

September 16, 2025

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the September 16, 2025, meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:

Police Officer David Rose
Sergeant Caleb Eisworth
Police Officer Suzanne O
Sergeant Lee Sorensen
Police Officer Eric Estrada

ROLL CALL:

James Marker - Absent
Lawrence Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Tony Hobson
Melissa Robbins

ALSO ATTENDING:

Gina Smith- Clerk Treasurer
Al Tharp – Chief of Police
Veronica Horka – Building Commissioner - Absent
Roy Schoon – Fire Chief
Andy Raab – Director of Public Works
Bryan E. Bott – Burke Costanza & Carberry Law Firm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2025, meeting, as presented, seconded by Council Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$3,125,604.57, (July 31st through September 11th) seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Town Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm, there will be a study session at 6:30 pm and one will follow if necessary.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Cheever Park Handball Tournament, Permission to allow alcohol in the park on October 5, 2025, at 9:00 am, Council Member Melissa Robbins made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson, all in favor, Motion Carried.
2. 2026 Budget Hearing on October 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

REPORTS:

- Public Works- No Report
- Police – No Report
- Fire – No Report
- Building Commissioner – No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. GPD requesting purchase vehicle for VEST: 2025 Ford Maverick, cost of \$29,724.00, includes the Doc fee. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion allowing the purchase, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins, all in favor, Motion Carried.

PENDING ITEMS: NONE

**Town Council Meeting Paused 7:09PM
Resumed 7:10 PM**

WATER BOARD MEETING

Public Comment:

Janet Wartman with the American Cancer Society, event was amazing thrilled with PD, GFD, VEST, PARKS Departments, best event in years at Central Park

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

Rick Ryfa – President

Lawrence Ballah – Vice President

James Marker

Tony Hobson

Melissa Robbins

Attest: Gina Smith - Clerk Treasurer