STARKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING 6-16-25

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Commissioners and meet in regular session in the meeting room of the Starke County Annex #1, Knox, IN at 9:30 AM, with all members present. Dave Pearman, councilman, was also present. The following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: EMS REPORTS AND RECEIPTS

Nancy Coad reported that they had receipts of \$100,373.04 for the month of May.

Jim Garner submitted his monthly report (attached).

IN RE: SHERIFF'S MAINTENANCE TRUCK

Jim Garner reported on the truck for the Sheriff's Department part time maintenance man. The one originally submitted was sold the next day by mistake. They are now holding a 2021 truck that is \$3,000 more than the other one. Don Binkley moved to approve the 2021 truck out of the Commissioners' budget in Cum. Cap. with \$5,000 coming out of the Sheriff's Commissary fund seconded by Charles Chesak with 3 ayes.

IN RE: REDISTRICTING ELECTION BOUNDARIES IN THE CITY OF KNOX

Mayor Dennis Estok and Cheryl Runkle appeared before the commissioners requesting approval for the Redistricting of Boundaries for election in order to equal out the voters in each district. The information is attached. Don Binkley moved to approve seconded by Mike VanDeMark with 3 ayes.

IN RE: 911 SERVICES

Anna Beam stated that her husband passed away on January 28. While she was doing CPR on him she called 911 numerous times and the line was constantly busy. She called the hospital and was transferred to dispatch. She was told that it is supposed to flip to another county when busy, but it did not. She contacted Stacey Noonan who was in charge, and she didn't answer back until Last Friday. She stated that she called the Sheriff and left messages and she never got called back. She wanted to know why she had to go through the hospital to get help when we pay extra on our phone bills to get the service. She wanted to know why she would get a busy signal. Don Binkley stated that they will check into why it didn't get transferred.

She further stated that he was only 63 and had just retired. She feels that if she could've gotten help sooner, he might still be alive. She doesn't want it to happen to someone else. She needed help and didn't get it.

Dave Pearman stated that he was on the Communications Committee and that it should have transferred. He also stated that if she would have used her cell phone, due to her location, she might have gotten Marshall County. Dave further stated that Brightspeed might've been the issue. Dave stated that he will also look into this.

IN RE: CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP ISSUES

Sheri Bartoli, California Township Trustee, asked if they could put a pier on the county's easement in order to keep the fire rescue boat there. Right now, the Bass Lake Beach is allowing them to use theirs for free right now, but it is hard to get in and out. The commissioners want it marked as private and no trespassing and would like it placed close to the beach. Don Binkley moved to approve seconded by Mike VanDeMark with 3 ayes.

Sheri requested speed bumps on CR210. She stated that people speed around the lake and residents have approached her about this. She would like them placed in various places between Hillbilly Beach and CR 650. She further stated that there are portable ones that can be removed before winter so the plows can easily get through.

Dave Pearman said that there needs to be an ordinance for speed control.

The commissioners would defer to Rachel Oesterreich, Highway Superintendent, on placement of the speed bumps. Mike VanDeMark stated that he would check into this.

Sheri talked to a few companies about paving but wanted to talk to the commissioners first about repaving the parking lot at the California Township Fire

Station on Highway 35 and was wondering if the county could help with the funding. Don Binkley said probably not. She stated she got an estimate from a company out of Demotte or Francisville for \$200,000 plus. Don stated that there is also a local company that does paving. She further stated that Medical helicopters also use it and it is a bouncy landing right now.

She wanted to know if the county was considering a public safety fund. The commissioners stated that this would be a county council issue. Dave Pearman stated that this would be a LIT tax and the council has not talked about it. It would be a tax raise and from he has overheard from other members of the council they are not in favor of raising taxes. Dave also stated that our funding will be greatly reduced next year and that maybe we should have a public meeting regarding this. He further stated we are also having a problem funding the police pension.

Sheri also asked if there were going to be repairs to the road due to the damage done by solar. The commissioners stated that the county will be working on that soon. Mike VanDeMark stated that there is a map on the web page regarding the road schedule. Mike also explained that the grant money will be strictly for roads damaged by Mammoth Solar.

IN RE: VENDOR AND PAYROLL CLAIMS

Don Binkley moved to approve the vendor claims. Mike asked a question on a claim and found out it was for an air compressor. Mike also asked about a claim to Schramm Law Offices and was told it was for the tax abatement and it was explained to the commissioners by Justin Schramm, County Attorney. Mike VanDeMark seconded the motion to approve all vendor claims with 3 ayes.

Mike VanDeMark moved to approve the payroll claims seconded by Don Binkley with 3 ayes.

IN RE: 6-2-25 COMMISSIONER MINUTES

Mike VanDeMark moved to approve the minutes seconded by Don Binkley with 3 ayes.

IN RE: COVERED BRIDGE REPORT

Even though Starke County has no covered bridges, the report is still required by the state. Don Binkley moved to approve seconded by Mike VanDeMark with 3 ayes.

IN RE: PLANNING COMMISSION AND BZA APPOINTMENTS

Mike VanDeMark moved to appoint Lydia D. Angela Dutton to the Planning Commission if she is still interested seconded by Don Binkley with 3 ayes.

Don Binkley moved to appoint Kenny Eagle to the BZA if he is still interested seconded by Mike VanDeMark with 3 ayes.

Members are still needed for both boards along with the Solid Waste Board, the Knox City Planning Commission and the PTABOA board. Requests will be posted on Facebook, our web page and WKVI.

Mike VanDeMark reached out to HR and asked them to take over accepting applications for the openings in the Planning Commission Office. Mike stated that so far two of the applicants seem pretty strong. Mike asked for approval of the rest of the board to take the applications to the board meeting on Thursday. Mike VanDeMark moved to approve seconded by Don Binkley with 3 ayes. As far as who does the hiring, Justin Schramm, County Attorney, stated they should go by whatever has been done in the past. Mike stated he would talk to the Planning Commission Board on how to move forward.

Mark also stated that a few months ago each member of the board was issued a tablet to use during meetings. They were turned into the planning commission after each meeting. He wanted to know if the commissioners had a problem with the board accessing them. They were not set up to be take home tablets. Don Binkley moved to approve seconded by Charles Chesak with 3 ayes.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BEING IN PARADES AND PUG MIX

Mike VanDeMark said it was brought up to him at the North Judson Mint Festival as to why the highway department weren't in any of the parades. He asked if any of them had an issue allowing the highway to drive some of the new equipment in the parades. Mike VanDeMark moved to allow seconded by Don Binkley with 3 ayes. Mike will discuss with Rachel at the Highway. Mike also stated that it was brought to his attention that there was discoloration around the pug mix at the highway. Mike stated that shortly after it was mixed it rained and washed through the containment. There is a company willing to help with this. Mike stated that they need to plan for additional rain containment. It is seeping from the pile due to heavy rain water. It may cost some money. This is through no fault of the highway or the company that mixed the pug. Dave Pearman stated that it is a non-toxic oil.

The company came out last Thursday to look at it and Tori Chessor with Emergency Management has it all documented and it has been reported to IDEM. Gwen Rentz asked when it was going to be taken care of and was informed that this is why the company is coming out on Thursday. They are going to do an assessment of what is needed to stop this and clean it up.

Mike stated that the John Deere mower is having transmission problems and the estimated cost is between \$20 and \$25,000. The highway has also put some labor into this. John Deere wants to split it open and see what is wrong but if they do we are committed.

It is a 2013 and Rachel feels even after this repair it will start nickel and diming us. Mike is not sure if it would be worth putting \$25,000 into this repair. Rachel is worried about cutting her budget too thin if she fixes it out of her budget.

Mike reported that the Kubota was delivered last Friday and talked about maybe purchasing another one.

There is a time issue and the commissioners discussed options. Some of the equipment that has been purchased was covered by the auction proceeds.

Dave Pearman feels that this is a lot of money to put into a 2013.

The commissioners are going to have Rachel get updated quotes on a new one and they want Rachel to have the other one moved back to the highway department. Mike requested that Dave bring this up at the council meeting.

IN RE: BZA HEARINGS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Charlie Chesak feels that the BZA attorney should advise them on how to proceed. Mike VanDeMark stated he hates to move forward without their attorney being involved.

IN RE: PLANNING COMMISSION PERMITS

The contractors are wanting answers on how to get permits. Mike stated that there is a Planning Commission meeting on Thursday at 5:30 PM CST. Mike stated that he has received calls as well and that they are working on the permit process. Gene Pugh, acting Planning Commission Director, is trying to keep things moving. Mike VanDeMark stated that they are making progress.

The commissioners were asked if they could get rid of board members and they reported that they could only get rid of the ones that they appoint.

The commissioners told the public that all questions regarding to Planning Commission and BZA should be handled by those boards and not the commissioners.

Mike reported that Gene did between 15 and 17 inspections last week.

IN RE: COUNTY INCOME TAX

The commissioners were asked about the LIT county tax that was brought up earlier and were told that it would be added to their county income tax if it was approved.

IN RE: PROJECT REGARDING NEXT ERA

Dave Pearman wanted to make everyone was aware about a project involving solar. This project will begin soon and will bring in over a million dollars. He said assessed values were raised and this would benefit taxpayers. The value of the batteries, etc. is enormous, but will depreciate. He further suggested that the commissioners discuss this with their state representatives. He would like the commissioners to support this before the opportunity is gone. Due to all the state cuts, the county is going to have funding shortfalls and we will need income from other sources. Dave suggested that we meet with NextEra about a potential EDA. This is something that can't be done after construction begins. The time to do this is short as they will be starting construction in July and cannot proceed with an EDA after that point.

Don Binkley stated that he is in support 100%.

It was requested that the latest version of the EDA and other paperwork be recirculated to the commissioners and the council.

IN RE: SAN PIERRE FIRE HOUSE IN RAILROAD TOWNSHIP

Dave Pearman said that Railroad Township reported that things are moving forward with the San Pierre Fire House.

There being no further business to come before the board, Don Binkley moved to adjourn seconded by Mike VanDeMark with 3 ayes.

Charles Chesak, President

Mike VanDeMark, Vice President

Don Binkley, Member

Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor and Secretary to the Starke County Commissioners

Starke County EMS Monthly Report June 2025 for May 2025

Operations: Currently we are operating 4 out of 6 ambulances at certain intervals 4 (3+1 transfer truck) at ALS level, when ALS Staffing permits as well. Minimum of 1 ALS staff member at all times scheduled at Medic 3, Knox base, 68% of April staffing is minimum 2 ALS staffed ambulances. Decrease of 2% from last months 19% coverage, ALS ambulances 100% is minimum staffing of 1 paramedic at Knox base, I am continuing to operate BLS (due to monitor permanently out of service, loaner on the way) Non-transport vehicle on a 24-hour basis as needed to supplement staffing.

********Transfers: Estimated number due to Active911 being down for County 50 total transfers out of unknow amount of calls since last report increase/ decrease is unknown. Estimate is based on a previous average of 4 calls per day

Personnel: We have at this time no full-time openings for EMT's (12 on schedule) with no new part time employee hired, Daily request for applications, 8 current full-time paramedics as well as 0 paramedic full-time openings, 1 new part-time employees are testing for their paramedic test.

Training: Now has been reworked into a weekly schedule with the field training officer with skills testing and going very well!

May training completed- Trauma training by Lutheran Air 05/27/2025

IDHS mobile AI simulation lab was on loan to us

Safety: Last accident 01/16/2025 no reported injuries

Ambulance Maintenance:

4

3308-North Judson M1 (2021 Ford Gas Vin:1FXDE4FN2MDC16274 Current mileage: 155583) Up to date

4725- Knox M2 (2014 F450 Gas Vin: 1FDXE4FS8EDA90672 Current- in service 11/20/23 At NorthJudson base Current mileage 151754

4926- Knox Base M3 (2024 F350 Gas Vin: 1FDXE4FN1RDD21556 Current Mileage: 31388 In service

0514 Grovertown Base (2015 Ford Diesel Vin:1GB6G5CL5F1268834 Current mileage:225494) In service

0085 Transfer truck Base M2 (2024 Ford Gas Vin:1FDBR2XG7RKA58259 Current mileage:9280) In service

Old 0084-Macqueen (2012 Chevy Diesel Vin:1GB6G5CLXC1117256 Current Mileage: 121899) Wrecked 01/16/2024 in process for rechassis

New 0084 - (2008 Ford E 450 Vin # 1FXDE45P38DA95523) Current mileage 80427

4149 Medic 41 Paramedic chase (2015 Ford Explorer VIN :1FM5K8ARXFGB91482) Current Mileage:75808

4747 EMS 1 (2019 Chevrolet Tahoe Vin:1GNSKDEC2KR240900 Current mileage 91356) Currently in service as of 11/10/2023 as certified ALS- Non Transport vehicle (currently downgraded to BLS due to no monitor) and utilized daily basis as needed to supplement staffing

Update on for rechassis of wrecked ambulance:

Base Maintenance: Jason Downs coming for a quote to rewire medic 3 (knox base) too many circuts on a load.

Medic 1 north judson Jason Downs going to give quote for electric breaker replaced-Rick Green look at it.

Medic 5 grovertown- Rick took a look at it and will still need a structural evaluation due to loose exterior metal siding, mold smell and leaks.

Garage door spring broke and was repaired by DC garage door and they are also giving an estimate for door widening at all bases.

All are out for bids currently.

Grants: Nipsco training grant applied for \$5k.

More grants are coming available daily.

Donations: Gracious donation for EMS week from many people total of \$630

T-shirts are currently in the works

PPE: In good standing

Any Questions?

Upgrade your technology

Is it time to replace your monitor/defibrillator?

Keeping your lifesaving equipment current with the latest technology is one of the most important steps you can take to care for your community. Follow these replacement cycle recommendations to ensure your teams are armed with the most effective tools available.



From the field to the hospital, daily device use can cause natural wear and tear over time.

Defibrillator/monitors have a **five-year life expectancy** according to the American Hospital Association's 2018 Estimated Useful Lives of Depreciable Hospital Assets.



Biphasic defibrillation

Styker's modern biphasic waveform is more effective and safer than older monophasic waveforms.^{1,2}

Higher conversion rates

5-11% of cardiac arrest patients are difficult to defibrillate and will need more defibrillation energy to convert. Escalating energy up to 360 joules can improve conversion rates when lower energy shocks fail.²

STEMI

Accurate STEMI identification allows direct transport to the nearest PCI center and quick cath lab activation before the patient arrives. The pre-hospital 12-lead ECG is associated with faster reperfusion times and suggests a trend toward lower risk of mortality.³

An American Heart Association (AHA) consensus statement endorses the acquisition of pre-hospital 12-lead ECGs as well as their integration into STEMI systems of care.⁴

Pacing

Transcutaneous pacing is a recommended treatment for patients who have bradycardia unresponsive to drug therapy or are severely symptomatic bradycardia.⁵

Oximetry: SpO₂

The increased use of pulse oximetry has earned the distinction of the "fifth vital sign" after blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate and temperature.

Capnography: EtCO₂

Capnography is a Class I recommendation for the use of continuous quantitative waveforms to confirm and monitor ET placement. Waveform capnography is useful to monitor and optimize CPR quality and detect ROSC during resuscitation.⁶ (Class IIb recommendation).

0% unrecognized misplaced intubations using EtCO₂ monitoring.⁷

23% unrecognized misplaced intubations without EtCO₂ monitoring.⁷

Lithium-ion batteries

Unlike other chemistries, lithium-ion batteries do not require scheduled cycling to prolong performance. Legacy LIFEPAK[®] devices are not designed to work with lithium-ion battery technology.

- Lightweight, low maintenance and higher capacity.
- Self-discharge is less than half compared to nickel-cadmium
- Well-suited for fuel gauge applications

The following is a list of LIFEPAK devices that are no longer available for sale and their associated end date for service support*:

Defibrillator	Supported through
LIFEPAK 500 automated external defibrillator (monophasic)	January 2012
LIFEPAK 12 defibrillator/monitor series (monophasic)	October 2012
LIFEPAK 500 automated external defibrillator (biphasic)	January 2015
LIFEPAK 20 defibrillator/monitor (biphasic)	December 2020

We are pleased to have PMA approval and continue to offer our core portfolio: LIFEPAK 15, LIFEPAK 1000, LIFEPAK 20e, LIFEPAK CR2 and the HeartSine[®] family of AEDs.

LIFEPAK monitor/defibrillators have an eight-year expected service life under normal use conditions and with appropriate periodic maintenance.

* Some components become unavailable before the support termination date. If this occurs, we will review available alternatives.

Contact your Stryker representative today to discuss a replacement schedule for your LIFEPAK devices For a brief summary of important disclosure and safety information regarding LIFEPAK devices, visit our website at https://www. strykeremergencycare.com/disclosure-and-safety-information/

Please consult Operating Instructions at strykeremergencycare.com or call 800.442.1142 for complete list of indications, contraindications, warnings, cautions, potential adverse events, safety and effectiveness data, instructions for use and other important information.

References

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- 3. Koster R, Walker R, Chapman F. Recurrent ventricular fibrillation during advanced life support care of patients with prehospital cardiac arrest. Resuscitation. 2008;78:252-257.
- Diercks D, Kontos M, Chen A, et al. Utilization and impact of pre-hospital electrocardiograms for patients with acute ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction. Journal of the American College of Cardiology. 2009;53:161-166.
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Emergency Care

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05/21/2025

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Starke County EMS

53 E Mound St Knox, Indiana 46534

Equipment:

Finance structure:

FMV end of term options:

See proposal for detailed equipment descriptions and pricing.

Fair Market Value (FMV) end of term option

Return the equipment and upgrade to current technology
Continue to rent the equipment on a month-to-month basis
Purchase the equipment at the fair market price
Return the equipment

Payment terms:

	FMV	5 annual payments	
	Proposal total	\$641,372.95	
	Total payment	\$128,274.59	
	Payments are exclusive of a	l applicable taxes and freight unless otherw	vise noted.
Contract commencement:	Upon delivery, installation, a	nd acceptance.	
Down payment:	No down payment required.		
First payment due:	Net 30 following installation.		
Interim rent:	Stryker does not charge inter	im rent.	
Documentation fees:	Stryker does not charge doc	mentation fees.	
End of term notifications:	For FMV end of term options select an end of term option. end of term option that best s	Stryker will notify you five months prior to You will have until 90 days prior to the agre uits your needs.	your agreement's maturity date to ement's maturity date to elect the
Payment adjustment:	Bloomberg under the SOFR s an interpolated rate if a like-te division. Flex Financial reserv maintain current economics o secured overnight financing ra	were calculated based, in part, on an intere Swap Rate that would have a repayment ter rm is not available) as reasonably determin es the right to adjust the payments prior to f this proposed transaction. "SOFR" with re the published for such day by the Federal R k (or a successor administrator) on the Federal erg.	m equivalent to the initial term (or ned by Stryker's Flex Financial contract commencement to spect to any day means the eserve Bank of New York, as the
Deal consummation:	This proposal is subject to fina signed before your equipment	I credit, pricing, and documentation approv can be delivered.	ral. Legal documents must be

Please note that this proposal is subject to change if documents are not signed prior to 05/30/2025.

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Starke County EMS

53 E Mound St Knox, Indiana 46534

Equipment:

Finance structure:

FMV end of term options:

Fair Market Value (FMV) end of term option

See proposal for detailed equipment descriptions and pricing.

Return the equipment and upgrade to current technology
Continue to rent the equipment on a month-to-month basis
Purchase the equipment at the fair market price
Return the equipment

Payment terms:

	FMV	5 annual payments	
	Proposal total	\$695,844.35	
	Total payment	\$139,168.87	
	Payments are exclusive of a	l applicable taxes and freight unless otherwise noted.	
Contract commencement:	Upon delivery, installation, a	nd acceptance.	
Down payment:	No down payment required.		
First payment due:	Net 30 following installation.		
Interim rent:	Stryker does not charge inter	im rent.	
Documentation fees:	Stryker does not charge doc	imentation fees.	
End of term notifications:	For FMV end of term options select an end of term option. end of term option that best s	Stryker will notify you five months prior to your agreeme You will have until 90 days prior to the agreement's matu uits your needs.	nt's maturity date to rity date to elect the
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Please note that this proposal is subject to change if documents are not signed prior to 05/30/2025.

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Starke County EMS

53 E Mound St Knox,Indiana 46534

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Finance structure:

FMV end of term options:

Return the equipment and upgrade to current technology
Continue to rent the equipment on a month-to-month basis
Purchase the equipment at the fair market price
Return the equipment

See proposal for detailed equipment descriptions and pricing.

Fair Market Value (FMV) end of term option

Payment terms:

	FMV	5 annual payments
	Proposal total	\$358,616.2
	Total payment	\$75,894.59
	Payments are exclusive of a	ll applicable taxes and freight ur
Contract commencement:	Upon delivery, installation, a	nd acceptance.
Down payment:	No down payment required.	
First payment due:	Net 30 following installation.	
Interim rent:	Stryker does not charge inter	rim rent.
Documentation fees:	Stryker does not charge doct	umentation fees.
End of term notifications:	For FMV end of term options select an end of term option. end of term option that best s	, Stryker will notify you five mon You will have until 90 days prior suits your needs.
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Please note that this proposal is subject to change if documents are not signed prior to 06/30/2025.

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Starke County EMS

53 E Mound St Knox, Indiana 46534

Equipment:	
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Finance structure:

FMV end of term options:

Return the equipment and upgrade to current technology
Continue to rent the equipment on a month-to-month basis
Purchase the equipment at the fair market price
Return the equipment

See proposal for detailed equipment descriptions and pricing.

