

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 12, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. by Council President Todd Angerman. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence. Clerk-Treasurer Jill Murr called the roll. The members present were Michael Gruszka, Todd Angerman, John Alessia, Shane Tucker and Phillip Kuiper. Staff present were Town Manager Craig Hendrix, Police Chief Jim Woestman, Fire Chief Chris Gamblin and GIS Director Greg White. Town Attorney David Westland joined via Zoom.

SWEARING IN

Clerk-Treasurer Jill Murr swore in Deputy Fire Chief Cory Wietbrock. Cory Wietbrock is the second full-time member of the Fire Department.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Town Council President – Motion by Michael Gruszka and seconded by John Alessia to nominate Todd Angerman as Town Council President, being no other nominations, nominations were closed; motion carried with five ayes on voice vote.

Town Council Vice-President – Motion by John Alessia and seconded by Shane Tucker to nominate Michael Gruszka as Town Council Vice-President, being no other nominations, nominations were closed; motion carried with five ayes on voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Tucker made a motion to approve the December 29, 2025, Regular meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on voice vote.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

President Angerman stated he reviewed the vouchers. White Vouchers #14493 - 14636 \$1,685,712.18; White – Police #1561 - 1586 \$16,702.26; and Wastewater #8475 - 8538 \$1,189,545.14. Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Alessia to approve the vouchers as listed and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

2025 Parade of Light Winners. Park Director Cyndi Hughes presented the December 6th Parade of Light Winners – 1st Place, Shelby 4-H Club, 2nd Place, Travis Farms, and 3rd Place, CI Insurance.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2025-12 – Appropriation Transfers. Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Kuiper to approve Resolution No. 2025-12; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Ordinance No. 2026-01 – Hickory Ridge Planned Unit Development

Motion by Councilman Alessia and seconded by Councilman Gruszka to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-01; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

President Todd Angerman made the following Presidential Appointments:

2026 Presidential Board Appointments & Representatives:

Board of Finance - Todd Angerman and Jill Murr;
Lake County Solid Waste District – Phillip Kuiper;
Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission – Phillip Kuiper;
Freedom Park Committee - John Alessia, Dorothy Eich, Heidi Goetz-Laub and Alice Dahl;
Fire Department Liaison - Mike Gruszka;
JMOB - Mike Gruszka and Shane Tucker;
Shared Ethics Committee – Mike Gruszka;
Ambulance Board - Todd Angerman.

2026 Boards & Commission Appointments

Plan Commission

Town Council appointments - John Alessia, Shane Tucker, Greg White; Citizen appointment – Manny Frausto (four-year term); and Dave Regan to repace and serve the remaining one-year term vacated by Daniel Smith. Motion by Coouncilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Tucker to approve the Plan Commission appointments; motion carried with five ayes on voice vote.

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Alessia to approve the following appointments:

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tom Cartwright (four-year term) to the Board of Zoning Appeals; and Denny Cripe to serve the remaining one-year term vacated by Dave Regan.

Police Commission

Sharon Patterson to the Police Commission (three-year term);

Historic Preservation Board

Connie Schrombeck to the Historic Preservation Board (three-year term);

Redevelopment Commission

Appointing the Town Council Members to the Redevelopment Commission.

Motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Emergency Management Director

Motion by Councilman Alessia and seconded by Councilman Kuiper to appoint Fire Chief Gamblin as Emergency Management Director; motion carried with five ayes on voice vote.

Kingston Ridge Recapture Agreement

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Alessia to approve the Kingston Ridge Sanitary Sewer Recapture Agreement; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Hasse Construction Company, Inc, PR#15 – Nassau Park

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Kuiper to approve Hasse Construction Company, Inc, PR#15 – Nassau Park, white voucher #14632 - \$296,709.24; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Hasse Construction, PR#6 – Maintenance Facility

Motion by Councilman Kuiper and seconded by Councilman Gruszka to approve Hasse Construction, PR#6 – Maintenance Facility - white voucher #14631 - \$76,036.58; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Cordogan Clark, Training Facility/Shooting Range

Motion by Councilman Kuiper and seconded by Councilman Tucker to approve Cordogan Clark, Training Facility/Shooting Range - white voucher #14633 - \$149,250.00; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Disposal of Equipment

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Alessia to approve the disposal of the park department copier; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next regular meeting – Monday, January 26, 2026, at 7:00 pm


MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

None in person or online.

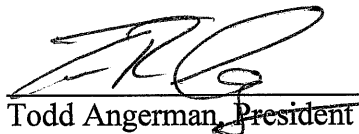
ADJOURNMENT

No further business, Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Alessia to adjourn at 7:20 pm; motion carried with five ayes on voice vote.

Attest:



Jill Murr, Clerk-Treasurer



Todd Angerman, President

