Vermillion County Government 255 S. Main St. Newport, IN 47966

VERMILLION COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES WITH PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2027 BUDGETS.

September 16, 2026 / Commissioners Courtroom

Live Stream @vermilliongov.us

chttps://www.youtube.com/live/5lZVliJhO2A?si=w4O8KZG1Bq9Nd5Cxountyindiana

1. Council President Ashley James called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm on September 16, 2026.

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by James.

3. Roll Call. Present; President Ashley James, Vice-President Brenda Furry, Neil Costello, Kelley Summerville, Jeff Bose, Rick Weir, Attorney Scott Craig and Auditor Ron Dunavan. Tamie Brown was absent.

4. 2027 Budget Public Hearing.
    a. Vermillion County
    b. Solid Waste
    c. Clinton Public Library

5. August 10,2026 Meeting Minutes. Summerville needs the extra “S” to be removed. Bose made a motion to approve the August 10,2026 County Council Minutes, seconded by Bose. Motion carried.

6. Treasurer Report. No comment.

7. Quarterly Comp Time Report. Not due until the October meeting.

8. Transfer of Funds

A. Extension Office. $800.00 Office Supplies to Assistant. Furry made a motion to allow, seconded by Weir. Motion carried.

B. Parks Department. $1,200.00 from Grounds to Electricity. Reporting Only.

C. Prosecutor. $$250.00 from Office Furniture and $250.00 from Travel. $500.00 Total into Office Supplies. Furry made a motion to allow, seconded by Bose. Motion carried.

9. Additional Appropriations

A. Judge. $17,300.00 to Office Equipment for technology updates. Furry made a motion to allow, seconded by Summerville. Motion carried.

B. Commissioners. $250,000.00 R Reimbursable Grant money for Thrives Owner Occupied Program. It was agreed to create a separate fund to keep track of this money. Furry made a motion to approve the $250,000.00 out of the general fund into the new fund for the occupied rehabilitation housing contract, seconded by Bose. Motion carried.

C. Auditor. $21,000.00 Riverboat Fund for Professional Services and Fees for Baker Tilley. Weir made a motion to approve, seconded by Costello.

D. Probation. $6,000.00. $5,000 from leased vehicles and $1,000.00 from repair and maintenance to Probation Administration pending approval from the Commissioners. Furry made a motion to approve, seconded by Bose. Motion carried.

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business:

A. Susie's Place. Aukerman said he is present to seek funding for Susie's Place and spoke very highly of them and their program. He stated there is no formal request tonight and was seeking their advice as to where to request it from. Basil Ave spoke about his experiences working with children and the need for Susie's place. Noah Gamble, Chief Deputy Prosecutor. He spoke about his experiences with the Prosecutors office and as a former attorney for the Indian Department of Children and reiterating the importance of Susie's place. A representative from Susie's spoke about the program. She stated they are a child advocacy center which is national best practice to investigate and interview all crimes against children. She explained that historically they have received federal funding through the Victims of Crime acts fund and Indiana has experienced a reduction in funds which resulted in cuts to their department. She said the caseload has increased but funding from the Department of Child Services has remained the same since 2015. They also had been receiving ARPA funding for the last 3 years and it ended this year. She also stated they applied for a federal grant but were not awarded funding. She explained that Vigo County Mayor Sakbun approved $45,000.00 in funding for their program and he challenged surrounding counties to fund $15,000.00. James explained that an additional appropriation will need to be presented for the October meeting. There was discussion about where to request the money from such as the Opioid Restricted Fund, Certified Shares or Pre-trial Diversion. Aukerman asked to fund 2026 and 2027 now so they do not have to come back for an additional next year. James explained that the fair appropriation was unused so they will have the Auditors office advertise for $30,000.00 for Susie's Place, out of Certified Shares.

B. City of Clinton Generator. $17,995.20 (40%) will be advertised from Public Safety at the October meeting per James.

12. Public Comment: None

Adjournment:

Weir made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bose. Motion Carried

Read in Full and approved by the Vermillion County Council this 19th day of October, 2026.

Name	Aye Signature	Nay Signature
President Ashley James	Ashley James	
VP Brenda Furry	Brenda Furry	
Neil Costello	Neil Costello	
Kelley Summerville		
Tamie Brown	ABSENT	ABSENT
Jeff Bose		
Rick Weir	RO Weir	

Attestation:	Ron Dunavan Jr	Auditor Ron Dunavan