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Cover Sheet ID #: 2173									
Topic: PUBLIC HEARI	ING FOR RE	DISTRICTI	NG						
Requires Council Appr	roval: YES								
Signature Required: Y	ES								
Type of Request	Prese	nter		Departn	nent				
OTHER	DAX	NORTON		MUNIC	IPAI	L OPERATIONS	S - 900		
Does this request requ	ire funding a	pproval?					Cost of	f Request	
Accounting Code 1	Accounting	Code 2	Accoun	ting Code 3	3	Accounting Co	de 4	Accounting	g Code 5
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Accounting Notes									
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ORDINANCE 2025-21 OF THE TOWN OF BARGERSVILLE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BARGERSVILLE, INDIANA, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

- WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 36-5-2-4.1 requires the Town Council (the "Council") of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana (the "Town") to redistrict the Town's legislative body districts in the second year after a year in which a federal decennial census is conducted; and
- WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 3-5-10-7.1(a) requires that any redistricting authority which failed to complete redistricting or recertification of districts following the 2020 federal census must redistrict or recertify existing districts no later than June 30, 2025; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 2025-04 adopted on May 27, 2025, the Town Council established Guidelines for Town Council Legislative Redistricting (the "Guidelines") setting forth the procedures and requirements for accomplishing the redistricting process; and
- **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Guidelines, the Town caused to be published a "Notice Regarding Division of the Town Council of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana into Legislative Body Districts" (the "Notice") in the *Daily Journal* on May 27, 2025 and in the *Indianapolis Star* May 28, 2025, and made the Notice available in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town; and
- WHEREAS, the Council made provision for members of the public to object to the provisions of the Guidelines and gave public notice of the same in the Notice and no objections were submitted by members of the public; and
- WHEREAS, the Council made provision for members of the public to submit proposed maps in compliance with the Guidelines and gave public notice of the same in the Notice and no proposals were submitted by the public.
- WHEREAS, the Council has received and considered a proposed Redistricting Plan submitted by the Redistricting Coordinator appointed by the Council (the "Coordinator's Plan") which the Council finds has a total deviation of 7.44%, and otherwise fully complies with the Guidelines and the Act; and
- WHEREAS, while greater than the 5% total deviation goal contained in the Guidelines, the Council finds that the Coordinator's Plan maintains precincts in a manner that promotes precinct integrity except as necessary to equalize districts, promotes election efficiency and minimizes voter confusion regarding the residence requirements for elected Councilors and candidates; and

WHEREAS, § 36-5-2-4.1(b) provides that districts must not cross precinct lines unless (1) the legislative body provides by ordinance that all legislative body members are to be elected at large by the voters of the whole town; or (2) the district would not otherwise contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population; and

WHEREAS, the Coordinator's Plan divides six (6) precincts (Union 03, White River 08, White River 09, White River 15, White River 35, and White River 44), to improve the population equality of the districts and the Council finds no notice is required to the Johnson County Circuit Court Clerk as candidates for the Council are elected at-large throughout the entire Town; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Notice, the Council held a public hearing on June 10, 2025 on the plans received by the Council at which members of the public could present testimony and render objections to or support for the plans to be considered for adoption; and

WHEREAS, the Council now desires to adopt the Coordinator's Plan as the plan with the lowest total deviation with minimal precinct splits and to establish new Town legislative body districts for the elections occurring in 2026 and 2027 utilizing the 2020 decennial census data as required by Ind. Code §1-1-3.5-3.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BARGERSVILLE, JOHNSON COUNTY, INDIANA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals Incorporated. The foregoing Recitals are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. <u>Districts Established</u>. Section 30.01 of Chapter 30 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana is hereby replaced and amended and shall hereafter read as follows:

§30.01 – Election of Members; Division of Town Into Districts

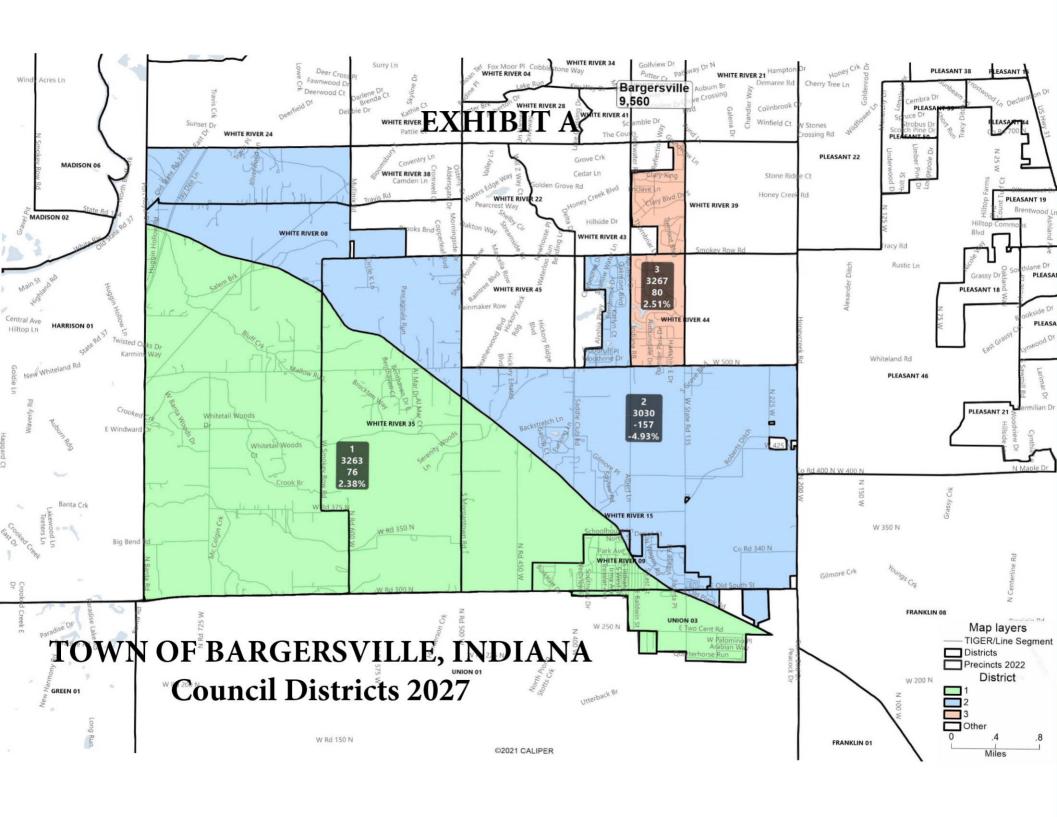
- (A) The Council shall be composed of five (5) members with four (4) year terms for each member. Three (3) of the Council members must reside within single-member districts and shall be elected by the voters of the entire Town, and two (2) Council members shall be elected from at-large districts constituting the entire Town.
- (B) The Town is divided into three (3) single-member districts for the purpose of conducting elections of Council members as follows (descriptions include only those portions of the listed precincts which are within the Town's corporate boundaries):
 - (1) <u>District 1</u> includes the following: (1) that portion of White River 08 lying south of State Road 144; (2) that portion of White River 09 lying south of State Road 144; (3) that portion of White River 15 lying south of State Road 144; (4) that portion of White River 35 lying south of State Road 144; and (5) that portion of Union 03 lying south of State Road 144.

- (2) <u>District 2</u> includes the following: (1) that portion of White River 08 lying north of State Road 144; (2) that portion of White River 09 lying north of State Road 144; (3) that portion of White River 15 lying north of State Road 144; (4) White River 24; (5) that portion of White River 35 lying north of State Road 144; (6) that portion of White River 44 lying west of the Indiana Rail Road railway tracks, (7) White River 45 (if any); and (8) that portion of Union 03 lying north of State Road 144.
- (3) <u>District 3</u> includes the following: (1) White River 39, and (2) that portion of White River 44 lying east of the Indiana Rail Road railway tracks.
- (C) The election of Council members from District 1 and one (1) at-large district shall be conducted during the elections held in November 2026 and every four (4) years thereafter. The election of Council members from District 2, District 3, and one at-large district shall be held in November 2027 and every four (4) years thereafter.
- (D) Attached to this Ordinance as Exhibit A are maps showing the boundaries of each Council district collectively and separately (the "Maps") which maps are incorporated herein by reference. Two copies of the foregoing Maps are on file in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer for public inspection as required by Ind. Code §36-1-5-4.
- (E) If a conflict exists between the Maps and the descriptions set forth in subsection (B) of this Section (the "Descriptions"), in accordance with Ind. Code §3-5-10-9, the Descriptions shall determine the boundaries of the Council district.
- (F) If any territory in the Town is not included in one of the Council districts, in accordance with Ind. Code §3-5-10-10 and Ind. Code §36-5-2-4.1(d), the excluded territory shall be included in the Council district that: (i) is contiguous to that territory; and (ii) contains the least population of all Council districts contiguous to that territory.
- (G) If any territory in the Town is included in more than one (1) of the Council districts, in accordance with Ind. Code §3-5-10-11, the territory shall be included in the Council district that: (i) is one (1) of the districts in which the territory is described in this Ordinance; (ii) is contiguous to that territory; and (iii) contains the least population of all Council districts contiguous to that territory.
- (H) In accordance with Ind. Code §36-5-2-4.1(k) this Ordinance must be construed, if possible, to comply with the provisions of Ind. Code §36-5-2-4.1. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and if any provision is found to be invalid, the invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision.
- Section 3. Ordinances Repealed. All prior ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency, as of the effective date of this Ordinance, such repeal to have prospective application only.

Section 4. Upon its passage. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately

[Signature Page Follows]

		, 2025, by the Town Council of the d by a vote of in favor and
TOWN CO	UNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF	BARGERSVILLE
	YEA	NAY
James Pheifer		
Andrew Greenwood		
James Rumell II		
Ruth Anne Moore		
Susie Qualls		
ATTEST:		
Dustin Doyle,		
Clerk-Treasurer		



CERTIFICATE OF CLERK-TREASURER

Town of Bargersville, Indiana

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF JOHNSON)

- I, Dustin Doyle, am the duly elected and serving Clerk Treasurer of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana, and hereby certify as follows:
 - 1. Attached hereto as Attachment "A" is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2025-04 entitled "A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana Adopting Guidelines for Town Council Legislative Redistricting" (the "Guidelines") which was duly adopted by the Town Council at an open meeting held on May 27, 2025.
 - 2. Pursuant to the Guidelines, Public Access Packets were available in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer beginning May 27, 2025.
 - 3. No objections or written comments to the Guidelines were received in my office as of the published deadline therefore at Noon on June 6, 2025.
 - 4. The following Plans for redistricting of the Common Council were received by my office by the published deadline therefore of Noon on June 6, 2025: (1) Redistricting Coordinator's Plan submitted by the Council President, Ruth Ann Moore, attached hereto as Attachment "B".
 - 5. Other than the above referenced Redistricting Coordinator's Plan no other plans or comments were submitted to my office by the published deadline therefore.
 - 6. The foregoing meetings of the Common Council complied in all material respects with the laws of the State of Indiana governing public body meetings including particularly Ind. Code 5-14-1.5 (the Indiana Open Door Law).

Dated this 6th day of June, 2025.

Dustin Doyle, Clerk-Treasurer

ATTACHMENT "A"

Resolution No. 2025-04

[See Attached]

RESOLUTION NO.: 2025-04

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BARGERSVILLE INDIANA ADOPTING GUIDELINES FOR TOWN COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING

- WHEREAS, pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-5-2-4.1(b) the legislative body of a town is permitted to adopt an ordinance that divides the town into legislative body districts; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-5-2-5, the legislative body of a town may provide that its members are to be elected by the voters of a district, at-large, or a combination of both; and
- WHEREAS, the legislative body of a town may only divide the town into legislative body districts at a time permitted under IC 3-5-10; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-5-10-7.1, a legislative body that did not certify its districts or redistrict following the 2020 decennial census must do so by November 1, 2025 (and by June 30, 2025 to avoid penalties); and
- WHEREAS, the Town Council (the "Council") of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana (the "Town") did not recertify its districts following the 2020 decennial census and now wishes to adopt legislative body districts for the elections occurring in 2026 and thereafter utilizing the 2020 decennial census data as updated for the Town by any special census, special tabulation or corrected census count as required by Ind. Code §1-1-3.5-3; and
- WHEREAS, the Town Council wishes to divide the Town into three (3) legislative body districts to be elected by the voters of each district, with the two remaining members of the Town legislative body to be elected at-large by voters of the entire Town; and
- WHEREAS, the Council desires the public to be fully informed regarding the procedures to be used to redistrict the Town's legislative body districts; and
- WHEREAS, the Council wishes to memorialize the legal and procedural requirements to be used by the Council in approaching the redistricting process and in evaluating proposed redistricting plans.
- NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BARGERSVILLE, INDIANA AS FOLLOWS:
- <u>Section 1.</u> <u>Recitals Incorporated</u>. The foregoing Recitals are incorporated herein by this reference.
- Section 2. Redistricting Guidelines Adopted. The Council hereby adopts and approves the "Redistricting Guidelines by the Town Council of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana" (the "Guidelines") attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A", and specifically incorporated herein by reference, as the definitive statement of the intent of the Council regarding the redistricting process and as an accurate statement of the process to be used by the Council in reapportioning legislative body districts.

Section 3. Appointment of Redistricting Coordinator. The Council hereby designates Council member Ruth Ann Moore to serve as the Town's Redistricting Coordinator to coordinate the legislative body redistricting process and to implement the Guidelines.

Section 4. Charge to Coordinator. The Redistricting Coordinator appointed herein is authorized, empowered and directed to become fully informed regarding the legal requirements of the redistricting process, to work with the Town's special legal counsel to develop a proposed Redistricting Plan that complies with all requirements of state and federal law and with the Guidelines for consideration by the Council, and to report back to the Council from time to time regarding all aspects of the redistricting process.

<u>Section 5.</u> <u>Effectiveness.</u> This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage by the Council.

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 27th day of May, 2025, by the Town Council of the Town of Bargersville, Johnson County, Indiana, having been passed by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ opposed.

TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF BARGERSVILLE

James Pheifer
Andrew Greenwood
James Rumell II
Ruth Anne Moore
Susie Qualls

Dustin Doyle,

ATTEST

Clerk-Treasurer

EXHIBIT "A

REDISTRICTING GUIDELINES BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BARGERSVILLE, INDIANA

These guidelines ("Guidelines") are adopted to establish the criteria to be used to redistrict legislative body districts for the Town Council ("Council") of the Town of Bargersville (the "Town") in compliance with Ind. Code §36-5-2-4.1 (the "Town Districting Statute" or "Statute") and other applicable provisions of the Indiana Code. It is the intent of these Guidelines and of the Council to promote free and open participation by the public in the redistricting process, to create district boundaries that enhance and facilitate effective representation of all citizens in the Town, and to comply with all relevant statutory and constitutional requirements. The goal of the Council in this redistricting process is to ensure fair and effective representation of all citizens.

I. REQUIREMENTS OF IND. CODE §36-5-2-4.1 AND IND. CODE §3-5-10

The Town of Bargersville does not currently have electoral districts, as all members of the Town Council are elected "at-large." In order to create electoral districts, the Town Districting Statute establishes certain minimal criteria for the redistricting process. It is the intent of these Guidelines to fully comply with the criteria set forth in the Town Districting Statute, the Town's Municipal Code and other applicable state and federal laws. Compliance with statutory criteria is discussed more specifically in subsequent sections of these Guidelines.