Fair Market Value (FMV) end of term option

Payment terms:

	FMV	5 annual payments
	Proposal total	\$378,616.20
	Total payment	\$80,077.20
	Payments are exclusive of a	II applicable taxes and freight un
Contract commencement:	Upon delivery, installation, a	nd acceptance.
Down payment:	No down payment required.	
irst payment due:	Net 30 following installation.	
Interim rent:	Stryker does not charge inte	rim rent.
Documentation fees:	Stryker does not charge doc	umentation fees.
nd of term notifications:	For FMV end of term options select an end of term option. end of term option that best	s, Stryker will notify you five mon You will have until 90 days prior suits your needs.
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Deal consummation:	This proposal is subject to fin signed before your equipmen	al credit, pricing, and documenta t can be delivered.

Please note that this proposal is subject to change if documents are not signed prior to 06/30/2025.

	 ZOLL One Lease Proposal with Upgrade within 60 months 5 XSA, upgrade to Next Gen, device, within first 5 years 5 AutoPulse NXT 10 Years of Warranty and PM's 10 Years of Case Review QA Software Total with everything: \$110,276/year for 10 years 	 ZOLL Fastlane Proposal with Upgrade within 120 day 5 XSA, upgrade to Next Gen. device within 120 days upon release 5 AutoPulse NXT 5 years of Warranty and PM's 5 years of Case Review QA Software Total with everything: Approximately \$533,165 	5 XSA and accessories 5 AutoPulse NXT 5 years of Warranty and PM's 5 years of Case Review QA Software Total with everything: \$463,389	Standard Capital Purchase
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2022 \$44,640

2025 \$57,930

+30%

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The City of Knox recently passed an ordinance to recertify our Councilmanic Districts to be in compliance with IC 36-4-6-4 and SEA 135-2024. The deadline for this is June 30, 2025.

We re-drew the districts according the requirements in State Code. According to Code, districts must be:

- 1. Composed of contiguous territory (borders have to touch)
- 2. Reasonably compact
- 3. Do not cross precint boundary lines except as provided in subsection c or d
 - a. Sub section d states: may cross precinct line if the district would not otherwise contain, as nearly as possible, equal population
- 4. Contain, as nearly as possible, equal population.

Our map meets all of those requirements but in doing so, it created split districts. We are here to respectfully request that the Commissioners re-establish precinct boundaries for Center 1,2,3, and 4 and approve the new map for the City of Knox.

The 2020 Census for the City of Knox was 3662.

	Original district population	new district population
Center 1 –	1,234	911
Center 2 –	775	917
Center 3 –	1,117	912
Center 4 –	530	922

The maximum population deviation has to be under 10 percent. Our new population deviation is 1.2 percent.

I have also verified that the changed have not affected the council persons.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KNOX, INDIANA PROVIDING FOR REDISTRICTING OF COUNCILMANIC DISTRICTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH IC 36-4-6-4

WHEREAS, the City of Knox, Indiana ("Knox") is a third class city and the Common Council of the City of Knox is its legislative body; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-4-6-4 and SEA 135-2024, each Indiana third class city is required to update district boundaries no later than June 30, 2025;

WHEREAS, the City is currently divided into four (4) councilmanic districts and one (1) at-large district for the entire city; and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted and continuously used an election process whereby each voter of the City voted for one (1) council member at-large and one(1) council member from each of the four (4) council districts: and

WHEREAS, according to the 2020 Census, the City of Knox experienced different degrees of growth within the City, the Council has determined it is necessary to amend Ordinance 1132 and redraw boundaries to the four (4) existing districts so that the districts:

- 1. Are Contiguous territory;
- 2. Are reasonably compact;
- 3. Do not cross precinct boundary lines, except that the boundary of a legislative body district may cross a precinct line if the districts would not otherwise contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population; and
- 4. Contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population.

WHEREAS, attached to this Ordinance as <u>Exhibit A</u> is the revised map and summary representing the four Councilmanic voting districts (the "Map") covering the criteria set out above; and

WHEREAS, the herein ordinance is necessary for the efficient and effective administration of City Government;

WHEREAS, The Common Council of the City of Knox, Indiana has determined this matter at an open meeting to which the public were invited to attend and participate.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOX, INDIANA, TO WIT:

SECTION 1. That Ordianance 1132, SECTION 1, repealing and replacing Chapter 2 section 2-57 is now repealed and replaced with a revised section 2-57, Chapter 2, reading as follows:

Sec. 2-57. Districts from which council members are elected:

The revised Councilmanic districts from which common council members are elected are as follows:

- 1. Revised Councilmanic District 1 shall be defined in accordance with the incorporated map and have a population of approximately 911.
- 2. Revised Councilmanic District 2 shall be defined in accordance with the incorporated map and have a population of approximately 917.
- 3. Revised Councilmanic District 3 shall be defined in accordance with the incorporated map and have a population of approximately 912.
- 4. Revised Councilmanic District 4 shall be defined in accordance with the incorporated map and have a population of approximately 922.
- 5. Revised Councilmanic At-Large District 5 shall be defined in accordance with the incorporated map and have a population of approximately 3662.

Redistricting shall be done in accordance with IC 36-4-6-4 and IC 36-4-6-5.

SECTION 2. All other provisions of Chapter 2 not otherwise amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. The sections and provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable and any portion which is declared inoperative or invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction shall in no way affect the remaining sections or provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 4. The Clerk-Treasurer shall ensure that a copy of this Ordinance and Exhibit A attached hereto are filed with the Clerk of Starke County, Indiana before June 30, 2025.

SECTION 5. A copy of the map and ordinance will be on file at the Clerk-Treasurer's office at the City of Knox and may be viewed at any time during regular business hours.

SECTION 6: The City of Knox will respectfully request that the Starke County Commissioners approve the map and reestablish precinct boundaries to reflect the updated voter districts.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor and upon its publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED, PASSED AND ORDAINED, BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOX, INDIANA, this 10th day of June 2025.

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOX:

¢ouncil President Jeff Ber

Don Kring, Council Member

Bill Gustafson, Counci Member

Sherry Cowen Council Member

Halme Gruszczynski, Council Member

Approved by the Mayor this 10th day of June 2025.

Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest:

Cyndi/Kidder, Clerk-Treasurer

Voting District

CENTER 01, Starke County, Indiana

CENTER 01, Starke County, Indiana is a Voting District located in Starke County, Indiana

// United States / Starke County, Indiana / CENTER 01, Starke County, Indiana

O Display Sources





Housing Total Housing Units 539 H1 | 2020 Decennial Census

Voting District CENTER 02, Starke County, Indiana

CENTER 02, Starke County, Indiana is a Voting District located in Starke County, Indiana

// United States / Starke County, Indiana / CENTER 02, Starke County, Indiana





Housing Total Housing Units **327** H1 | 2020 Decennial Census

CENTER 04, Starke County, Indiana

CENTER 04, Starke County, Indiana is a Voting District located in Starke County, Indiana

// United States / Starke County, Indiana / CENTER 04, Starke County, Indiana

 Populations and People

 Total Population

 1,117

 P1
 2020 Decennial Census



Housing Total Housing Units 550 H1 | 2020 Decennial Census

Voting District

CENTER 03, Starke County, Indiana

CENTER 03, Starke County, Indiana is a Voting District located in Starke County, Indiana

// United States / Starke County, Indiana / CENTER 03, Starke County, Indiana

 Populations and People

 Total Population

 530

 P1
 2020 Decennial Census



Housing Total Housing Units 253 H1 | 2020 Decennial Census O Display Sources

O Display Sources

O Display Sources



2024 Indiana Code Title 36. Local Government Article 4. Government of Cities and Towns Generally Chapter 6. City Legislative Body 36-4-6-4. Third Class Cities; Division Into Districts; Boundaries; Voting; Recertification of Districts; Filing With Circuit Court Clerk; Time for Filing

Universal Citation: IN Code § 36-4-6-4 (2024)

Previous

Sec. 4. (a) This section applies to third class cities, except as provided by section 5 of this chapter.

(b) This subsection does not apply to a city with an ordinance described by subsection (j) or (m). The legislative body shall adopt an ordinance to divide the city into five (5) districts that:

(1) are composed of contiguous territory, except for territory that is not contiguous to any other part of the city;

(2) are reasonably compact;

(3) do not cross precinct boundary lines except as provided in subsection (c) or (d); and

(4) contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population.

(c) The boundary of a city legislative body district may cross a precinct boundary line if:

(1) more than one (1) member of the legislative body elected from the districts established under subsection (b), (j), or (m) resides in one (1) precinct established under IC 3-11-1.5 after the most recent municipal election; and

(2) following the establishment of a legislative body district whose boundary crosses a precinct boundary line, not more than one (1) member of the legislative body elected from the districts resides within the same city legislative body district.

