assigned on task force
  - f. Presentation: Traffic Safety Commission about the Safe Street Grant and development of the plan
  - g. SS4A Action Plan Draft completed: December 31, 2024 – Action Plan to be approved by Town Council to prepare to meet the eligibility requirement for the SS4A Federal Implementation Grant – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2025



- **Commercial Property Grants Program Redevelopment District - 2024**
  - a. 2927 Jewett Street (Non-profit building elevator lift installed for accessibility)
  - b. 3805 Ridge Road (New business renovated a vacant commercial parcel)
  - c. 2933 Highway Avenue (Business relocated/expanded renovated abandoned building)
  - d. 9501 Indianapolis Boulevard (Exterior newly painted)
  - e. 2907 Jewett Street (Renovated exterior façade, windows & doors)
- **Highland Main Street (HMS) Collaboration and Partnership**
  - a. Coordination and collaboration with Main Street & Downtown Businesses initiatives and activities
  - b. Restaurant monthly crawls and several Big Crawl events
  - c. Thursday Markets - spring to fall
  - d. Installation of year-round decorative lighting on Highway Avenue (Kennedy Avenue to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue)
  - e. Jewett Street mural walls that deteriorated were repainted
  - f. Webpage Welcome Video developed
  - g. Main Square Fence Engineering work-initiated in collaboration with the Park Department
- **Commission Statutory Reporting and Compliance**
  - a. January 1, 2023 Pay 204 Capture Notices for each allocation area
  - b. Overlapping Tax Unit Notices of Commission Impacts of Captured Assessment
  - c. Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) Assessed Valuation Deductions (Tax Abatement) Compliance and Monitoring Report and review of company FORM CF-1s.
  - d. FY 2023 Annual Report and Financial Report compliance and filing with the Town Executive and the fiscal body of the Town.

### III. New Initiatives

#### The Redevelopment Commissions Initiatives during 2024:

- Issued Request for Proposals to update the Comprehensive Plan last updated 2007. The process to update the plan was initiated.
- Issued Request for Proposals to prepare a Safe Street for All Action Plan which is a prerequisite to apply in 2025 for an implementation plan grant to the USDOT.
- Appraisals were conducted on 6 acres owned by the Redevelopment Commission to begin the process to offer the parcel for future development.
- Appraisals, a Survey and Phase I, were conducted to acquire 3 parcels, 7941-7950 Kennedy Avenue, in the Commercial Corridor Redevelopment Area for future development.
- Consolidated and merged the Redevelopment Plan for the Highland (Downtown) Redevelopment Area and the Redevelopment Plan for the Commercial Corridors Redevelopment Area, including merging the respective allocation areas under the Highland Consolidated Redevelopment Area and Highland Consolidated Allocation Area.
- Prepared for an expansion of the Highland Consolidated Redevelopment Area and Highland Consolidated Allocation Area for the South Kennedy Redevelopment Area and Allocation Area for future commercial development.
- Awarded four (4) commercial improvement grants, 2927 Jewett Street, 3805 Ridge Road, 2933 Highway Avenue, and 9501 Indianapolis Boulevard.
- Improved the Highland Downtown Business District with year-round decorative lighting.
- Updated the electric feed panel for the "Welcome to Highland Sign" on Ridge Road and Highway Avenue.
- Repaired/re-painted an old Wall Mural on Jewett Street.
- Made landscape improvements on 2800-2900 Jewett Street south side bike trail area.
- Collaborated with the Highland Main Street and supported activities in the Community Garden.
- Preliminary engineering cost estimates to build a new Town Hall and for Main Square fencing and electric.

- Preliminary Engineering cost estimates to expand Central Fire Station
- Filed Redevelopment Commission Spending Plan pursuant to new statutory requirements.
- Facilitated and collaborated with the Economic Commission to schedule and hold its annual organizational meeting, held on June 11, 2024.

## SECTION X

### Summary of Commission Fund Reports for FY 2024

The following are year-to-date ("YTD") report summaries for funds created by the Town for the Commission to operate, administer and monitor the operations, project and programs of the Department, including all allocation area funds that are required to be established under IC 36-7-14-39(b)(3). Furthermore, and pursuant to IC 36-7-14-13(e)(1) and (2), the Commission has provided herein under **APPENDIX B** titled "Detail of Fund Financial Reports for FY 2024" the required detailed revenue and expense financial data respectively for each fund and designated allocation area fund number.

Department Fund (Fund No.)	(1/1/2024) Beginning Balance	(Debits) Revenues	(Credits) Expenses	(12/31/2024) Ending Balance
Redevelopment General (2216)	\$ 604,566.39	\$ 568,620.61	\$ 127,858.79	\$ 696,479.40
Redevelopment Bond & Interest (3311)	187,707.34	81,394.84	0.00	81,394.84
Redevelopment Capital (4406)	1,848,957.20	1,780,807.69	51,694.80	1,729,112.89
* Highland Redevelopment-Downtown (4445) <sup>1</sup>	1,105,693.72	1,181,727.42	288,374.46	893,352.96
* Highland Acres (4446)	919,248.86	990,312.06	71,063.18	1,061,375.24
* Highland Commercial Corridors (4447) <sup>1</sup>	5,790,594.95	1,088,626.81	0.00	6,879,221.76
* Cardinal Campus (4448)	176,926.50	414,012.36	398,619.71	192,319.15
<b>Consolidation and Merger Action</b>				
<sup>1</sup> Highland Consolidated Allocation Area	6,896,288.67	2,270,354.23	288,374.46	7,772,574.72
<b>Notes:</b> * Commission funds specifically established for designated allocation areas. 1. On December 12, 2023 the Commission approved Resolution No. 2023-15 as a Confirmatory Resolution which merged and consolidated the Highland Redevelopment (Downtown) Allocation Area and the Highland Commercial Corridors Allocation Area as the Highland Consolidated Allocation Area with each continuing to exist as sub-allocation areas within the Highland Consolidated Redevelopment Area. The ending balance of the Highland Consolidated Allocation Fund was \$7,772,574.72 on December 31, 2024, a fund balance increase of \$876,286.05 from December 31, 2023. SOURCE: Town of Highland, Indiana Department of Redevelopment reports and Department of Local Government Finance Annual Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2024 for the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.				

**APPENDIX B** titled "Detail of Fund Financial Reports for FY 2024" details each Commission fund as summarized above from financial reports provided by the Highland Clerk-Treasurer for the FY 2024 ending December 31, 2024.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
 REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Obligation Debt Service Schedule:  
 Town of Highland, Indiana Redevelopment District Bonds, Series 2014 (\$2,000,000)

5/6/2014	Dated Date:
5/6/2014	Accrue Interest Beginning
Variable	Interest Rate

Bond Year	Project Year	Collection Year	Date	Principal	Rate	Interest	Total	Balance Due
0.5		2013	5/6/2014	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000.00
1.0	1	2014	8/1/2014	-		10,027.00	10,027.00	2,000,000.00
1.5		2014	2/1/2015	110,000.00	2.00%	21,234.00	131,234.00	1,890,000.00
2.0	2	2015	8/1/2015	105,000.00	2.00%	20,134.00	125,134.00	1,785,000.00
2.5		2015	2/1/2016	105,000.00	2.00%	19,084.00	124,084.00	1,680,000.00
3.0	3	2016	8/1/2016	105,000.00	2.00%	18,034.00	123,034.00	1,575,000.00
3.5		2016	2/1/2017	105,000.00	2.00%	16,984.00	121,984.00	1,470,000.00
4.0	4	2017	8/1/2017	105,000.00	2.00%	15,934.00	120,934.00	1,365,000.00
4.5		2017	2/1/2018	105,000.00	2.00%	14,884.00	119,884.00	1,260,000.00
5.0	5	2018	8/1/2018	105,000.00	2.00%	13,834.00	118,834.00	1,155,000.00
5.5		2018	2/1/2019	105,000.00	2.00%	12,784.00	117,784.00	1,050,000.00
6.0	6	2019	8/1/2019	105,000.00	2.00%	11,734.00	116,734.00	945,000.00
6.5		2019	2/1/2020	105,000.00	2.00%	10,684.00	115,684.00	840,000.00
7.0	7	2020	8/1/2020	105,000.00	2.00%	9,634.00	114,634.00	735,000.00
7.5		2020	2/1/2021	105,000.00	2.13%	8,584.00	113,584.00	630,000.00
8.0	8	2021	8/1/2021	105,000.00	2.13%	7,468.00	112,468.00	525,000.00
8.5		2021	2/1/2022	105,000.00	2.30%	6,353.00	111,353.00	420,000.00
9.0	9	2022	8/1/2022	105,000.00	2.30%	5,145.00	110,145.00	315,000.00
9.5		2022	2/1/2023	105,000.00	2.50%	3,938.00	108,938.00	210,000.00
10.0	10	2023	8/1/2023	105,000.00	2.50%	2,625.00	107,625.00	105,000.00
10.5		2023	2/1/2024	105,000.00	2.50%	1,313.00	106,313.00	-
TOTALS				\$ 2,000,000.00		\$ 230,411.00	\$ 2,230,411.00	

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Obligation Debt Service Schedule:  
Town of Highland, Indiana Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2018 (Cardinal Campus Project)

Bond Year	Project Year	Collection Year	Date	Principal	Rate	Interest	Total	Balance Due
0.5		2018	6/21/2018	\$ -	1.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,810,000.00
1.0	1	2018	2/1/2019	-	1.00%	19,219.00	19,219.00	5,810,000.00
1.5		2019	8/1/2019	-	1.00%	29,050.00	29,050.00	5,810,000.00
2.0	2	2019	2/1/2020	145,000.00	1.00%	29,050.00	174,050.00	5,665,000.00
2.5		2020	8/1/2020	145,000.00	1.00%	28,325.00	173,325.00	5,520,000.00
3.0	3	2020	2/1/2021	145,000.00	1.00%	27,600.00	172,600.00	5,375,000.00
3.5		2021	8/1/2021	145,000.00	1.00%	26,875.00	171,875.00	5,230,000.00
4.0	4	2021	2/1/2022	145,000.00	1.00%	26,150.00	171,150.00	5,085,000.00
4.5		2022	8/1/2022	145,000.00	1.00%	25,425.00	170,425.00	4,940,000.00
5.0	5	2022	2/1/2023	150,000.00	1.00%	24,700.00	174,700.00	4,790,000.00
5.5		2023	8/1/2023	150,000.00	1.00%	23,950.00	173,950.00	4,640,000.00
6.0	6	2023	2/1/2024	150,000.00	1.00%	23,200.00	173,200.00	4,490,000.00
6.5		2024	8/1/2024	150,000.00	1.00%	22,450.00	172,450.00	4,340,000.00
7.0	7	2024	2/1/2025	150,000.00	1.00%	21,700.00	171,700.00	4,190,000.00
7.5		2025	8/1/2025	150,000.00	1.00%	20,950.00	170,950.00	4,040,000.00
8.0	8	2025	2/1/2026	150,000.00	1.00%	20,200.00	170,200.00	3,890,000.00
8.5		2026	8/1/2026	155,000.00	1.00%	19,450.00	174,450.00	3,735,000.00
9.0	9	2026	2/1/2027	155,000.00	1.00%	18,675.00	173,675.00	3,580,000.00
9.5		2027	8/1/2027	155,000.00	1.00%	17,900.00	172,900.00	3,425,000.00
10.0	10	2027	2/1/2028	155,000.00	1.00%	17,125.00	172,125.00	3,270,000.00
10.5		2028	8/1/2028	155,000.00	1.00%	16,350.00	171,350.00	3,115,000.00
11.0	11	2028	2/1/2029	155,000.00	1.00%	15,575.00	170,575.00	2,960,000.00
11.5		2029	8/1/2029	160,000.00	1.00%	14,800.00	174,800.00	2,800,000.00
12.0	12	2029	2/1/2030	160,000.00	1.00%	14,000.00	174,000.00	2,640,000.00
12.5		2030	8/1/2030	160,000.00	1.00%	13,200.00	173,200.00	2,480,000.00
13.0	13	2030	2/1/2031	160,000.00	1.00%	12,400.00	172,400.00	2,320,000.00
13.5		2031	8/1/2031	160,000.00	1.00%	11,600.00	171,600.00	2,160,000.00
14.0	14	2031	2/1/2032	160,000.00	1.00%	10,800.00	170,800.00	2,000,000.00
14.5		2032	8/1/2032	160,000.00	1.00%	10,000.00	170,000.00	1,840,000.00
15.0	15	2032	2/1/2033	165,000.00	1.00%	9,200.00	174,200.00	1,675,000.00
15.5		2033	8/1/2033	165,000.00	1.00%	8,375.00	173,375.00	1,510,000.00
16.0	16	2033	2/1/2034	165,000.00	1.00%	7,550.00	172,550.00	1,345,000.00
16.5		2034	8/1/2034	165,000.00	1.00%	6,725.00	171,725.00	1,180,000.00
17.0	17	2034	2/1/2035	165,000.00	1.00%	5,900.00	170,900.00	1,015,000.00
17.5		2035	8/1/2035	165,000.00	1.00%	5,075.00	170,075.00	850,000.00
18.0	18	2035	2/1/2036	170,000.00	1.00%	4,250.00	174,250.00	680,000.00
18.5		2036	8/1/2036	170,000.00	1.00%	3,400.00	173,400.00	510,000.00
19.0	19	2036	2/1/2037	170,000.00	1.00%	2,550.00	172,550.00	340,000.00
19.5		2037	8/1/2037	170,000.00	1.00%	1,700.00	171,700.00	170,000.00
20.0	20	2037	2/1/2038	170,000.00	1.00%	850.00	170,850.00	-
TOTALS				\$ 5,810,000.00		\$ 616,294.00	\$ 6,426,294.00	

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
 REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Obligation Debt Service Schedule:

Town of Highland, Indiana Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2022 (Cardinal Campus Project - PHASE II)

Bond Year	Project Year	Collection Year	Date	Principal	Rate	Interest	Total	Balance Due
0.5		2027	8/1/2027	\$ 250,000.00	1.00%	46,100.00	\$ 296,100.00	\$ 8,970,000.00
1.0	1	2027	2/1/2028	250,000.00	1.00%	44,850.00	294,850.00	8,720,000.00
1.5		2028	8/1/2028	250,000.00	1.00%	43,600.00	293,600.00	8,470,000.00
2.0	2	2028	2/1/2029	255,000.00	1.00%	42,350.00	297,350.00	8,215,000.00
2.5		2029	8/1/2029	255,000.00	1.00%	41,075.00	296,075.00	7,960,000.00
3.0	3	2029	2/1/2030	255,000.00	1.00%	39,800.00	294,800.00	7,705,000.00
3.5		2030	8/1/2030	255,000.00	1.00%	38,525.00	293,525.00	7,450,000.00
4.0	4	2030	2/1/2031	260,000.00	1.00%	37,250.00	297,250.00	7,190,000.00
4.5		2031	8/1/2031	260,000.00	1.00%	35,950.00	295,950.00	6,930,000.00
5.0	5	2031	2/1/2032	260,000.00	1.00%	34,650.00	294,650.00	6,670,000.00
5.5		2032	8/1/2032	260,000.00	1.00%	33,350.00	293,350.00	6,410,000.00
6.0	6	2032	2/1/2033	265,000.00	1.00%	32,050.00	297,050.00	6,145,000.00
6.5		2033	8/1/2033	265,000.00	1.00%	30,725.00	295,725.00	5,880,000.00
7.0	7	2033	2/1/2034	265,000.00	1.00%	29,400.00	294,400.00	5,615,000.00
7.5		2034	8/1/2034	265,000.00	1.00%	28,075.00	293,075.00	5,350,000.00
8.0	8	2034	2/1/2035	270,000.00	1.00%	26,750.00	296,750.00	5,080,000.00
8.5		2035	8/1/2035	270,000.00	1.00%	25,400.00	295,400.00	4,810,000.00
9.0	9	2035	2/1/2036	270,000.00	1.00%	24,050.00	294,050.00	4,540,000.00
9.5		2036	8/1/2036	275,000.00	1.00%	22,700.00	297,700.00	4,265,000.00
10.0	10	2036	2/1/2037	275,000.00	1.00%	21,325.00	296,325.00	3,990,000.00
10.5		2037	8/1/2037	275,000.00	1.00%	19,950.00	294,950.00	3,715,000.00
11.0	11	2037	2/1/2038	275,000.00	1.00%	18,575.00	293,575.00	3,440,000.00
11.5		2038	8/1/2038	280,000.00	1.00%	17,200.00	297,200.00	3,160,000.00
12.0	12	2038	2/1/2039	280,000.00	1.00%	15,800.00	295,800.00	2,880,000.00
12.5		2039	8/1/2039	280,000.00	1.00%	14,400.00	294,400.00	2,600,000.00
13.0	13	2039	2/1/2040	285,000.00	1.00%	13,000.00	298,000.00	2,315,000.00
13.5		2040	8/1/2040	285,000.00	1.00%	11,575.00	296,575.00	2,030,000.00
14.0	14	2040	2/1/2041	285,000.00	1.00%	10,150.00	295,150.00	1,745,000.00
14.5		2041	8/1/2041	285,000.00	1.00%	8,725.00	293,725.00	1,460,000.00
15.0	15	2041	2/1/2042	290,000.00	1.00%	7,300.00	297,300.00	1,170,000.00
15.5		2042	8/1/2042	290,000.00	1.00%	5,850.00	295,850.00	880,000.00
16.0	16	2042	2/1/2043	290,000.00	1.00%	4,400.00	294,400.00	590,000.00
16.5		2043	8/1/2043	295,000.00	1.00%	2,950.00	297,950.00	295,000.00
17.0	17	2043	2/1/2044	295,000.00	1.00%	1,475.00	296,475.00	-
TOTALS				\$ 9,220,000.00		\$ 829,325.00	\$ 10,049,325.00	



APPENDIX E

## Highland Redevelopment (Downtown) Allocation Area



 Highland Redevelopment Area and Allocation Area  
(Resolution No. 2011-04, January 12, 2011)

**Note:** On December 12, 2023 the Commission approved Resolution No. 2023-15 as a Confirmatory Resolution which merged and consolidated the Highland Redevelopment (Downtown) Allocation Area and the Highland Commercial Corridors Allocation Area as the Highland Consolidated Allocation Area with each continuing to exist as sub-allocation areas within the Highland Consolidated Redevelopment Area.

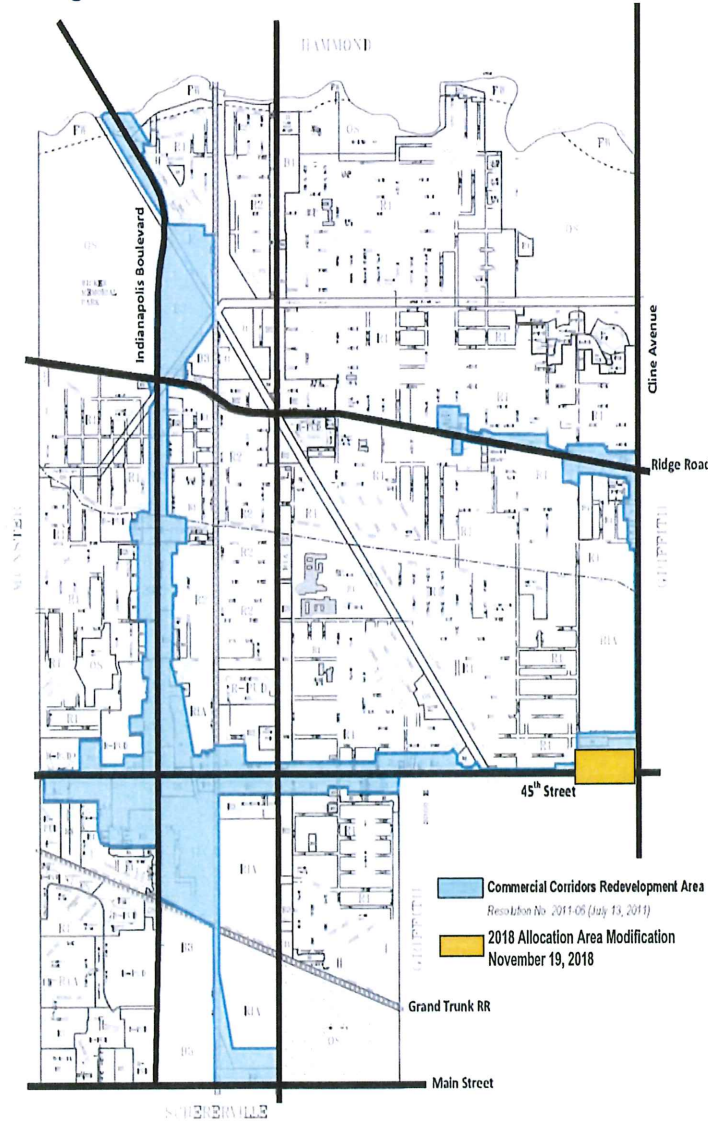
APPENDIX E

## Highland Acres Allocation Area



APPENDIX E

## Highland Commercial Corridors Allocation Area



**Note:** On December 12, 2023 the Commission approved Resolution No. 2023-15 as a Confirmatory Resolution which merged and consolidated the Highland Redevelopment (Downtown) Allocation Area and the Highland Commercial Corridors Allocation Area as the Highland Consolidated Allocation Area with each continuing to exist as sub-allocation areas within the Highland Consolidated Redevelopment Area.



APPENDIX E

### Cardinal Campus Allocation Area



3. **Resolution No. 2025-12:** A Resolution Expressing the Sense of the Town Council regarding its Opposition to SB1, cutting Residential and Business Personal Property from the Tax Base.

Councilor Robertson moved the passage and adoption of Resolution No. 2025-12. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The resolution was adopted.

**SENSE of the TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12**

**A Resolution Articulating the "SENSE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL" Regarding the INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S Proposed 2025 Legislation Cutting Residential and Business Personal Property from the Tax Base that would erode the Fiscal Stability for Local Governments and lead to severe cuts to services provided to our Residents while not providing a guaranteed replacement revenue stream, that continues to grow over time.**

**WHEREAS,** The Town of Highland was incorporated to provide certain public services to the residents of this community, all of whom are also residents of this state, and Nation, for whom their elected public servants commit their judgment and industry to promote the general welfare and common public good;

**WHEREAS,** The Highland Town Council, as the fiscal and legislative body of the Town of Highland, from time to time, encounters issues of public import and moment which warrant an expression from the elected representatives as part of the public discourse on the matter;

**WHEREAS,** The Town of Highland, through its Town Council, embraces a public finance system that is fair, sufficiently provides for the provision of public services at the highest possible quality, while at the lowest possible cost, and does not unduly interfere with the cultivation of business investment especially small business;

**WHEREAS,** Indiana State leaders and Lawmakers have advocated for and purposed multiple pieces of legislation in the 2025 legislative session that will cut residential and business personal property bills for homeowners and businesses and change how these tax liabilities are calculated;

**WHEREAS,** The personal property tax is part of the property tax base which is a relied upon method for funding local government generally, and supports public safety, street maintenance, parks, fire departments and the ability to attract and retain a talented workforce without much variability in a variety of economic cycles;

**WHEREAS,** These proposed drastic changes to Indiana's property tax system would have an impact on municipal taxing units exceeding \$1.1 Billion over three (3) years; and

**WHEREAS,** As of this date the statewide local impact of the primary tax-related bill is estimated to be \$1.1 Billion over a three (3) years, a staggering figure, that would cause widespread negative effects, increase tax burdens on individuals, while offering even more relief to businesses in an already business tax-friendly state; and

**WHEREAS,** The loss of property tax revenue will lead to severe cuts to services the Town can provide to the taxpaying residents of the Town of Highland, including public safety, street department operations, park services and the fire department; and

**WHEREAS,** Before contemplating any revenue decreases to Indiana Communities which impedes the Local Governments ability to deliver service and grow, the Indiana General Assembly should implement a balanced property tax relief program, that continues to grow over time just as a property tax base would in order to allow growing communities to meet the demand for services; and

**WHEREAS,** For Local Governments not at the circuit breaker caps, the contemplated reduction in the tax base could result in property owners paying more in residential property taxes, while for those communities at the circuit breaker caps, any phase out of the business personal property tax renders a loss in revenue for local units of government;

**WHEREAS,** The Foundation's 2025 property tax competitiveness report ranks Indiana to have the 5<sup>th</sup> best property tax rate in the nation and the #1 property tax rate in the Midwest. The Tax Foundation also ranks Indiana as the 10<sup>th</sup> best overall tax environment and the 3<sup>rd</sup> best state for business competitiveness in the nation;

**WHEREAS,** Indiana consistently ranks in the top states with an attractive business tax climate, yet a community's quality of life is an increasingly greater influencer of business relocation and growth decisions; and,

**WHEREAS,** The Indiana General Assembly is now considering SB 1, which if passed in its current iteration, would further shift in property taxation from the business tax base to the residential tax base;

**WHEREAS,** The Town of Highland by and through its elected officers now wishes to offer a *distinct* public expression on the public importance of this matter; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana that it is the *sense of the Town Council of Highland* is as follows:

**Section 1.** That the Highland Town Council strongly urges our legislatures to resist wholesale changes to the property tax system that would erode fiscal stability for local governments by eliminating any portion of the personal property tax base without providing a corresponding permanent, full, replacement guaranteed by the State of Indiana.

**Section 2.** That it is further the sense of the Town Council of the Town of Highland to urge the Indiana General Assembly to focus on targeted relief, considering stable revenue replacement for Local Governments, stand against arbitrary caps in budget growth and ensure Local Governments can financially provide services to its residents and businesses now and in the future and avert the undue impact on local government operations, allowing them to continue building healthy Indiana communities and provide essential public services;

**Section 3.** That the Clerk-Treasurer be hereby further instructed to transmit and forward this resolution to the President Pro Tempore of the Indiana State Senate, the Speaker of the Indiana House, the Governor of the State of Indiana, members of the delegation that represents and serves the Town of Highland, and such other persons as may be deemed to have an interest in this matter and to encourage those persons to evidence their strong desire to see the objects and purposes of this "*Sense of the Council Resolutions*" achieved.

**Duly Adopted** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025. Having been passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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George Georgeff

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Doug Turich

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Alex Robertson

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Tom Black

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Philip Scheeringa

Attest:

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1;IC 36-5-6-5)

Comments from the Public or Visitors:

Larry Kondrat, Highland, asked about re-establishing the MCCD Fund to the maximum amount allowable by state statute to \$.05 per each \$100 assessed valuation., He said the Town is increasing his property taxes by re-establishing the fund.

The Clerk-Treasurer explained to the Council that by re-establishing the fund to \$.05,the Town would generate an additional \$59,000.

Mr. Kondrat then said this Council is spending money like there is no tomorrow. With the passage of SB1, the Town will be forced to Adopt a local income to make up for the revenue shortfall in property tax collections. He said, we don't have money to pave streets but the Town can buy a building at \$370,000 to house an animal shelter or put up a \$600,000 fence around Main Square.

Councilor Black said the State is trying to take the burden off of them and put it on the local governments.

Councilor Scheeringa said the payment of the fence is coming out of redevelopment money.

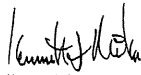
**Staff Reports:** The following staff reports were received and filed.

Building Report March, 2025

PERMIT TYPE	#	Res.	Comm.	Est. Cost	Fee Collected
Commercial Buildings	0			\$ -	\$ -
Comm. Additions/Remodel	6		6	\$ 1,907,995.00	\$ 32,655.00
Signs	3		3	\$ 7,486.00	\$ 691.50
Single Family	0			\$ -	\$ -
Duplex/Condo	0			\$ -	\$ -
Residential Additions	0			\$ -	\$ -
Residential Remodeling	56	56		\$ 917,586.00	\$ 18,979.50
Concrete/Asphalt/Flatwork	6	6		\$ 42,648.00	\$ 1,075.50
Garages	0			\$ -	\$ -
Sheds	0			\$ -	\$ -
Decks & Porches	4	4		\$ 18,934.00	\$ 1,236.00
Fences	9	9		\$ 42,045.00	\$ 1,566.00
Above/In ground pools	1	1		\$ -	\$ 54.00
Drain Tile/Waterproofing	4	4		\$ 57,000.00	\$ 1,339.50
Misc. Demo (1); Road Cut (6)	7	7		\$ -	\$ 1,339.75
<b>Total Building Permits</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$ 2,993,694.00</b>	<b>\$ 58,936.75</b>
Electrical Permits	19	11	8	\$ -	\$ 5,975.00
Mechanical Permits	12	10	2	\$ -	\$ 1,387.00
Plumbing Permits	20	16	4	\$ -	\$ 3,231.30
Water Meters	3	2	1	\$ -	\$ 1,916.70
Water Taps	0			\$ -	\$ -
Sewer/Storm Taps	0			\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Plumbing Permits</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 5,148.00</b>

March 2025 Code Enforcement: 109 Investigations, 75 Warnings & 14 Citations were issued.  
 Inspections done for the month of March 2025 were as follows: 23 Building Inspections,  
 26 Plumbing Inspections, 13 HVAC and 24 Electrical Inspections. No Electrical Exams given.

Submitted By:



Kenneth J. Mika

**2025**  
TOWN OF HIGHLAND INJURIES FOR THE MONTH  
**MARCH**

CASE	DATE	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION	Record Only No Med Treatment	OSHA Recordable	Not OSHA Recordable	Filed with WC Insurance
	OF INJURY						
RO-3	3/15/25	Park	EE Setting up new table tennis table, when table collapsed onto R foot	X		X	X
RO-4	3/13/25	Police	EE attempted to get an injured dog out of his vehicle and the dog lunged at him & bit EE's right fingers	X		X	X

RO = Record Only

DEPT	2025		2024	2025			
	INJURIES	YEAR TO		RESTRICTED	LOST DAYS	RESTRICTED	LOST DAYS
	THIS MONTH	DATE		DAYS THIS YEAR	THIS YEAR	DAYS 2024	2024
PARK & REC	1	1	1		7	4	56
FIRE			1				
POLICE	1	2	7		29	0	17
STREET		1	1				
WATER			1				
SEWER			1				
CT			1				
REDV			1				
TOTALS	2	4	13	0	36	4	73

Effective January 1, 2002 OSHA changed the recordkeeping guidelines. We now count the number of days lost from the day after the injury until the employee returns to work. Weekends, holidays, vacation days or other days scheduled off are included in the lost days count to a maximum of 180 days

**Mark Herak**

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**From:** Denise Beck  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 8, 2025 10:39 AM  
**To:** Mark Herak  
**Cc:** Chad Kinley; Chief Michael Pipta  
**Subject:** Fire Department Stats

Good morning,

March 2025 Stats

Types of Calls:	2025	YTD
General Alarms	16	42
Paid Still Alarms	40	94
Totals	56	136

*Denise Beck*

Administrative Assistant  
Highland Fire Department  
2901 Highway Ave.  
Highland, IN 46322  
(219)-923-9876



**Communications:**

Park Clean-up Day April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 11:30, Volunteers welcomed  
Restaurant Crawl April 29<sup>th</sup>  
Police Memorial Service May 10<sup>th</sup> at Markley Park starting at 9:00 o'clock am  
National Police Appreciation Week May 11<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup>  
Spring Clean-up May 20, 2025

**Appointments:**

• **Statutory Boards and Commissions**

*Executive Appointments (May be made in meeting or at another time)*

Regional Statutory Commissions or Boards

1. **Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors.** (1) Appointment by Town Council President. (NOT DUE UNTIL JUNE 30 2025) (Currently serving Christine Cash) Appointing authority must give sole consideration to individuals who are knowledgeable about or employed as executives or managers in Hotel, Motel, Banking, Real Estate and hospitality. Cannot hold an elected or appointed political office

**Home Rule Boards and Commissions**

*Legislative Appointments*

1. **Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals:** (1) appointment to be made by Fiscal Body. (Note: Currently held by David Helms, term ending 1<sup>st</sup> Monday January 2025). Term is for three (3) years.

Regional Statutory Commissions or Boards

Home Rule Commissions

2. **Main Street Bureau Board:** (17) appointments to be made by the Town Council. Term: Two years ending 1 Jan 2025. Currently serving are Alex Robertson, Diane Barr-Roumbus, James Roumbus Sandy McKnight, Al Simmons, Ben Reinhart, Sandy Ray, Ben Tomera and Desiree Biro.

**General Orders and Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

1. **Resolution No. 2025-10:** A Resolution Authorizing the Town of Highland, Indiana to Enter into an Agreement with the County of Lake, Indiana in Undertaking Community Development Activities for Fiscal Year 2025.

Councilor Scheeringa moved the passage and adoption of Resolution No. 2025-10. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and (0) negatives. The motion passed. The resolution was adopted pending the signature of the Town Executive.

**Town of Highland  
TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING the TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA to ENTER INTO an AGREEMENT with the COUNTY of LAKE, INDIANA in UNDERTAKING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

**Whereas,** The Town of Highland, Indiana is interested in a program of Community Development; and

**Whereas,** It is necessary for the Town of Highland, to obtain funds to achieve such goals and objectives as provided by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended; and

**Whereas,** Said Act encourages municipalities to enter into Cooperation Agreements with the County regarding said Act; and

**Whereas,** The County of Lake has expressed its desire to qualify as an Urban County under the provisions of the aforesaid Act,

**NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, County of Lake, Indiana as follows:

**Section 1.** That the cooperation agreement for the purpose of undertaking essential community development activities as a participating unit of general local government for a term of two (2) years covering the **Federal fiscal year 2025**, by and between the County of Lake, State of Indiana through its Board of Commissioners and the Town of Highland, by its Town Council is hereby approved in each and every respect;

**Section 2.** That the President of the Town Council is hereby authorized and directed to evidence this approval by entering into the agreement with the County of Lake, State of Indiana, for the purpose of undertaking essential community development activities as a participating unit of general local government, a copy of which Agreement is attached hereto, incorporated herein by reference and identified as "*FY 2025 Cooperation Agreement.*"

**Passed and Duly Adopted** by the Town Council, Lake County, Indiana this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025. Having been approved by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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George Georgeff, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1;IC 36-5-6-5)

2. Authorizing the proper officer to publish legal notice of a public hearing: A Public Hearing to consider additional appropriations in the amount of \$35,000.00 in the MCCD Fund. If approved, the public hearing will be held on April 28, 2025, at 6:30 P.M. O'clock in the Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland.

Councilor Robertson moved to authorize the proper officer to publish legal notice as indicated. Councilor Turich seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The proper officer was authorized to publish the notice as indicated

TOWN OF HIGHLAND  
NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL  
APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, that the Town Council of said Municipality in said Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, at 6:30 p.m. on the 28th day of April 2025, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year in the following funds:

MCCD Fund

4402-0000-39074 Storm Damage	\$	35,000.00
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Total for 300 Series:	\$	35,000.00
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Total for the Fund:	\$35,000.00
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Funds to support these additional appropriations in the MCCD Fund shall be supported by miscellaneous revenue, unreserved unobligated fund balance on deposit to the credit of the fund.

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The additional appropriations, as finally made, will be filed with the Department of Local Government Finance, for its review. The Department of Local Government Finance shall make a written determination of the sufficiency of funds within fifteen days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

TOWN COUNCIL of HIGHLAND  
George Georgeff, President

By: Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

3. Authorizing the proper officer to publish legal notice for a public hearing to consider the establishment of the Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund under the provisions of Indiana Code IC 36-9-15.5. If approved, the public hearing will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025, at 6:30 o'clock pm. at the a Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland.

Councilor Black moved to authorize the proper officer to publish legal notice as indicated. Councilor Scheeringa seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The proper officer was authorized to publish the notice as indicated

**TOWN of HIGHLAND, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA**  
**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF HEARING ON PROPOSED MUNICIPAL CUMMULATIVE**  
**CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the TOWN of HIGHLAND, Lake, County, Indiana, that the Highland Town Council will consider at the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana at 6:30 o'clock p.m. on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025, the Establishment of the Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund under the provisions of Indiana Code IC 36-9-15.5 et sequitur for the purposes as follows:

**For all uses as set out in IC 36-9-15.5**

The fund will be provided for by a tax rate of five cents (\$.05) per each one hundred dollars (\$100) of taxable real and personal property within the taxing unit beginning in 2025 payable in 2026 and thereafter, continuing until reduced or rescinded.

Twenty-five (25) or more taxpayers in the taxing unit who will be affected by the tax rate and corresponding levy may file a petition with the Lake County Auditor not later than noon thirty (30) days after the publication of this Notice setting forth their objections to the proposed cumulative fund. Upon the filing of this petition, the County Auditor shall immediately certify the same to the Department of Local Government Finance, at which point the Department will fix a date for and conduct a public hearing on the proposed cumulative fund before issuing its approval, disapproval, or modification thereof.

Dated this 14th Day of April 2025.

**HIGHLAND TOWN COUNCIL**  
George Georgeff, President

By: OFFICE of the TOWN CLERK-TREASURER  
Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

4. **Proposed Ordinance No. 1817:** An Ordinance to Amend the Highland Municipal Code by Repealing the subchapter establishing the Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund, and amending by re-Establishing the subchapter, with the same sections in the Highland Municipal Code, all Pursuant to IC 36-1-3, IC 36-5-2, IC 36-9-15.5 and IC 6-1.1-41 et seq. (Introduce only)

Councilor Black introduced and filed. There was no further action.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1817**  
**of the**

**TOWN of HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE BY REPEALING THE SUBCHAPTER ESTABLISHING THE MUNICIPAL CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND AMENDING BY RE-ESTABLISHING THE SUBCHAPTER, WITH THE SAME SECTIONS in the HIGHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE, ALL PURSUANT TO IC 36-1-3, IC 36-5-2, IC 36-9-15.5 AND IC 6-1.1-41 ET SEQ.**

**WHEREAS,** The Town Council is the fiscal body of the Town of Highland;

**WHEREAS,** IC 36-9-15.5 authorizes municipalities to establish a cumulative capital development fund, its sources of revenue and its purposes; and,

**WHEREAS,** IC 36-9-15.5 also authorizes municipalities to re-establish a cumulative capital development fund, should a municipal legislative body determine that such an action is desirable;

**WHEREAS,** The Town Council has determined that it would be desirable to re-establish its existing municipal cumulative capital development fund particularly to be sure to allow the fund to be used for all the lawful purposes set forth in IC 36-9-15.5; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY** the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, that a need now exists for the establishment of a Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund for the following purposes:

**For All Uses As Set Out in IC 36-9-15.5**

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED/RESOLVED** that this Board will adhere to the provisions of Indiana Code IC 36-9-15.5.  
(Code Citation)

The proposed fund will not exceed \$.05 on each \$100 of assessed valuation for taxes payable in 2026; \$.05 on each \$100 of assessed valuation for taxes payable in 2027; \$.05 on each \$100 of assessed valuation for taxes payable in 2028 and thereafter, continuing until reduced or rescinded.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED/RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this ordinance/resolution shall be submitted to the Department of Local Government Finance of the State of Indiana as provided by law. The tax rate for this Fund is subject to certification by the Department of Local Government Finance.

Introduced and Filed on the 14th Day of April 2025. Consideration on same day or at same meeting of introduction was not considered under IC 36-5-2-9.8, as the matter was set for a public hearing **on April 28, 2025** all pursuant to IC 36-9-15.5, IC 6-1.1-41 and IC 5-3-1-2(f).

Duly adopted by the following vote of the members of said Highland Town Council (Adopting Body) this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

Official Vote		Name	Signature
Aye	Nay		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	George Georgeff	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Doug Turich	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alex Robertson	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Black	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Philip Scheeringa	

<b>Attestation (Fiscal Officer)</b>	
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5. **Appropriation and Cash Transfer Resolution No. 2025-14:** An Exigent Resolution providing for the Transfer of Appropriation and Cash Balances from and Among Major Budget Classifications to the Community Crossings Grant Fund as Requested by the Proper Officer and Forwarded to the Town Council for its Action Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-18-6.

Councilor Robertson moved the passage and adoption of Appropriation and Cash Transfer Resolution 2025-02. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The order was adopted pending the signature of the Municipal Executive.

**TOWN OF HIGHLAND  
APPROPRIATION TRANSFER RESOLUTION  
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-14**

**AN EXIGENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING for the TRANSFER of APPROPRIATION and CASH BALANCES from and AMONG MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATIONS to the COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT FUND as REQUESTED BY THE PROPER OFFICER AND FORWARDED to the TOWN COUNCIL for its ACTION PURSUANT TO IC 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 to the **Community Crossing Grant Fund;**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, 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 is has been shown that certain existing unobligated appropriations of the **LR&S Fund**, **CEDIT ECON Dev. Fund**, **MVH Fund** and the **CCI Fund** which are not needed at this time for the purposes for which originally appropriated, and may be transferred to a category of appropriation in order to satisfy an existing need, as follows:

**LR&S Fund**

Reduce Account:	#2202-0000-390.09 LR&S Constr. St-Tran. Out	\$185,000.00
	<i>Total 300 Series Reductions</i>	\$185,000.00

**CEDIT ECON DEV INCOME TAX FUND**

Reduce Account:	#4436-0000-471.18 CEDIT Res. -Tran. Out	\$500,000.00
	<i>Total 400 Series Reductions</i>	\$500,000.00

**MVH Fund**

Reduce Account	:#2201-0017-390.09 MVH Constr. St.-Tran. Out	\$ <u>120,000.00</u>
	<i>Total 300 Series Reductions</i>	\$120,000.00

**CCI**

Reduce Account:	#4401-0000-39009 CCI CON- Tran. Out	\$75,000.00
	<i>Total 300 Series Reductions</i>	\$75,000.00

**Community Crossing Grant Fund**

Increase Account:	#2405-0000-399.98 Transfer (Revenue Acct.)	\$880,000.00
	<i>Total 300 Series Increases</i>	\$880,000.00

<b>Total of All Fund Decreases:</b>	<b>\$880,000.00</b>
<b>Total of All Fund Increases:</b>	<b>\$880,000.00</b>

**DULY RESOLVED and ADOPTED** this 14th Day of April 2025 by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of**

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George Georgeff, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-16-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

6. **Works Board Order No. 2025-10:** An Order of the Works Board Approving and Authorizing the Fire Chief to Purchase Bunker Pants and Coats from Air One Equipment, Inc., of 360 Production Drive, South Elgin, IL 60177, for ten (10) Globe Highland Spec G- Xtreme Bunker Coat, ten (10) Globe Highland Spec GPS Bunker Pants, ten (10) Majestic Ultra C6 Black Carbon Hood, ten (10) Cairns 1836 Helmet and ten (10) Firecraft Phoenix Glove, all pursuant to I.C. 5-22-8-3.

Councilor Black moved to approve Works Board Order No.2025-10 inclusive of the exhibit. Councilor Scheeringa seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four (4) affirmatives, no negatives and one (1) abstention, with Councilors Georgeff, Robertson, Black and Scheeringa voting in the affirmative and Councilor Turich abstaining. The motion passed and Works Board Order No. 2025-10 was adopted pending the signature of the municipal executive.

**Town of Highland  
Board of Works  
Order of the Works Board 2025-10**

An Order of the Works Board Approving and Authorizing the Fire Chief to Purchase Bunker Coats and Pants from Air One Equipment, Inc., 360 Production Drive, South Elgin, IL 60177, for ten (10) Highland GX3 Coats, ten (10) Highland GPS Pants, ten (10) Cairns 1836 unpainted Helmets, ten (10) Firecraft Gloves and ten (10) Majestic Ultra C6 Black Carbon Hood, all pursuant to I.C. 5-22-8-3.

**Whereas,** The Town of Highland Fire Department, as part of its public duties, has a responsibility for public safety and protection of life and property throughout the Town of Highland and, from time to time, it is necessary to purchase and or lease materials and supplies in order to carry out the functions of the department; and

**Whereas,** The Fire Chief has determined a need to replace certain equipment and supplies and has further determined the purchase price will be below \$50,000.00.

**Whereas,** The Fire Chief, pursuant to Section 3.05.050(D)(4) of the Highland Municipal Code, serves as the Purchasing Agent for the Fire Department; and

**Whereas,** The Purchasing Agent, pursuant to §3.05.060(G)(2) of the HMC, expected that the purchase, in aggregate, to be at less than \$50,000 therefore could:

1). May make the purchase in the open market without inviting or receiving quotes; and

**Whereas,** The Fire Chief has solicited a quote for bunker coats, pants, gloves, hoods and helmets; and

**WHEREAS, THE FOLLOWING QUOTE WAS RECEIVED:**

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
Air One Equipment	\$49,930.00

**Whereas,** The purchase price exceeds \$15,000.00 and pursuant to §3.05.050(B) of the HMC exceeds the purchase authority of the purchasing agent and requires the express approval of the purchasing agency; and

**Whereas,** The Town Council as the Works Board of the Municipality, pursuant to Section 3.05.030 (A)(3) of the Highland Municipal Code serves as the purchasing agency for the Fire Department; and

**Whereas,** the Fire Chief has reviewed the quote and made recommendation for award on the various items based on being the lowest responsive and responsible quote; and

**Whereas,** The Fire Chief has identified Air One Equipment, Inc., of South Elgin, IL to be a desirable source vendor for the purchase of ten (10) Globe Highland Spec G-Xtreme 3.0 Bunker Coat, of ten (10) Globe Highland Spec GPS Bunker Pants, of ten (10) Cairns unpainted 1836 Helmets, of ten (10) Firecraft gloves and ten (10) Majestic Ultra black carbon hoods for a total cost of \$49,930.00; and

**Whereas,** The price for the purchase exceeds \$15,000.00 and, pursuant to Section 3.05.050 (B) of the Highland Municipal Code, such purchase requires the express approval of the purchasing agency; and

**Whereas,** The Town Council as the Works Board of the Municipality, pursuant to Section 3.05.030 (A)(3) of the Highland Municipal Code serves as the purchasing agency for the Fire Department; and

**Whereas,** The cost of the Bunker Coats, Bunker Pants, Gloves, Cairns and Hoods will be supported by the Public Safety Income Tax Fund and there is sufficient appropriation in order to support the purchase; and

**Whereas,** The Town Council now desires to approve and authorize the Fire Chief to complete the purchase pursuant to the terms and stated herein,

**Now, Therefore Be It Ordered** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board of Municipality:

**Section 1.** That the Works Board hereby finds and determines that the offer from Air One Equipment, Inc., 360 Production Drive, South Elgin, IL, to be the lowest responsive and responsible offer having offered a total cost of \$49,930 of ten (10) Globe Highland Spec G-Xtreme 3.0 Bunker Coat, of ten (10) Globe Highland Spec GPS Bunker Pants, of ten (10) Cairns unpainted 1836 Helmets, of ten (10) Firecraft gloves and ten (10) Majestic Ultra black carbon hoods; all pursuant to IC 5-22-8-3 and Section 3.05.060(G)(2) of the Highland Municipal Code;

**Section 2.** That the Fire Chief is authorized and approved to purchase from Air One Equipment, Inc., of South Elgin, IL of ten (10) Globe Highland Spec G-Xtreme 3.0 Bunker Coat, of ten (10) Globe Highland Spec GPS Bunker Pants, of ten (10) Cairns unpainted 1836 Helmets, of ten (10) Firecraft gloves and ten (10) Majestic Ultra black carbon hoods, for a **net** total of **\$49,930.00**; all pursuant to IC 5-22-8-3 and Section 3.05.060 (G) (2) of the Highland Municipal Code;

**Section 3.** That the Fire Chief is now authorized and approved to execute the purchase agreement and any additional documents in order to implement this purchase and then file these documents as financial materials with the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, pursuant to IC 36-5-4-14.

