

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-2-R1

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF REYNOLDS, INDIANA
ESTABLISHING REMOTE MEETING PARTICPATION PROTOCOLS**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Reynolds, Indiana (“Council”) met at a duly called and authorized meeting of the Council on the date set forth below, such meeting being called pursuant to a notice stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting received by all the Council members, and the following Resolutions were made, seconded and adopted by a majority of those present at the meeting, which constituted a majority of the Council:

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Eric Holcomb issued Executive Order 2020-09 declaring a health emergency in the State of Indiana (the “State”); and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2021 the Governor signed Executive Order 2021-14 as the 15th renewal of the public emergency extending the emergency until June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Executive order 2020-09 gave local units of government the authority to hold public meetings and hearings virtually, where members of the governing body and the public could participate fully via electronic communications; and

WHEREAS, in the 2021 Session of the Indiana General Assembly House Enrolled Act 1437, codified at Ind. Code 5-1-3 *et seq.* and Ind. Code 5-14-1.5 *et seq.* (the “Act”) was enacted, approving the authority for governing bodies of political subdivisions to adopt a virtual meeting policy under the provisions of Ind. Code §5-14-1.5-3.5; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to establish a standing remote meeting policy as provided in the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF REYNOLDS, INDIANA THAT:

SECTION 1. The foregoing Recitals are incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. The Council hereby adopts the provisions of the Act in full and establishes the provisions of the Act, as amended from time to time, as the policies of the Council.

SECTION 3. With respect to meetings of the Council, in the absence of a State or local disaster emergency being declared as provided in Section 3.7 of the Act, members of the Council and the staff and consultants thereto may participate in a meeting of the Council by any electronic means of communication that allows all participating members of the Council to simultaneously communicate with each other and allows the public to simultaneously attend and observe the meeting (with the exception of executive sessions). A member of the Council participating in a meeting by electronic means shall be considered present for purposes of establishing a quorum, but may only vote on any final action taken at the meeting if the member can be both seen and heard.

SECTION 4. Except as provided in Section 6 below, a majority of the members of the Council must be physically present at a meeting and, unless remote participation is due to military service, illness, death of a relative or an emergency involving actual or threatened injury to persons or property, a member of the Council may not attend more than fifty percent (50%) of the Council's meetings in a calendar year by means of electronic communication. A member of the Council may participate in no more than two (2) consecutive meetings by electronic means.

SECTION 5. Except as provided in Section 6 below, a member of the Council may not participate remotely in a meeting if the Council is taking final action to: (i) adopt a budget, (ii) make a reduction in personnel, (iii) initiate a referendum, (iv) establish or increase a fee, (v) establish or increase a penalty, (vi) use the Council's eminent domain authority, or (vii) establish, raise or renew a tax.

SECTION 6. In the event the Governor declares a disaster emergency under Ind. Code § 10-14-3-12 or the Board of Commissioners of White County, Indiana declares a local disaster emergency under Ind. Code § 10-14-3-29, the provisions of Section 3.7 of the Act allowing full remote participation of the Council and the public in meetings of the Council shall apply.

SECTION 7. The memoranda and minutes of meetings of the Council shall hereafter state the name of each member who participated in the meeting by using an electronic means of communication and identify the electronic means of communication by which any such members participated, and the means by which the public attended and observed the meeting if the meeting was not held in executive session. All votes taken during a meeting at which remote participation is allowed shall be by roll call vote.

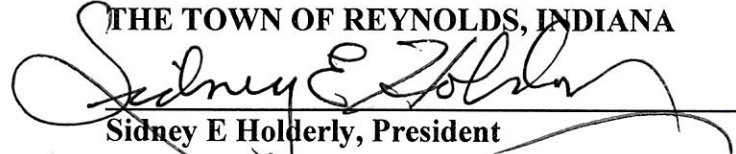
SECTION 8. In all ways, the provisions of the Act are incorporated herein as if set forth in full. Questions regarding the interpretation of this policy shall allow for interpretation with the maximum flexibility provided under the Act.

SECTION 9. This Resolution is effective immediately upon its passage.

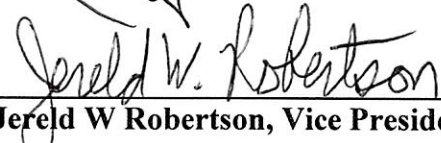
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This Resolution is adopted by the Council on 1-14-2025, ~~2024~~.

**TOWN COUNCIL OF
THE TOWN OF REYNOLDS, INDIANA**




Sidney E Holderly, President




Jereld W Robertson, Vice President



Veronica Favela, Member



Maureen A Buschman, Member



Michel J Ransone, Member



Attest: Pamela S Cochran, Clerk Treasurer