(d) The boundary of a city legislative body district may cross a precinct line if the districts would not otherwise contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population.

(e) A city legislative body district with a boundary described by subsection (c) or (d) may not cross a census block boundary line:

(1) except when following a precinct boundary line; or

(2) unless the city legislative body certifies in the ordinance that the census block has no population, and is not likely to ever have population.

(f) The legislative body may not adopt an ordinance dividing the city into districts with boundaries described by subsection (c) or (d) unless the clerk of the city mails a written notice to the circuit court clerk. The notice must:

(1) state that the legislative body is considering the adoption of an ordinance described by this subsection; and

(2) be mailed not later than ten (10) days before the legislative body adopts the ordinance.

(g) Except as provided in subsection (o), the division under subsection (b), (j), or (m) shall be made only at times permitted under IC 3-5-10.

(h) This subsection does not apply to a city with an ordinance described by subsection (j) or (m). The legislative body is composed of five (5) members elected from the districts established under subsection (b) and two (2) at-large members.

(i) This subsection does not apply to a city with an ordinance described by subsection (j) or (m). Each voter of the city may vote for two (2) candidates for at-large membership and one (1) candidate from the district in which the voter resides. The two (2) at-large candidates receiving the most votes from the whole city and the district candidates receiving the most votes from their respective districts are elected to the legislative body.

(j) A city may adopt an ordinance under this subsection to divide the city into four (4) districts that:

(1) are composed of contiguous territory;

(2) are reasonably compact;

(3) do not cross precinct boundary lines, except as provided in subsection (c) or (d); and

(4) contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population.

(k) This subsection applies to a city with an ordinance described by subsection (j). The legislative body is composed of four (4) members elected from the districts established under subsection (j) and three (3) at-large members.

(I) This subsection applies to a city with an ordinance described by subsection (j). Each voter of the city may vote for three (3) candidates for at-large membership and one (1) candidate from the district in which the voter resides. The three (3) at-large candidates receiving the most votes from the whole city and the district candidates receiving the most votes from their respective districts are elected to the legislative body.

(m) This subsection applies only if the ordinance adopted under IC 36-4-1.5-3 by the town legislative body of a town that has a population of less than ten thousand (10,000) and that becomes a city specifies that the city legislative body districts are governed by this subsection. The

ordinance adopted under IC 36-4-1.5-3(b)(1) dividing the town into city legislative body districts may provide that:

(1) the city shall be divided into three (3) districts that:

(A) are composed of contiguous territory;

(B) are reasonably compact;

(C) do not cross precinct boundary lines, except as provided in subsection (c) or (d); and

(D) contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population; and

(2) the legislative body of the city is composed of three (3) members elected from the districts established under this subsection and two (2) at-large members.

Each voter of the city may vote for two (2) candidates for at-large membership and one (1) candidate from the district in which the voter resides. The two (2) at-large candidates receiving the most votes from the whole city and the district candidates receiving the most votes from their respective districts are elected to the legislative body.

(n) A copy of the ordinance establishing districts or a recertification adopted under this section must be filed with the circuit court clerk of the county that contains the greatest population of the city no later than thirty (30) days after the ordinance or recertification is adopted. The filing must include a map of the district boundaries:

(1) adopted under subsection (b), (j), or (m); or

(2) recertified under subsection (o).

(o) If the legislative body determines that a division under subsection (g) is not required, the legislative body shall adopt an ordinance recertifying that the districts as drawn comply with this section.

(p) The limitations set forth in this section are part of the ordinance, but do not have to be specifically set forth in the ordinance. The ordinance must be construed, if possible, to comply with this chapter. If a provision of the ordinance or an application of the ordinance violates this chapter, the invalidity does not affect the other provisions or applications of the ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. The provisions of the ordinance are severable.

(q) IC 3-5-10 applies to a plan established under this section.

The population of the 46534 ZIP code in the 2020 census was not explicitly stated in the provided search results. However, the 2020 census data for the city of Knox, which shares the 46534 ZIP code, was 3,662. The broader Center Township, also within the 46534 ZIP code, had a population of 6,131 in 2020. The total population for the 46534 ZIP code tabulation area was 11,029 in 2023, according to Data Commons.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

• Knox, Indiana:

The 2020 census population for the city of Knox, which is part of the 46534 ZIP code, was 3,662.



ORDINANCE 2025 - OR 4 EXHIBIT A