**Be It So Ordered.**

**Duly Passed, Adopted, and Ordered** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025 having passed by a vote of 4 in favor, and 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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George Georgeff, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

Attest:

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)



360 Production Drive  
South Elgin, IL 60177  
Phone: 847-289-9000  
Fax: 847-289-9001  
Email: airone@aoe.net

## QUOTATION

VALID FOR 30 DAYS.

Date	Quote #
3/23/2025	42583

Sold To
HIGHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT 2901 HIGHWAY AVENUE HIGHLAND, IN 46322

Ship To
HIGHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT 2901 HIGHWAY AVENUE HIGHLAND, IN 46322

PLEASE DO NOT PAY OFF OF THIS QUOTE. A FINAL INVOICE WILL BE SENT ONCE ORDER IS COMPLETE.		Quoted By	P.O. No.	Terms	Salesman
		JG		Net 30	JG
Item	Description	Qty	Cost	Amount	
HIGHLAND GX3 COAT	GLOBE: HIGHLAND SPEC G-XTREME 3.0 BUNKER COAT	10	2,209.00	22,090.00	
HIGHLAND GPS PANTS 1201420	GLOBE: HIGHLAND SPEC GPS BUNKER PANTS	10	1,689.00	16,890.00	
	GLOBE MENS SUPREME STRUCTURAL 14" PULL-ON BOOT	10	549.00	5,490.00	
A-1836-ABC0ABEAAA0	CAIRNS 1836 HELMET, UNPAINTED BLACK, NFPA BOURKES, STANDARD COMFORT LINER, BLACK EARLAPS, 6" CARVED EAGLE, QRB AND POSTMANS SLIDE, L/Y REFLEXITE TRIM	10	405.00	4,050.00	
FC-P5000	FIRECRAFT PHOENIX STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTING GLOVE	10	89.00	890.00	
	GLOVE SIZE:				
C6 PAC II-DS	MAJESTIC ULTRA C6 BLACK CARBON HOOD WITH COMFORT PANEL	10	52.00	520.00	

7. **Enactment 2025-13:** An Enactment Expressing a Finding and Determination that an Emergency Continues to Exist and Affirming the Town Executive's Proclamation 2025-01 Declaring a Local Disaster Emergency, Granting a Time extension and Conferring Special Authority on the Municipal Executive of the Town of Highland.

Councilor Black introduced and moved for the consideration of Enactment No. 2025-13 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Robertson seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The enactment could be considered at the same meeting of its introduction.

Councilor Black moved for the passage adoption of Enactment No. 2025-13 at the same meeting of its introduction. Councilor Robertson seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a two-thirds vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no (0) negatives. The motion passed. The enactment was passed and adopted upon the signature of the municipal executive at the same meeting of its introduction.

**Town of Highland**  
Enactment No. 2025-13

AN ENACTMENT EXPRESSING A FINDING AND DETERMINATION THAT AN EMERGENCY CONTINUES TO EXIST AND AFFIRMING THE TOWN EXECUTIVE'S PROCLAMATION 2025-01 DECLARING A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY, GRANTING A TIME EXTENSION AND CONFERRING SPECIAL AUTHORITY ON THE MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND.

**Whereas,** From time to time circumstances exist such that an exigency occurs that could not reasonably be foreseen and that threatens the public health, welfare, or safety and requires immediate action; and

**Whereas,** The Governor of the State of Indiana have issued emergency declarations in consequence of a major storm event on March 19, 2025 featuring thunderstorms, which spawned an EF1 tornado, strong winds and heavy rains that caused flooding, downed and uprooted trees, downed power lines and property damage; and

**Whereas,** It is of vital public interest that continuity of government operations be preserved and supported during the state and local responses to the current exigency;

**Whereas,** It is noted that the Town of Highland, through its Town Council President, as the principal executive officer did issue a finding and

determination that an emergency exists sufficient to support the declaration of a *Local Disaster Emergency*, Styled as Emergency Proclamation No. 2025-01, all pursuant to IC 10-14-3-29;

**Whereas,** In order to allow the lawful readiness of response and action by the public resources of the Town of Highland, the Town Council President, as municipal executive, should be expressly granted such authority to act for the town, in the interest of administrative efficiency and where the public good requires it, the Highland Town Council desires to authorize and extend further certain emergency powers consistent with IC 10-14-3-29;

**Now Therefore be it hereby Enacted** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana as follows:

**Section 1.** That the Town Council President, pursuant to IC 10-14-3-29, did issue a proclamation stating, that there now exists a local disaster emergency in the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, to be continued for a period not to exceed seven (7) days from the date of its entry, except by the consent of the Town Council as the governing body of the Town of Highland;

**Section 2.** That subject to law, that this enactment serves as approval of the governing body that it grants the Town Council President authority to act during the local exigency for five (5) additional periods of authority, extending the period by forty-two (42) days, which shall end on April 30, after which, such authority will require action by the Town Council as the legislative body of the municipality;

**Section 3.** That the effect of this enactment is affirm and to confer such powers that are granted a municipal executive under IC 36-4 et seq and IC 36-5 et sequitur, except the authority to dismiss or demote a public officer acting as a department head, and the procedure affecting the adoption of ordinances or resolutions of the municipality;

**Section 4.** That the tolling for the extension of authority under this enactment shall begin upon the expiration of the existing authority, upon the passage and adoption of the enactment;

**Section 5.** That the Clerk-Treasurer shall inform the Town Council as to the duration of approved authority remaining as conferred by this enactment.

Introduced and Filed on the 14<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2025. Consideration on the same day or at same meeting of introduction sustained a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed, pursuant to IC 36-5-2-9.8.

DULY ORDAINED AND ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2025, by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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George Georgeff, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

ATTEST:

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

8. **Works Board Order Number 2025-11:** An Order Finding And Determining Certain Personal Property Of The Municipality As No Longer Needed For The Purposes For Which Originally Acquired Or Have Been Left In The Custody Of An Officer Or Employee Of The Town Of Highland And Have Remained Unclaimed For More Than One (1) Year Or Have Been Deemed Worthless And Of No Market Value. (i-pad)

Councilor Scheeringa moved to approve Works Board Order No.2025-11 inclusive of the exhibit. Councilor Turich seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed and Works Board Order No. 2025-11 was adopted pending the signature of the municipal executive.

**The Town of Highland  
Board of Works Order No. 2025-11**

An Order Finding and Determining Certain Personal Property of the Municipality as No Longer Needed for the Purposes for which Originally Acquired or Have Been Left in the Custody of an Officer or Employee of the Town of Highland and Have Remained Unclaimed for More Than One (1) year or Have Been Deemed Worthless and of No Market Value.

**Whereas**, The Town Council for the Town of Highland is the Works Board of the Municipality pursuant to IC 36-1-2-24(3) and



**Whereas,** The Town Council has been advised by the IT Director that several items of personal property, and which all owned by the municipality are no longer needed for the purposes of which it was originally acquired, pursuant to IC 5-22-22; and

**Whereas,** The IT Director has recommended and requested that disposal of certain personal property be authorized, all pursuant to the provisions of IC 5-22-22 et seq.; and,

**Whereas,** The Town Council now desires to favor the recommendation and take those steps necessary to authorize and approve a disposal of personal property of the municipality pursuant to the applicable law,

**Now, Therefore, Be it ordered** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana:

**Section 1.** That the Town Council of the Town of Highland acting as the works board, hereby finds and determines the following:

- (A) That there are certain articles of personal property possessed or owned by the municipality that are no longer needed, unfit for the purposes for which they were acquired, pursuant to IC 5-22-22-3; or,
- (B) That these same articles of personal property possessed or owned by the municipality that have been left in the custody of an officer or employee of the Town of Highland and have remained unclaimed for more than one (1) year, pursuant to IC 5-22-22-3; or,
- (C) That these same articles of personal property possessed or owned by the municipality, that may be deemed worthless or no market value as the estimated costs the sale and transaction of the property exceed the property value, pursuant to IC 5-22-22-8;
- (D) That these items of personal property are more particularly described in an exhibit attached to and incorporated in this works board order;
- (E) This unit, which is used, was purchased in 2020 during the covid pandemic and have little or no worth and disposing of them will be more costly than simple private transfer.
- (F) That the value of any single item of personal property is less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and that all the items of personal property together are less than \$5,000, all pursuant to IC 5-22-22; and

**Section 2.** That the IT Director is hereby authorized and instructed to cause a lawful disposal or transfer of the personal property identified in this Works Board Order by private transfer without advertising pursuant to IC 5-22-22-6 at the salvage cost of \$75.00 each;

**Section 3.** That proceeds expected from the lawful disposal or transfer authorized by this order shall be deposited with the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, where such proceeds shall be deposited to the credit of the Corporation General Fund.

**Be it so ordered.**

**DULY, PASSED and ORDERED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, this 14th day of April 2025 having passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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George Georgeff, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

**Attest:**

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1;IC 36-5-6-5)

**EXHIBIT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR DISPOSAL**

1 – iPad Pro (11 – inch) (2<sup>nd</sup> generation) – DMPD9R69PTRF\*

\*This unit was purchased in 2020 during the Covid pandemic and has little or no worth.

