



MEETING MINUTES
PRINCE'S LAKES TOWN COUNCIL
PRINCE'S LAKES TOWN HALL, 14 E LAKEVIEW DR, NINEVEH, IN 46164
July 20, 2026

COUNCILORS PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT LINDSEY HENSON, COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT BRYAN TEARMAN, COUNCILOR CHARLIE BOURNE, COUNCILOR ANTHONY GIGER, COUNCILOR KEVIN HARRISON

COUNCILOR ABSENT: COUNCIL V. PRESIDENT BRYAN TEARMAN
CLERK-TREASURER PRESENT: ERICA LYDEN-GIGER

TOWN ATTORNEY PRESENT: LEE ROBBINS

STAFF PRESENT: MARSHAL GREG SOUTHERS, UTILITES SUPERINTENDENT SCOTT BLACKWELL, STREET DEPT SUPERVISOR TONY PIKE

Council President Henson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

SPECIAL GUEST:

Paul Strack with BAM spoke about their available plan for individual households providing weather alerts directly to their devices, computer, smartphone, or tablet for specific saved locations. Mr. Strack stated tornado sirens are an old Cold War bomb alerting system that is now used for severe weather. They are made 100% for people who are outside to get inside, not for those already indoors. They are not specific to your location, or even the county. Their plan offers alerts that are sent directly to the user's device, reducing reliance on sirens and getting alerts up to six minutes faster. They are offering a discounted cost of \$4.50 per household per year, the sign-up process would be voluntary and each member of each household would be able to have the app. Mr. Strack also stated they have applications for street temperature forecasting and lighting strikes that would be useful for the street department and utility. He is going to email Council President Lindsey Henson with more information.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Scott Apple said water runoff issues began since the road was paved approximately two years ago. Water runs from the road into the front lawn and front porch, then straight downhill, preventing grass growth, and flowing down to the lake and dock. A small asphalt barrier was installed by Mr. Apple to prevent water from running over into the front yard, but this barrier was later removed. There is a need to find a permanent solution to manage water flow. Mrs. Henson stated this is a common problem, with residents dealing with the same thing. Roads are being paved flat, causing water to move in unintended ways. Councilor Harrison suggested to discuss with the paving company whether roads should be completely flat or have a curve/crown. He also said there will be a pre-construction meeting before they start paving and can discuss the issue then.

Vicki Lunter spoke on behalf of her father, Stephen Lunter. She requests to remove the \$75/month grinder pump fee for the property at 8288 South Lily Lane. The property is a smaller house, which is no longer considered a standalone dwelling, it is currently used for storage purposes. Water and electricity services have been shut off. The structure is not a livable dwelling and is not intended to be in the future. Both 8280 and 8288 South Lily Lane are connected to the same "turtle," but each property has a separate sewer connection. Utility Superintendent Blackwell stated when the sewer system was initially installed, a separate connection was made for each house, the fee is charged to cover the costs associated with the installation and maintenance of the sewer system. A past policy, implemented a couple of years ago, dictates that the only way to waive the grinder pump fee for a property is if the structure connected to the sewer system is completely torn down.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Council President Henson motioned to approve the June 15, 2026 regular meeting minutes. Councilor Bourne seconded. Motion carried.

PARK BOARD REPORT:

Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger read Park Board report:

- Thank you to Tony and staff for removing the dead tree in the park at playground. We do have two more trees and looking for volunteers to assist us in removing.
- We have been awarded the America the Beautiful Grant in the amount of \$7800.00. This will help us continue to remove invasives from the parks, pay the community members that have participated in this grant \$195.00 per household, and get new native trees for our parks.
- We have signs for basketball court and handicap signs for the ballfields and awaiting order to come in with the posts for these signs.
- Farewell to Mike Gallamore celebration will be at the EELOA breakfast on 8/8/2026. All are welcome! Bring a dish to share.

TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:

Marshal Greg Southers spoke establishing an ordinance violations bureau to administer local ordinance violations. They have had a serious number of issues with noise violations in multiple places, and speed and stop sign violations. He would like to create local ordinances with corresponding fines, issue citations and give violators ten days to pay the fine at the Clerk-Treasurer's office. If unpaid, the violation proceeds to court. Town Attorney Lee Robbins stated moving violations cannot be paid locally. Council agreed other violations should be paid at the Clerk-Treasurer's office. Marshal Southers is going to give a list of specific local ordinances to be administered through this bureau and send to Mr. Robbins for review.