Applicable portions of the Town Districting Statute provide as follows:

- (a) The legislative body may, by ordinance, divide the town into districts for the purpose of conducting elections of town officers.
- (b) A town legislative body district must comply with the following standards:
 - (1) The district must be composed of contiguous territory, except for territory that is not contiguous to any other part of the town.
 - (2) The district must be reasonably compact.
 - (3) The district must contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population.
 - (4) The district may not cross a census block boundary except when following a precinct boundary line or unless the ordinance specifies that the census block has no population and is not likely to have population before the effective date of the next federal decennial census.
 - (5) The district may not cross precinct lines, except as provided in subsection (c).
- (c) The boundary of a town legislative body district established under subsection (a) may cross a precinct boundary line if:
 - (1) the legislative body provides by ordinance under section 5 of this chapter that all legislative body members are to be elected at large by the voters of the whole town; or
 - (2) the district would not otherwise contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population.
- (d) If any territory in the town is not included in one (1) of the districts established under

¹ Bargersville Ord. 2002-8

this section, the territory is included in the district that:

- (1) is contiguous to that territory; and
- (2) contains the least population of all districts contiguous to that territory.
- (e) The ordinance may be appealed in the manner prescribed by IC 34-13-6. If the town is located in two (2) or more counties, the appeal may be filed in the circuit or superior court of any of those counties.
- (f) This subsection does not apply to a town with an ordinance described by subsection (g)². Except as provided in subsection (j), the division permitted by subsection (a) shall be made only at times permitted under IC 3-5-10.³ [...]
- (i) A copy of the ordinance establishing districts or a recertification under this section must be filed with the circuit court clerk of the county that contains the greatest population of the town not 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 (a); or
 - (2) recertified under subsection (j).
- (j) If the legislative body determines that a division under subsection (a) is not required, the legislative body shall adopt an ordinance recertifying that the districts as drawn comply with this section.
- (k) 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. [...]
- (m) IC 3-5-10 applies to a plan established under this section.

Applicable portions of Ind. Code 3-5-10 provide as follows:

Ind. Code § 3-5-10-7.1

- (a) A redistricting authority described in section 7(a)(1) of this chapter that did not redistrict election districts or did not recertify existing districts following the 2020 decennial census, shall:
- (1) after January 1, 2025, and before November 1, 2025, redistrict election districts for an office that is on the ballot during the 2024 general election; or

² Subsection (g) applies only to a town having a population of less than three thousand five hundred (3,500).

³ Ind. Code §3-5-10-7 limits the time frame for redistricting to the second year after a federal census; the first year after a census event, other than a federal decennial census, becomes effective; whenever required to assign annexed territory to a district; whenever the boundary of the political subdivision is changed; or, as provided in the order of a court that has found the current redistricting plan unconstitutional or otherwise unlawful. However, for municipalities that did not redistrict or recertify their existing districts after the 2020 decennial census may now redistrict up to November 1, 2025, and by June 30, 2025 to avoid penalties.

- (2) before November 1, 2025:
- (A) recertify existing districts under section 8 of this chapter; or
- (B) redistrict election districts for an office that is not on the ballot during the 2024 general election.
- (b) Redistricting or recertifying under this section must be based on the 2020 decennial census.
 - (c) A member of a redistricting authority described in subsection (a) that fails to:
 - (1) redistrict election districts; or
 - (2) recertify existing districts under section 8 of this chapter;

before June 30, 2025, shall not be entitled to receive payment of any salary or fees, as fixed by law, until the redistricting authority complies with subsection (a).

Ind. Code § 3-5-10-9. If a conflict exists between:

- (1) a map showing the boundaries of a district; and
- (2) a description of the boundaries of that district set forth in the plan;

the district boundaries are the description of the boundaries set forth in the plan, not the boundaries shown on the map, but only to the extent there is a conflict between the description and the map.

Ind. Code § 3-5-10-10. If any territory in the political subdivision is not included in one (1) of the districts, the territory is included in the district that:

- (1) is contiguous to that territory; and
- (2) contains the least population of all districts contiguous to that territory.

Ind. Code § 3-5-10-11. If any territory in the political subdivision is included in more than one (1) of the districts, the territory is included in the district that:

- (1) is one (1) of the districts in which the territory is described in the ordinance or resolution that establishes the plan;
- (2) is contiguous to that territory; and
- (3) contains the least population of all districts contiguous to that territory.

II. CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN DRAWING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

A. Contiguous Territory

The Town Districting Statute specifies that legislative body districts shall be "composed of contiguous territory, except for territory that is not contiguous to any other part of the town." The Council interprets this requirement to mean that, among other things, a legislative body district cannot be made up of one or more areas that meet at the points of adjoining corners. The Council is committed to creating legislative body districts that consist only of contiguous territory unless established precinct boundaries dictate otherwise.

⁴ Ind. Code § 36-5-2-4.1(b)(1).

B. Reasonably Compact

The Town Districting Statute requires that districts must be "reasonably compact." The Council recognizes that this requirement does not require districts to be as compact as possible. Moreover, the Council believes that the goal of compactness should generally defer to criteria more fundamental to obtaining effective and functional electoral districts including population equality, respect for precinct boundaries, respect for natural geography, building patterns and communities of interest. The compactness requirement would, however, override these other criteria in some instances as when the degree of compactness of the proposed district would be considered "unreasonable." The Council is committed to creating legislative body districts that are reasonably compact.

C. Equal Population

The Town Districting Statute requires that Town legislative body districts "contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population." This requirement includes both the selection of accurate data upon which to base the Council's determination, and a determination regarding the minimum standards for population equality.

1. Use of Census Data

The Council recognizes that use of data from the 2020 Federal Decennial Census is mandated by the Indiana General Assembly as updated by any Federal special census, special tabulation or corrected population count.⁷ The foregoing 2020 Census data is readily available and accessible to the public.⁸ Consequently, the Council will use the 2020 Federal Decennial Census population data to establish Council districts.

2. Population Deviation

The Town Districting Statute requires districts that "contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population." The Town interprets this phrase to mean that Council districts must comply with the equal protection clause of the United States Constitution as that clause has been interpreted with respect to local government election districts. The modifying language clearly indicates, however, that, unlike federal Congressional districts, precise equality of population among districts is not specifically required by the Statute.

In order to comply with the Town Districting Statute and the equal protection clause of the United States Constitution the Council will evaluate the population of each district of any redistricting plan considered by the Council for "deviation from the ideal district size" and will also evaluate any such redistricting plan for the "total deviation" of the plan. As used in these Guidelines the term "ideal district size" refers to the total population of the Town as determined by the 2020 Census divided by three (3). The term "deviation from the ideal district size" refers to the amount by which the population of any district is greater than or less than the ideal district size and is expressed

⁵ Ind. Code § 36-5-2-4.1(b)(2).

⁶ Ind. Code § 36-5-2-4.1(b)(3).

⁷ Ind. Code § 1-1-3.5-3(b).

⁸ Census data is available on the website of the United States Census Bureau found at www.census.gov.

⁹ The 2020 US Census Bureau establishes the population of the Town of Bargersville as 9,560 as of April 1, 2020. Based on that number, the ideal district size is established by the Council as 3,187.

as a percentage by dividing the difference between the actual and ideal district sizes by the ideal district size. The term "total deviation" refers to the sum that is derived by adding the deviation from the ideal district size of the smallest and largest population districts (expressed as a percentage).

The Town recognizes that total population deviations of less than ten percent (10%) are considered *prima facie* constitutional for state legislative districts pursuant to Supreme Court precedent and that total population deviations in excess of ten percent (10%) may be justified if supported by reasonable state interests. Courts have generally applied similar standards to local government apportionment efforts.

Nevertheless, the Council has determined that a primary goal of the redistricting process should be the creation of single-member Council districts with nearly equal population and that any significant deviation from this principle must be adequately justified and as narrow as possible to meet the stated reasons for the deviation. Any total deviation in excess of five percent (5%) shall be justified in writing with reference to one or more rational objective criteria including:

- a. contiguity;
- b. compactness;
- c. adherence to precinct boundary lines (except as allowed by the Statute);
- d. respect for and adherence to natural geography and building patterns including, but not limited to, rivers, streets, shopping areas, neighborhoods, etc.;
- e. communities of interests; and
- f. other objective criteria.