9. **Works Board Order Number 2025-09:** An Order Finding And Determining Certain Personal Property Of The Municipality As No Longer Needed For The Purposes For Which Originally Acquired Or Have Been Left In The Custody Of An Officer Or Employee Of The Town Of Highland And Have Remained Unclaimed For More Than One (1) Year Or Have Been Deemed Worthless And Of No Market Value. (fire extinguishers)

Councilor Scheeringa moved to approve Works Board Order No.2025-09 inclusive of the exhibit. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four (4) affirmatives and no negatives and one (1) abstention, with Councilors Georgeff, Robertson, Black and Scheeringa voting in the affirmative and Councilor Turich abstaining. The motion passed and Works Board Order No. 2025-09 was adopted pending the signature of the municipal executive.

**The Town of Highland  
Board of Works Order No. 2025-09**

AN ORDER FINDING AND DETERMINING CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE MUNICIPALITY AS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH ORIGINALLY ACQUIRED OR HAVE BEEN LEFT IN THE CUSTODY OF AN OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND AND HAVE REMAINED UNCLAIMED FOR MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR OR HAVE BEEN DEEMED WORTHLESS AND OF NO MARKET VALUE AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING DISPOSAL OF SAID PROPERTY.

**Whereas,** The Town Council for the Town of Highland is the Works Board of the Municipality pursuant to IC 36-1-2-24(3) and

**Whereas,** The Town Council has been advised by the Fire Department that several items of personal property, and which all owned by the municipality are no longer needed for the purposes of which it was originally acquired, pursuant to IC 5-22-22; and

**Whereas,** The Fire Chief has recommended and requested that disposal of certain personal property be authorized, all pursuant to the provisions of IC 5-22-22 et seq.; and,

**Whereas,** The Town Council now desires to favor the recommendation and take those steps necessary to authorize and approve a disposal of personal property of the municipality pursuant to the applicable law,

**Now, Therefore, Be it ordered** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana:

**Section 1.** That the Town Council of the Town of Highland acting as the works board, hereby finds and determines the following:

- (G) That there are certain articles of personal property possessed or owned by the municipality that are no longer needed, unfit for the purposes for which they were acquired, pursuant to IC 5-22-22-3; or,
- (H) That these same articles of personal property possessed or owned by the municipality that have been left in the custody of an officer or employee of the Town of Highland and have remained unclaimed for more than one (1) year, pursuant to IC 5-22-22-3; or,
- (I) That these same articles of personal property possessed or owned by the municipality, that may be deemed worthless or no market value as the estimated costs the sale and transaction of the property exceed the property value, pursuant to IC 5-22-22-8;
- (J) That these items of personal property are more particularly described in an exhibit attached (photo) to and incorporated in this works board order;
- (K) That the value of any single item of personal property is less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and that all the items of personal property together are less than \$5,000, all pursuant to IC 5-22-22-6; and

**Section 2.** That the Fire Chief is hereby authorized and instructed to cause a lawful disposal or transfer of the personal property identified in this Works Board Order by junking or scrapping pursuant to IC 5-22-22-8;

**Section 3.** That no notice of the disposal is necessary all pursuant to IC 5-22-22-6;

**Section 4.** That no proceeds are expected but should proceeds arise, any and all proceeds yielded from the lawful disposal or transfer authorized by this order shall be deposited with the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, where such proceeds shall be deposited to the credit of the Corporation General Fund.

**Be it so ordered.**

**DULY, PASSED and ORDERED** by the Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, acting as the Works Board, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025 having passed by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 opposed and 1 abstention.

**TOWN COUNCIL of the TOWN of  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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George Georgeff, President (IC 36-5-2-10)

**Attest:**

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Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer (IC 33-42-4-1; IC 36-5-6-5)

### **EXHIBIT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR DISPOSAL**

35- miscellaneous fire extinguishers

Councilor Robertson moved to amend the agenda. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, a unanimous vote being necessary, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The agenda was amended.

10. Authorizing the proper officer to publish legal notice for a public hearing to receive public input regarding an application of the Town of Highland for a one-year program for Community Development Block Grant Funds in the amount of \$105,035. If approved, the public hearing will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025, at 6:30 o'clock pm. at the a Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland.

Councilor Robertson moved to authorize the proper officer to publish legal notice as indicated. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The proper officer was authorized to publish the notice as indicated

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana, will hold a Public hearing at 6:30 p.m., **Monday, April 28, 2025**, at the Highland Municipal Building located at 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

The Town will submit an application for a one (1) year program under the Community Development Block Grant, Created by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended to date, to the Lake County Community Development Department.

Lake County will then compile and submit a one (1) year application to the Indianapolis Area Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The amount of CDBG funding available for the year **2025** to the Town of Highland, Indiana is \$ 105,035.00 which is inclusive of a rollover amount of \$2,038.00 from 2019.

The purpose of this hearing is to obtain views of the citizens on community development and housing needs as they relate to this application.

The hearing is open to all residents of the Town of Highland. Any citizen desiring to speak on these matters will be afforded an opportunity to do so. The activities must be designed to benefit low to moderate income persons and to eliminate or prevent slums and blight.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND, INDIANA  
BY ITS TOWN COUNCIL  
George Georgeff, President

By Office of Clerk-Treasurer  
Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer

**Comments from the Town Council:**

*(Good of the order)*

- **Councilor Doug Turich:** *Park and Recreation Board Liaison • Liaison and Plan Commission Member • Advisory Board of Zoning Appeals Liaison • Redevelopment Commission Member • Liaison to Building & Inspection Department*

Councilor Turich acknowledged Building Commissioner Ken Mika who reviewed the Building and Inspection Report found under staff reports filed earlier in the agenda for the month of March and then gave the following report:

**4/14/25 highland TOWN COUNCIL MEETING / BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT**

- BZA – In two weeks the BZA will have a Public Hearing concerning a petition filed by Osborne Storage, LLC located at 8621 Osborne St. requesting a Variance for a building wall sign which proposed exceeds the requirements of the ordinance regarding size.
- PC – Met last week briefly in a study session. There will be no business for next weeks scheduled public meeting and that meeting has been canceled.
- Mr. Mika briefly went over the March 2025 Building & Inspection Department report a copy of which had also been included in the regular TC Meeting packets.

Ken Mika  
Town of Highland  
Building Commissioner / Zoning Administrator



Councilor Turich then acknowledged Park Superintendent Alex Brown, who said the Community Development Block Grant, which made the concession stands ADA accessible, is pretty much done. The contractor is finishing up the punch list and then will come in and do a final inspection. He said the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Park Clean-up Day is Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to noon. He said they are going to concentrated on Homestead Park which closed last year for the sanitary sewer project. He said both Main Square and Brantwood Park could use some tender loving care. He said they are in need of summer help. If anyone knows anyone over the age of 18 and needs a summer job, please have them apply at Lincoln Center. Much of the park maintenance is supplemented by our summer help. Public Works Director Knesek echoed the same comments. Alex said soccer and little league have already started their league play. Highland JV softball have been using the softball fields at Meadows Park.

Councilor Scheeringa complimented the Park Department on the condition of the fields and bathrooms for opening day of soccer.

Councilor Turich asked Mr. Brown if he had any updated figures regarding the rubber matting for Main Square? Alex said he received new pricing last week and the rubber matting installed would be \$85,263. He said they rubber matting is poured in place.

Councilor Turich then asked about the posting of the 2 open position in the park department. Mr. Brown responded that only his position has been posted. He said the posting has been up three (3) weeks and they have had only two (2) resumes. He said there are thirteen (13) days to go on the posting. He said they would post the director's position starting in May. He said the new superintendent will be hiring for that position.

- **Councilor Alex Robertson:** • *Redevelopment Commission Member* • *Fire Department Liaison*
- *Public Works Liaison* • *Liaison to Main Street Bureau* • *Liaison to the Tree Board*
- *Liaison to the Highland Neighbor for Sustainability.*

Councilor Robertson began by saying Main Street Bureau is hosting their 1<sup>st</sup> Retail Crawl on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. He said stay tuned for details but there would be a starting point, which will be the Tasty Olive whereby you will pick-up a card and go to the various shops in downtown Highland and have your card punched. The cards will then be turned in for a nice raffle.

Councilor Alex Robertson then acknowledged Fire Chief Mike Pipta. Chief Pipta reviewed the Fire Department stats which is filed earlier under Staff Reports for the month of March and reminded everyone of the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Police/Fire Fund raiser, at the Central Fire Station, from 9:00 o'clock am till noon. It is the Annual AYCE Pancake Fundraiser.



Council Robertson acknowledged Public Works Director Mark Knesek who said because of the Good Friday Holiday, the public works facility will be closed this weekend so there will be no garage dumping. It will be open again starting next week. He said leaf pick-up is completed. They ran the program for the last two (2) weeks. The leaf vacs have been taken out of service. If a resident does have remaining leaves, he told them to bag them and then call public works and they'll come and pick them up. He said the branch routes are in full force. He said they got a little behind with the rain and then a truck broke down but they are caught up now. He said Grimmer Construction will return to Town in the next couple of weeks, completing the punch list on the sanitary sewer project. There are some areas that they will have to repave and manicuring in Homestead Park.

Councilor Black asked if the restorations were being done in seed or sod. Mr. Knesek said it was seed, after replacing black dirt.

- **Councilor Thomas (Tom) Black:** *Redevelopment Commission Liaison and Member • Member of the Lake County Solid Waste Management District Board • Member of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIPRC) • Shared Ethics Representative • Liaison Traffic Safety*

Councilor Black said the Lake County Solid Waste District Office will be holding a latex paint collection on May 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9 am. He reminded everyone it is for latex paint not oil base.

- **Councilor Philip Scheeringa:** *Redevelopment Commission Member • Information Communications and Technology Department Liaison • Metropolitan Police Commissioners Liaison.*

Councilor Scheeringa acknowledged Metropolitan Police Chief Ralph Potesta who gave the following report:.

Town Council Meeting Notes for 04/14/2025 – Police Department

1<sup>st</sup> quarter stats:

142 Arrests made by our patrol officers  
964 Traffic tickets written  
1,301 Written Traffic Warnings issued  
2,800 Calls for service handled  
239 Accidents covered  
24 DUI arrests made

Past 3 weeks:

0 Burglaries / 0 Robberies / 0 Rapes / 0 Auto Thefts

Warren School threat update – 5<sup>th</sup> grade boy was denied the love of a 5<sup>th</sup> grade girl so he sent her threatening messages online after she called him a “butt”. Threats included pictures of guns. Guns were located inside the home. CID investigating. Charges are pending. School is handling discipline.

3 Assaults with 1 arrest

Responded to 24 Domestic Disturbances – 4 arrests made

4 DUI arrests made

50 Accidents handled – 8 of those involved personal injury

5 retail theft – 5 arrests – Suspects from Dyer / Gary / Kankakee IL / Plainfield IL

Losses ranges from \$102 up to \$2,900

5 Vehicles broken into:

March 26<sup>th</sup> - 2 at Planet Fitness

April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3 on the north end (2600 blocks of Clough and Wicker) and 3800 block of Jewett – All vehicles left unlocked

Items stolen – a purse / spare change / ID cards / Debit and Credit cards

Male out of Schererville taken into custody for exposing himself to female customers at Meijer on 2 separate occasions – Detectives have filed charges.

Rash of Mischief at our Parks

The police memorial was tp'd at Markley Park

Tagger and anti-police graffiti was located in the bathrooms at Main Square.

Scam - Resident received a phone call from someone claiming to be from Walmart. She advised that they told her numerous suspicious purchases had been made on her Walmart account.

Caller transferred resident to an "Agent with the FTC" who told her numerous business accounts had been opened in her name using her SSN and she needed to cooperate or she could be charged criminally.

Communication continued throughout the weekend. Resident eventually provided the "agent" with Bitcoin she purchased from an ATM in Griffith, IN. Total loss of \$33,000.

The official DEA Rx Drug Take Back is going to be on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>. Bring in your old / unused RX drugs for disposal. We do take these items throughout the year also. Just drop in bin inside the Police Department lobby during our hours of operation.

FOP fundraisers in May include:

3<sup>rd</sup> – Pancake Breakfast with the fire department – at Central Fire – 9am – noon

17<sup>th</sup> – Charity Mushball Game – Meadows Park – 4pm - Police Officers vs. senior's on the HHS boys baseball team and girls softball team.

Annual Memorial Service will be Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 9am – Markley Park

Park Director Brown commented on the increase vandalism in the parks. He said the headstone at Markley park was graffitied. Fortunately, a neighbor near the park cleaned up the graffiti. He added that the worst vandalism has been in the bathrooms. He said they have had over \$10,000 dollars of damages to the bathrooms. Everything from tearing sinks off the walls to destroying the strike plates at the Depot bathroom.

Councilor Turich wanted to know the hours that the bathrooms are open. Alex said from roughly 8 o'clock a.m. to 4:30 o'clock p.m. He said the Meadows bathrooms are open longer to accommodate those playing pickle ball and those fishing.

Councilor Turich asked if cameras could be installed. IT Director said they do have cameras and the video has been given to the police department. Commander Anderson said the video has been given to the school but no one recognized the vandals. Council Turich asked if the videos could be posted on Facebook or social media. Commander Anderson said since they are juvenile's, they're pictures cannot be posted.

Councilor Scheeringa then acknowledged IT Director Ed Dabrowski who said besides normal work, he's been spending a lot of time downtown. The weather is improving. We installed the downtown lighting in October, closer to the end of October so we haven't had a good opportunity to pay a lot of attention to it. He said he was proud how well it is working with the minimal amount of money invested in the project. He said the Wi-fi was put in as an afterthought and is working real well. He said he had a vendor quote different various options to grow the wi-fi, inclusive of Jewett Street. He was amazed how expensive it was. He commented that the Town did elect to pay the cyber insurance this year. He said he did some research with some other IT directors around the area and it seems that more and more are dropping the cyber insurance. He said a lot are getting out because they are worthless plans. He suggested the Council revisit the plan next year because we pay a web provider for security so in essence we are double paying. He said we are paying for something and we're not getting much coverage. He commented that he was at an event at the Lincoln Center and someone was criticizing the wi-fi in the building. It turns out that person wasn't even on the correct wi-fi. He said he experiences that all the time. People are quick to criticize but don't have the basic knowledge that they are on the wrong wi-fi.

- **Councilor George Georgeff:** *Town Executive (I.C. 36-1-2-5-(4); I.C. 36-5-2-2; I.C. 36-5-2-7); • Board of Trustees of the Police Pension Fund, Chair (By Law) • Budget Committee Chairman • Redevelopment Commission Member • Liaison to the Board of Water Works • Liaison to the Sanitary Board*

Councilor Georgeff said he had some discussions with a member of the East Chicago Lions Club. He expressed concern about the declining membership of the Highland organization. He said the Highland organization needs help with recruitment. He was looking for a point person. Councilor Georgeff recommended Dave Jones. Councilor Georgeff said when he was a member of the police department and the head of the DARE program, the Lions Club always came through and made a devotion. Councilor Georgeff

said he would speak with the Idea Factory to see if they could put a little article in the Gazebo Express or post on the website that might help in recruitment for the Lions Club. He said he will be reading the proclamation at Arbor Day on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, where 200 saplings were being planted.

That concluded comments from the Council and President Georgeff then turned it over to comments from visitor's or residents, reminding them to limit their comments to 2 minutes.

**Comments from Visitors or Residents:**

Larry Kondrat, Highland, said he recently attended a Redevelopment Meeting. He said he was a little confused as where is there economic stimulation that comes from a fence. Isn't that the reason you have a redevelopment commission, to stimulate economic participation where it's been stagnant? He asked how a dog pound and fence draws business? He then showed a video from this past weekend from his backyard as you could hear a dog barking from the dog pound which is located on the other side of Homestead Park from his house. The dog was barking all night and you wanted to locate a dog pound of north Kennedy Avenue next to a neighborhood.

Councilor Turich asked Larry that he thought he shared with Larry that the information he received was incorrect. That maybe someone misspoke or maybe he interpreted it incorrectly as it was never mentioned that the property on north Kennedy was going to be used as dog pound.

Larry Kondrat said it was spoken right here. An animal shelter to use the words of Councilor Scheeringa as Councilor Scheeringa corrected Larry and said it wasn't going to be dog pound but an animal shelter.

Councilor Turich said he is not disagreeing that Councilor Scheeringa made that statement about the building but they didn't buy the building to be used as an animal shelter long term. He said he wanted to clear the record that the Town is not putting a dog pound there.

Larry said I didn't make that up, you guys were the ones that said store animals and the fact remains that you spent \$377,000 of the redevelopment commission's money on a building you can't use.

Councilor Black said when the purchase was made, we were under the impression that that site could be used for the sanitary project.

Larry asked Councilor Black where he heard that information and did he hear it first hand? Larry said before the deal was done the sanitary board advised the Town that they would not need that parcel for the sanitary project.

Councilor Black said he didn't attend the meeting but was informed by Public Works Director Knesek.

Councilor Turich said he wanted to address Larry's comment about economic revitalization. He said the Counter opened this week and it was packed. After getting their ice cream, most people walked to the park. He said the fence will provide security to those in the park.

Councilor Georgeff asked if there were any other questions, Hearing none, he closed comments from the public and brought it back to the Council. He then asked for a motion to pay claims.

Payment of Accounts Payable Vouchers. There being no further comments from visitors or residents, Councilor Robertson moved to allow the vendors accounts payable vouchers as filed on the pending accounts payable docket, covering the period March 26, 2025 through April 15, 2025. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were five (5) affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The accounts payable vouchers for the vendor docket were allowed, payments allowed in advance were ratified, the payroll dockets listed were ratified and for all remaining invoices, the Clerk-Treasurer was authorized to make payment.

Accounts payable March 26, 2025 to April 15, 2025, in the amount of **\$836,268.34**

**General Fund**, \$492,395.19; **MVH Fund**, \$58,616.49; **LR&S Fund**, \$3,337.50; **LAW Enforcement Continuing Education Training and Supply Fund**, \$1,769.97; **Public Safety Income**, \$23,884.50; **Donation**, \$39.99; **MCCD**, \$18,073.61; **ICT Fund**, \$17,624.27; **Insurance Premium** \$220,526.82

Accounts payable vouchers February 26, 2025- March 11, 2025 in the amount of **\$394,139.60**.

Payroll Docket for payday of April 4, 2025 by fund:

General, \$333,504.94

Payroll Docket for payday of April 4, 2025;

Office of Clerk-Treasurer, \$17,786.37; Building and Inspection Department, \$11,415.04; Metropolitan Police Department, \$163,008.20; Public Works Department (Agency), \$79,960.50; Fire Department, \$2,348.40 and Information and Technology Department, \$4,354.35;  
Total Payroll: \$278,872.86.

Adjournment of Plenary Meeting. There being no further business on the agenda, the Town Council President declared the regular plenary meeting of the Town Council of Monday, April 14, 2025, adjourned at 7:50 o'clock p.m.

Mark Herak  
Clerk-Treasurer



Approved by the Town Council at its meeting of April 28, 2025.