Scott Wells, the IT professional, recommends upgrading the camera system for both entrances. This involves replacing two non-plate reader cameras with new plate reader cameras. The existing non-plate reader cameras will be kept and repurposed for other projects, such as the ballpark. Marshal Southers wanted to make it clear that the current cameras are "investigative tools" designed to record data and make it available for later review. They are not proactive and do not provide automatic notifications. The current cameras are NOT Flock cameras. Discussion was made about purchasing anti-choking devices such as LifeVac or RescueVac for the police

vehicles. PLPD hosted a CPR class for Town employees, the training went really. A proposed plan to offer a CPR class to the public was discussed.

UTILITY REPORT:

Superintendent Scott Blackwell informed Council the 2025 Water Loss Audit has been completed by Lori and Jason. It has been validated and submitted to the State. They finished the year at 81% efficiency. A full-time employee with approximately three years of experience was hired. Layman Boyd has been reassigned to the wastewater plant for the majority of his time, while continuing to handle some simple fleet maintenance tasks. The shift has been successful, with the wastewater plant significantly improved, and new implementations are being made based on the last inspection by IDEM. Mr. Blackwell said it has been difficult to replace all meters so he hired two seasonal employees for approximately two months. They are tasked entirely on meter replacement. Approximately 600 of 1800 meters have been replaced.

Mr. Blackwell said electricians have about two more days of work on the new reservoir and anticipate starting to fill and conducting final testing within a week.

Mr. Blackwell asked Council for a raise for Audrey Lasiter. He stated Audrey is currently paid \$20 per hour and takes on significant responsibility, including technology aspects known only by her and Arlene. He asked to raise Audrey's pay by \$2.18/hour, to \$22.18/hour. Council Giger had concerns about giving mid-year raises on top of yearly percentage raises. Mrs. Henson stated Audrey had previously received a dollar-an-hour raise within her first year, and in a previous year, an extra raise above and beyond what everybody else received plus the percentage raise.

- Councilor Bourne motioned to approve the \$2.18 raise for Audrey Lasiter. Councilor Harrison seconded. Councilor Harrison voted yes, Councilor Bourne voted yes, Councilor Giger voted No, Council President Henson voted no. Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger was tie breaker. She stated the utility billing clerks have gotten larger raises than any other employee over the last few years and a \$2.18 would be significantly larger than any other employee for 2026 and for that, she voted no. Motion did not pass.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Street Department Supervisor Tony Pike said the next application date for the paving grant is in September. He also said many culverts are clogged with leaves, causing water to wash over and damage roads. Discussion was made on purchasing equipment for cleaning culverts. Past methods for cleaning culverts included using fire hoses, but existing hoses are old and require a fire hydrant and significant amount of water. He would like to review ordinances related to culverts, potentially becoming stricter on maintenance.

Proposed change to the ordinance would be to charge homeowners \$125.00 to clean their culvert.

Mrs. Henson stated during the Head of Department meeting, Mr. Pike said has been performing maintenance for the Park Board, including weeding and upkeep of ball diamonds.

The Park Board frequently proposes new projects and requests the Street Department to handle all maintenance, and Mr. Pike does not have time to handle all the requests. Mrs. Henson is going to inform the Park Board of certain duties that Mr. Pike will maintain and that they are responsible for the rest of the maintenance.

Mr. Pike asked about right-of-way responsibilities for falling trees within 14 feet from the center of the road. He asked if a dead tree within the right-of-way poses a danger, is it the Town's responsibility or homeowners? Mr. Pike is able to remove trees that are in the right-of-way.

CLERK-TREASURER REPORT:

Clerk-Treasurer Erica Lyden-Giger presented General, Utilities, June 18, 2026, July 2, 2026, July 16, 2026 allowance docket claims and ask the Council for approval in the amounts of \$130,875.68 \$137,511.98, \$ 41,070.89, \$45,350.19, \$42,718.21, HWC #21 \$28,683.58 and Mid-Atlantic Storage Systems year to date, including pay app #6 for \$283,518.85. Mrs. Lyden-Giger also stated the budget season is currently underway. She briefly met with Tony about his budget. She said at her last training there was a class on "MUST" (Municipal Utility Task Force). The purpose of the MUST is for fiscal officers and council members from municipalities to petition the County regarding anticipated losses and needs for Local Income Tax (LIT). Mrs. Henson has been communicating with other Towns. Mrs. Lyden-Giger said she emailed other municipalities about meeting for the MUST. She said she was going to share the spreadsheets from AIM (Association of Indiana Municipalities) detailing projected losses and necessary collections for efficient operation. AIM representatives are willing to assist, potentially by organizing a large meeting for municipalities to discuss next steps. Participation in the MUST is not required, but encouraged Uncertainty remains regarding the final structure and impact, with further changes anticipated. She has set up a meeting with Jim Higgins and Janet to review the situation.

- Council President Henson motioned to approve all claims as presented. Councilor Bourne seconded. Motion carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Mr. Robbins informed Council that we are in contract with Invoice Cloud, our payment processing vendor, and our new software. Continued concerns with

OLD BUSINESS:

Mrs. Henson said the tornado siren has been installed and is about 30% louder. It needs to be 6 months check and a year check just to make sure that everything's online.

Question raised if maintenance checks can be performed by internal personnel or if an external company is required. The reimbursement check for the siren was received. The reimbursement from Trustee's office for installation is not 100% of the cost, the original quote indicated they would pay half. The old tornado siren is still operational. An estimate for the cost of refurbishment was requested and options for the old siren include getting rid of it, restoring it for use in another location, or selling it.

Mrs. Lyden-Giger said she wanted to update Council on a discussion from last month regarding utility deposits to be applied directly to a customer's final bill instead of receiving a refund. She spoke with Mr. Robbins and it was confirmed that changing the handling of utility deposits is a policy change, not an ordinance. Mr. Blackwell can make that change.

NEW BUSINESS:

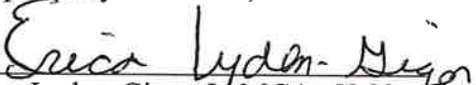
Mr. Robbins stated the Town entered into a contract with Invoice Cloud for online utility billing services and began using the platform in 2022 or 2023. After experiencing dissatisfaction with the software and customer support, and getting new software, they were decided to go with the new software as a replacement billing platform.

BSA has been contracted to provide the Town's billing platform and that implementation is still underway. The Town currently has active contracts with both Invoice Cloud and BSA. The original intent was to transition fully to BSA while exploring options for terminating the Invoice Cloud agreement before its expiration. There are still approximately eighteen months remaining on the Invoice Cloud contract. Mr. Robbins stated there is currently no obvious contractual basis for immediate termination without further review. He said he needs to review the contract to see if removing Invoice Cloud as a payment option would expose the Town to additional liability beyond the existing contract, if Invoice Cloud could seek damages related to reduced transaction volume, and whether any provisions within the payment-processing portion of the agreement affect the Town's ability to discontinue use while remaining under contract.

Mr. Blackwell said that continuing to work in both systems limits the Town's ability to fully utilize the new platform and maintaining both systems has become burdensome and requires frequent interaction with Invoice Cloud. Discussion was made about attempting to negotiate an early release from the Invoice Cloud agreement. The estimated remaining financial obligation under the contract is approximately \$17,000. Mr. Robbins stated that he will review the Invoice Cloud contract provisions related to payment processing and potential damages. A list will be sent to Mr. Robbins with Invoice Cloud performance concerns and he will evaluate whether those concerns support a breach notice or termination. He will then inform the Council after additional review.

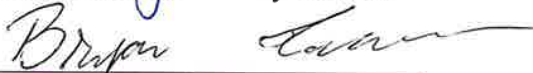
With no further business before the Prince's Lakes Town Council, Council President Henson adjourned the meeting at 8:23 pm

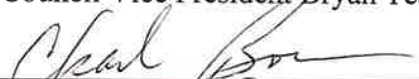
Respectfully submitted,


Erica Lyden-Giger, IAMCA, CMO, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer

Council:


Council President Lindsey Henson


Council Vice President Bryan Tearman


Councilor Charlie Bourne


Councilor Anthony Giger


Councilor Kevin Harrison