

**Town of Merrillville
Redevelopment Authority Minutes
February 10, 2026, 6:15 pm
Merrillville Municipal Complex**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Pettit at 6:20 pm.

Roll Call

Secretary Ms. Neal took roll call. The following members were present: Mr. Pettit and Ms. Uzelac. There were three members present, and a quorum was present.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2025. Ms. Neal made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried with a voice vote of 3 yes and 0 no.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Election of officers.

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary Treasurer
- d. Assistant Secretary Treasurer

Mr. Pettit said that this body meets once a year we must elect officers per the bond council, so at this time he opened it up for officer of president

Mr. Pettit opened the nomination for President. Ms. Neal nominated Mr. Pettit for President of the Redevelopment Authority and was seconded by Ms. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried with a voice vote of 3 yes and 0 no.

Mr. Pettit opened the nomination for Vice President. Ms. Neal nominated Ms. Uzelac for Vice President of the Redevelopment Authority and was seconded by Ms. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried with a voice vote of 3 yes and 0 no.

Mr. Pettit opened the nomination for Secretary Treasurer. Ms. Uzelac nominated Ms. Neal for Secretary Treasurer of the Redevelopment Authority and was seconded by Ms. Neal. There was no discussion. The motion carried with a voice vote of 3 yes and 0 no.

Mr. Pettit deferred to Ms. Chilcott, Economic Director, for input on behalf of Mr. Griffin, Town Manager, regarding the Assistant Treasurer. Ms. Chilcott stated that, in the past, this role had been handled within Administration Office. Mr. Svetanoff noted that there are currently only three members. Ms. Chilcott responded that the arrangement was primarily for financial purposes.

Mr. Pettit asked Ms. Chilcott if she held this position the previous year; she confirmed that she had not. He then inquired whether these responsibilities had been transferred to the Clerk Treasurer Office. Ms. Chilcott explained there has never been a need to print checks, as financial matters have been handled by the Town Administration on behalf of the Clerk Treasurer Office, pursuant to a previously passed resolution.

Ms. Chilcott deferred to Mr. Swintz who stated that there are no day-to-day financial activities aside from processing release and bond payments. He added that, beginning a couple of years ago, the State Board of Accounts (SBOA) required the filling of an annual Redevelopment Authority report, similar to the Town's report. He clarified that the Clerk's Treasurer is not formally part of the Redevelopment Authority; however, Mr. Griffin appointed him to assist the Clerk Treasurer's Office with completing the report. He works in conjunction with Ms. Santos (bookkeeper) and Ms. Hudson (Cender & Cender) to ensure the report is filed with SBOA.

Mr. Svetanoff, Town Attorney, asked Mr. Swintz whether he currently serves as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Swintz replied that he does not. Mr. Svetanoff then asked whether such a position is necessary given that there are only three members; Mr. Swintz indicated that he did not believe it was required. Mr. Svetanoff advised Mr. Pettit to have Mr. Swintz assist with all financial reporting. Mr. Swintz expressed uncertainty about whether he could formally serve as an officer of the Redevelopment Authority.

Mr. Pettit concluded that he would follow up with Mr. Griffin upon his return to discuss the matter further. The issue was postponed for further consideration.

General Orders: None.

Adjournment: Mrs. Uzelac makes a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Neal at 6:23 pm.

Adopted on: The following minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting