Town of Paoli
Minutes of the Council Meeting
May 19, 2026

President Danny Hickman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were council members Danny Hickman, Donna Dillard, Theron Owen, Brian Shipman and Bobbie Bostock. Also present were Town Attorney Marilyn T. Fullen and Clerk-Treasurer Tara Wolfe.

Motion to approve May 06, 2026, Executive Session minutes made by Danny Hickman, seconded by Bobbie Bostock. Passed 5-0.

Motion to approve May 06, 2026, Special Session minutes made by Danny Hickman, seconded by Bobbie Bostock. Passed 5-0.

Eric Parsley with Commonwealth reported on the US 150 project. The contractor is targeting completion of the current work by approximately June 1. It was clarified the road closure signs are related to the INDOT culvert replacement project, not the Town's project. INDOT's work cannot begin until the Town's facilities are relocated. No construction or road closure schedule has been provided at this time. A pay application from the contractor was received on Thursday and will be reviewed for recommendation at the next meeting. An update was provided on the Lead Service Line Removal Project. A successful pre-closing meeting was held with SRF regarding the Town's small loan and forgivable loan. Final closing is scheduled for May 27. It was reported that project bids came in under budget, resulting in remaining grant funds. SRF has approved the Town's use of the remaining funds for additional lead service line investigation work. This will require separate design and bidding due to the project scope exceeding a standard contract change order. The goal is to bid the additional work later this summer.

At 10:05 A.M., Attorney Fullen proceeds with opening quotes received for the removal of the trailer at 215 Horton Ave. The Town received two quotes. LRC Roofing and Remodeling submitted a quote for $3,400, which included removal and disposal of materials at Bedford Recycling or Rumpke, insured through Western Reserve. H&M Construction submitted a quote for $5,000 for demolition and removal, along with a certificate of insurance. Prior to council action, it was noted that code enforcement had pending consideration regarding another structure located on the same property, for which a public hearing had previously been held in December. Council discussed the possibility of obtaining additional demolition and removal quotes that could include both structures. Motion made to table the decision until next meeting by Bobbie Bostock, second by Danny Hickman. Passed 5-0.

Mr. Parsley presented an engineering amendment related to the mandatory alternate work included in the original bid package for the Lead Service Line Removal Project for $11,200 and is payable from the grant funds already dedicated to the project. The amendment would provide clarification to the contractor regarding the scope of the alternate work and address an anticipated extension to the construction schedule due to approximately 45% additional work being added within the original bid pricing. Council action on the amendment was requested.
Motion made to approve the amendment by Bobbie Bostock, second by Brian Shipman. Passed 5-0.

Mr. Parsley also provided an update regarding the Phase Two lead service line application, which remains active with SRF. The Town anticipates receiving scoring information from SRF within the next several weeks. Due to the availability of remaining grant funds, the Town expects to complete a significant portion of the Phase Two work using those remaining funds, although final guidance from SRF is still pending.

Mr. Parsley provided an update on wastewater treatment plant compliance efforts. The actuator received for the aeration valve was determined to be the incorrect part, and the correct gear-drive actuator is expected to arrive the following week to bring the second SBR unit back online. A replacement float for the currently operating unit has been ordered with anticipated delivery in mid-June. It was noted that the missing float does not currently impact compliance with the Town's permit requirements. The UV system is now operational, and overall conditions at the wastewater treatment plant were reported to be improving. Mr. Parsley reported that a required engineer's certificate, including a drawdown schedule, had been submitted to SRF on Friday. Additional guidance is still needed from SRF regarding the Town's use of the remaining project funds and how that may affect the project schedule.

Mary Austin of Cripe provided an update on the South Gospel Street Project. She reported that regular progress meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month and are not public meetings. The start date is estimated between June 5 and June 10. Will update once the schedule is finalized. It was clarified that the roadway will be closed to through traffic during construction, with access for residents and church traffic during church services. Residents along the project path will be permitted access through the construction zone by displaying construction access passes in their vehicles. Passes are available at Town Hall and will also be distributed door-to-door by the contractor along with contact information and project details. Temporary parking restrictions would only occur during replacement of driveway aprons. Residents may be unable to use their driveways for approximately two to three days while concrete cures. The contractor will coordinate directly with individual property owners regarding scheduling and temporary parking arrangements. An update was provided regarding the waterline replacement project. The Town has received the required permit approval by the State to proceed. Coordination with town staff will occur to determine scheduling and initiation of the waterline replacement work.

Ms. Austin reported that INDOT has revised the timeline for the Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) program. The application will be open on September 1 and close on September 30. It was noted that if the Town intends to pursue roadway resurfacing projects during the upcoming funding cycle, planning discussions regarding eligible roads and project priorities should begin early to mid-July to prepare the application materials in advance of the submission period. CT Wolfe stated that Clark Dietz is currently preparing the closeout package for the CCMG Campbell St Project. Ms. Austin requested that information be sent to her when complete.

Under New Business, Indiana Region 15 representative Jenny Mathies presented a contract for labor standards administration services related to the Lead Service Line Replacement Project. The services include collection and review of contractor payroll records and on-site employee interviews to ensure compliance with applicable labor standards requirements. The contract amount was $15,000. Legal counsel stated it was acceptable for approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve the contract by Bobbie Bostock, second by Theron Owen. Passed 5-0.

Ty Hubard of Troy Risk Environmental Risk addressed the Board to introduce his environmental consulting firm and offer services as a local resource to the community. His firm provides a range of environmental services, including site assessment and cleanup support for contamination issues, water/wastewater-related testing, bacteria and mold testing services. He offered guidance on environmental funding and cleanup processes and left contact information for follow-up questions or future environmental consulting needs.

Under other business, Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe presented an engagement letter from LWG. For President Hickman to sign. Motion to approve and authorize President Hickman to sign was made by Bobbie Bostock, seconded by Brian Shipman, and passed 5-0.

Brian Shipman would like to rescind his previous motion for a $1.50 increase for all employees currently holding a CDL, indicating that provisions may already have been addressed. Attorney Fullen clarifies the salary ordinance language states that employees who obtain a CDL would be entitled to a $1.50 hourly increase. Motion made to rescind original CDL $1.50 increase for current employees by Brian Shipman, second by Donna Dillard. Passed 3-2 vote. Bobbie and Theron voting NO.

Danny Hickman requests additional chairs be purchased for the council room from Amazon. Motion made to purchase chairs from Amazon by Bobbie Bostock, second by Danny Hickman. Passed 5-0.

Donna Dillard discusses posts made on Reach Alert and Facebook. She requests those be worded carefully to avoid unnecessary public concern. She requests that only the four individuals that are authorized for reach alert be responsible for issuing notifications.

Attorney Fullen presents her Town Attorney Report:

- **Lease/Purchase with SVB&T for digger truck**: Mrs. Fullen presented the lease/purchase agreement with SVB&T for the digger truck. Beacon could not facilitate the lease/purchase of the digger truck, so quotes were solicited from ONB, SVB&T and Hoosier Hills. ONB and SVB&T submitted quotes, with SVB&T's interest rate being the lowest at 4.75% for 3 years and 5% for 5 years (ONB was 5.40 for 3 years; 5.41 for 5 years). Motion made by Bobbie Bostock, seconded by Donna Dillard, the Paoli Town Council approved the agreement and authorized Danny Hickman and Tara Wolfe to sign the lease/purchase agreement and any other documentation needed to facilitate closing of this loan. Passed 5-0.
- **RDC**-Mrs. Fullen advised that the proposed RDC Amended Declaratory Resolution adding Mineral Springs to the Redevelopment Area was considered by the PPC on May 13th and if approved. The Town Council must approve the PPC's May 13, 2026, Written Order of Approval of Resolution 2026-03, the proposed Amended Declaratory Resolution. to the Town Council at its meeting on May 19th at 10:00 a.m. Motion made by Bobbie Bostock, seconded by Theron Owen, the Paoli Town Council approved the PPC's May 13, 2026, Written Order of Approval of Resolution 2026-03. Passed 5-0.
  The RDC must have a public hearing on the Amended Resolution before it is adopted.
- **Ordinance No. 2026-09-Adding Method of Payment for Fire Chief**: Mrs. Fullen presented Ordinance No. 2026-09, adding a method of payment of the fire chief, which proposes the following language: Payments to the Fire Chief are issued by the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town Council of the Town of Paoli quarterly, in arrears, in the amount of $3,750.00, or in such other amount as may be determined by a majority of the Town Council of the Town of Paoli, Indiana, to be paid out of the LIT fund, or out of such other fund as my be determined by a majority of the Town Council of the Town of Paoli, Indiana. Upon motion made by Brian Shipman, seconded by Donna Dillard, Ordinance 2026-09. Passed 5-0.

Kelvin with Electric Dept requests to purchase three large transformers to be added to the inventory for larger commercial customers for $10,385. The exact number of large transformers and poles in stock was unknown, but stock was likely is insufficient. Motion made to purchase transformers by Brian Shipmen, second by Bobbie Bostock. Passed 5-0. Kelvin reported he had been in contact with Generac for a quote on a generator but has not received the quote yet. Discussion was held regarding placement of the generator and that further confirmation with the neighboring property owner may still be needed, but no issues were anticipated based on prior walkthroughs.

Benji with Code Enforcement gives his report. A building permit was issued to 302 Josephine Street. Weed and Rank letters were sent to 224 SE 2nd Street, 312 College Hill Street, and 303 West Cherry Street. Owner rectified Weed and Rank at 506 W Water St. Unsafe premises were identified at 311 Josephine Street (garage/outbuilding) and at 215 Horton Avenue. Council discussed 311 Josephine Street from a prior case (2021) over two years old; therefore, the enforcement process must be restarted. Attorney Fullen states that, if approved by the Council, Code Enforcement has prepared an initial unsafe premises letter requiring demolition and removal of the structure within 30 days, with a compliance deadline of June 19, 2026. Motion made to send letters by Bobbie Bostock, second by Brian Shipman. Passed 5-0.

Attorney Fullen has prepared a letter noting the property at 215 Horton has already been the subject of a prior public hearing. At that time Council authorized action only for removal of the burned trailer. The current notice pertains to the remaining structure on the property, which is an abandoned trailer with no utilities. The proposed action would authorize proceeding with obtaining quotes for the demolition and removal of the remaining trailer. Motion made to seek quotes by Danny Hickman, second Brian Shipman. Passed 5-0.

Police Chief Randy Sanders announced a fundraising event. On May 29th, the local Domino's Pizza location will donate a portion of sales to support neighborhood-related initiatives.

Fire Chief Austin Farris reported that the department's oldest fire engine is currently out of service due to a pump leak. An estimate was received from Smith Trucks for repair of the pump packing rings, with costs ranging from approximately $2,500 to $5,000, primarily due to labor. He requested approval to send the engine out for repair service. Duration of the repair will depend on parts availability and scheduling. Motion made to approve repairs by Bobbie Bostock, second Donna Dillard. Passed 5-0.

Austin states that the existing dumpster is in poor condition, with rust holes in the bottom allowing trash to spill out and attract animals. It was noted that each department is responsible for purchasing its own dumpster. Estimates for a replacement were discussed. Motion made to table until next meeting by Donna Dillard, second by Bobbie Bostock. Passed 5-0.

Austin speaks about the cargo containers being used for storage. He was contacted by an employee with Smithfield Services expressing interest in purchasing one of them. A discussion was held about how the containers were obtained. Austin states the containers have been modified with ventilation holes for training. A potential offer of $1000 was made. Council agreed to verify where the containers came from before a decision is made.

David Grimes with the Parks Dept notes that the Town is still awaiting an acceptance or rejection letter regarding a grant application, which is expected by the end of the month. He reported that the current utility vehicle ("Gator"), recently experienced mechanical failure after being serviced and returned in worse condition. He presented three replacement options for consideration: Kawasaki Mule (from CC Powersports, Clarksville) – $11,986, with a 3-year warranty; Honda Pioneer 700 – $12,221, with a 1-year warranty; and a John Deere Gator – $13,930, with a 1-year warranty. He recommended the Mule due to cost and functionality. Funding for the purchase was to be allocated from multiple sources: $6,000 from park funds, $3,000 from the EDIT fund, and $2,986 from concessions. Motion made to purchase the Mule and sell the other on GovDeals by Bobbie Bostock, second by Brian Shipman. Passed 5-0.

Donna Dillard discusses complaints she has had about debris under the bleachers. Grimes states they are power washed in June after baseball season. She also states there have been complaints of trashcans with no liners in them. Grimes states the trashcans cannot have liners because they are open top and fill with water, also confirms they are emptied every day. Donna Dillard also asks about damage to the flashing at Jaycee Park. Grimes was aware of the damage but advises that insurance said they could not file a claim because they were getting FEMA money. There was also discussion about the flashing being part of the roof repair project. Attorney Fullen advises she would check with insurance and see what she could find out.

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe presents invoices for approval. Invoice for Commonwealth for $39,582. Motion to approve by Bobbie Bostock, second by Brian Shipman. Passed 5-0. Invoices to be paid out of the SRF disbursement for LWG CPA's for $$42,500; Tucker & Tucker for $13,125 and $675; Bose, McKenna & Evans for $13,482; and one for Barnes and Thornberg for $4,500. Motion to approve by Bobbie Bostock, second by Donna Dillard. Passed 5-0. Invoice for Clark Dietz Task Order #1 for $709. Motion to approve by Bobbie Bostock, second by Donna Dillard. Passed 5-0. Invoice for Cripe for $49,308.50. Motion to approve by Bobbie Bostock, second by Brian Shipman. Passed 5-0.

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe presents billing adjustments for the month of April for $ <7,623.86>. Motion to approve made by Bobbie Bostock, second by Theron Owen. Passed 4-1, Donna voting NO. Next was the accounts Payable Voucher for $1,343,336.43 for the period of May 7-May 19. Motion made to approve by Bobbie Bostock, second by Theron Owen. Passed 4-1, Donna voting NO.

Williams Pyrotechnics contacted the Town regarding establishment of a potential rain date for the fireworks display in the event of inclement weather. The Paoli Police Department advised they would follow up regarding the rain date. The Clerk-Treasurer also requested clarification regarding the timing of the final payment under the fireworks contract, noting that services are typically paid upon completion even though the contract lists a final payment date of June 20. The Police Department will also confirm payment arrangements with the vendor.

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe presents the lease/purchase agreement from First Republic National for the turnout gear. Requests a motion for Danny Hickman to sign. Motion made to approve by Bobbie Bostock, second by Danny Hickman. Passed 5-0.

Discussion was held regarding a request for retroactive pay for an employee related to revisions previously made to the salary ordinance. Legal counsel advised that salary ordinance amendments are not retroactive unless specifically stated. It was explained that the employee reached the fourth-year employment milestone prior to the addition of fourth-year compensation language in the salary ordinance and questioned whether retroactive compensation should apply from the date the milestone was reached until updated ordinance in January 2026. The retroactive period discussed was from June 2025 through January 2026. Motion made to approve retroactive pay by Bobbie Bostock, second by Brian Shipman. Passed 4-1, Donna voting NO.

Citizen Comments. Karen Padgett provided an update regarding restoration and maintenance work at the local cemetery. Work has continued cleaning and treating headstones among other restorations. Discussion was also held regarding maintenance concerns involving dead trees and fallen limbs within the cemetery. Questions were raised concerning ownership of various cemetery sections and the Town's authority to authorize or perform tree removal work. It was noted that the Town only owns a small portion of the cemetery property, although Town personnel have historically maintained much of the area. It was recommended that no tree removal or related work be undertaken by the Town until ownership and responsibility for the affected areas are clarified.

Smokie Weeks raised concerns about the South Gospel Street Project. He stated that revised plans had only recently been distributed and expressed concern that affected property owners had not been given sufficient opportunity to review the updated drawings or discuss remaining issues with Town officials and project engineers. It was noted that a final decision regarding the location of the stop sign has not yet been made by the Council and that the construction plans specify the sign will not be installed until Council approval is finalized. Project representatives also stated that progress meetings related to construction are not public meetings; however, Town officials and engineers remain willing to meet individually with affected residents to review plans and discuss project-related concerns.

Motion to adjourn made by Bobbie Bostock, second by Theron Owen. Passed 5-0.
Meeting adjourned at 11:28 A.M.

APPROVED BY:

Danny Hickman, President

Donna Dillard, Vice President

Theron Owen, Member

Brian Shipman, Member

Bobbie Bostock

ATTEST:

Tara Wolfe, Clerk-Treasurer