CITY OF INDIANOLA COUNCIL MEETING
December 15, 2025
6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
110 N 1st Street, Indianola, IA
Minutes

Call to Order
The Indianola City Council met in regular session at 6:00 PM on December 15, 2025, in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Steve Richardson called the meeting to order and on roll call the following members were present: Josh Rabe, Ron Dalby, Steve Armstrong, Christina Beach, Mellisa Sones, Bob Lane. Absent: None.

Oath of Office - 2025 Elected Officials
City Clerk Jackie Raffety administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect Steve Richardson. Mayor Richardson administered the Oath of Office to Council Members-Elect Ron Dalby, Bob Lane and Tiffany Davis.

Oath of Office - Police Chief
Mayor Richardson administered the Oath of Office to Police Chief Rob Hawkins.

Certificate of Merit Award
Mayor Richardson presented a Certificate of Merit Award to Andrew Swadner in recognition of his service to Indianola as an employee of KNIA/KRLS.

Recognition of Service
Mayor Richardson recognized out-going Council Member Beach for her service to Indianola the last four years.

Introduction of Public Works Director
City Manager Jacob Meshke introduced Eric Stevens, the new Public Works Director. Mr. Stevens spoke of the goals for his department.

Public Comment
No public comments were offered.

Consent Agenda
Council Member Lane moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Beach seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously. The consent agenda was as follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Claims
- Approval of Minutes of the prior meetings
- Consideration of the approval of a liquor license renewal for Brickhouse.
- Consideration of the approval of a liquor license renewal for The Sports Page Grill.
- Consideration of the approval of a liquor license renewal for Ohio Martinez LLC, doing business as Fiestas Jalapeños Mexican Restaurant.

- Consideration of the approval of a liquor license renewal for Sticks & Balls LLC, pending staff approval.
- Consideration of the approval of an ownership amendment for Ganesh Investments Inc., doing business as D & M Liquor.
- Consideration of the approval of an ownership amendment for Casey's Marketing Company's liquor licenses.
- Third consideration and adoption of an ordinance (No. 1790) amending recycling rates.
- Resolution 2025-205 appointing City of Indianola representation to the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Alliance (CIRTPA).
- Resolution 2025-206 authorizing a Provider Participation Agreement with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) Uncompensated Cost Prospective Payment Program.
- Resolution 2025-207 authorizing an agreement for the intergovernmental transfer of public funds between the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services and the City of Indianola Fire Department.
- Approval of the submission of the 2025 Quarter 3 utility write-offs to the State Setoff program for collection.
- Approval of Urban Revitalization Designations.
- Resolution 2025-208 approving salaries.

Mayor's Report
Mayor Richardson provided a community update.

Old Business
Community and Economic Development (CED) Director Bryce Johnson discussed additional funding needed for the Downtown Facade Improvement Program Project. Council Member Beach moved to approve Resolution 2025-209 approving $12,555.70 in additional funding for the Downtown Facade Improvement Program Project. Armstrong seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

New Business
Council Member Armstrong moved to open the public hearing regarding amendments to the residential property tax abatement program and Sones seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

CED Director Bryce Johnson explained the amendment to the Urban Revitalization Plan. Emily Lampman, 1209 N Buxton St., spoke in favor of tax abatements. Tiffany Davis, 1208 S 3rd St., spoke against tax abatements. Dawn Edwards, Jerry's Homes Realty One, spoke in favor of tax abatements.

Council Member Armstrong moved to close the public hearing and Beach seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Beach, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.
Council Member Armstrong moved to approve Resolution adopting the proposed Amendment No. 2 to the Amended and Restated 1998 Citywide Urban Revitalization Plan for the 1998 Citywide Urban Revitalization Area. Beach seconded it. Michael Maloney, DA Davidson, spoke regarding TIF and tax abatements. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Armstrong, Beach, Sones. NAYS: Rabe, Dalby, Lane. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion failed.

Other Business
City Manager Jacob Meshke gave a department and community update.

Discussion and action regarding future agenda items.
Council directed staff to add discussion and direction on tax abatement to a future agenda, using a 75-60-45 model and a 60-40-20 model.

Council Member Sones requested that team building be added to a future agenda. City Manager Meshke asked for council availability for legal training.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM on a motion by Dalby and seconded by Lane. Question was called for and on voice vote the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

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Steve Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jackie Raffety, City Clerk