Written comments accompanying any redistricting plan submitted by a member of the public for consideration must reference any objective criteria relied upon to justify a total population deviation in excess of five percent (5%).

D. Precinct Boundary Lines

The Town Districting Statute provides that districts may not cross precinct lines unless: (1) more than one member of the Council resides in a single precinct as described; or (2) the districts would not otherwise contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population. However, the Council recognizes that respect for precinct boundaries is essential to minimize voter confusion on election day, to reduce the cost of election administration, to help preserve communities of interest and to encourage voter understanding of the electoral process. The Council is committed to creating legislative body districts that respect precinct boundary lines provided that the goal of creating districts with nearly equal population is not unduly burdened thereby. Consequently, only in an extraordinary event will precinct boundary lines be disregarded, and in such event such division will be minimized to the extent reasonably practicable. Prior to the adoption of a final plan which includes districts crossing precinct lines, the Town's Clerk-Treasurer shall provide the notice required by subsection (f) of the Town Redistricting Statute. The precinct boundary lines used to create Council districts shall be those precinct boundary lines in use in Johnson County as of July 1, 2024.

E. Dilution of Minority or Political Voting Strength

The Council recognizes the fundamental right of political participation by all citizens in the Town. Consequently, no district shall be drawn to intentionally dilute or that has the effect of diluting the voting strength of any language or racial minority group. Any proposed redistricting plan

demonstrated to have the intent or effect of dispersing or concentrating minority population in a manner that prevents minority communities from electing their candidates of choice shall not be acceptable. In addition, no district shall be drawn for the purpose of discriminating against an identifiable political group in such a way that the group's electoral influence is consistently degraded.

F. Communities of Interest

The Council believes that an important function of electoral districts is to promote and enhance community cohesiveness and dialogue and to promote the recognition of unique interests that are held in common by recognizable groups of voters. Such interests may include social, cultural, or economic interests common to the population of the area. In the redistricting process the Town will preserve communities of interest where possible so long as recognition of such interests does not conflict with the other statutory or constitutional redistricting criteria.

III. PUBLIC NOTICE AND PARTICIPATION IN THE DISTRICTING PROCESS

Believing that public participation is essential to a fair and effective redistricting process, the Council adopts the following plan for public participation in the redistricting process.

A. All Redistricting Meetings to be Public

All redistricting meetings conducted by a quorum of the Council shall be held in compliance with the Indiana Open Door Law, Ind. Code §5-14-1.5-1 et seq.

B. Public Notice Regarding Meetings At Which Redistricting Plans Are To Be Considered

The Council shall comply with the public notice requirements which are applicable to all Council Meetings. Public notice regarding the consideration of Council district plans shall additionally be published as provided in these Guidelines.

C. Public Access to Redistricting Information and Submission of Proposed Plans.

The Council desires and welcomes full public participation in the redistricting process. To ensure public participation in the redistricting process the Council authorizes the following steps to be taken by the Redistricting Coordinator:

- 1. Publication of the notice set forth in Exhibit "1" in the *Daily Journal* and the *Indianapolis Star* no later than May 30, 2025. The Redistricting Coordinator is further authorized to publish notice in such other publications as deemed appropriate by the Redistricting Coordinator.
- 2. Provision of individual notice of any public redistricting meetings not described in these Guidelines and not listed on the notice published in compliance with the preceding paragraph to all members of the public who request such notice by filing a written request for notification with the office of the Clerk-Treasurer.
- 3. Provision of the notice set forth in Exhibit "1" via a news release distributed to all media that have requested notice pursuant to Ind. Code §5-14-1.5-5.

- 4. Provision of Town maps indicating precinct boundaries and summary population data at the precinct level to members of the public at no cost for the purpose of facilitating the creation and submission of alternative redistricting plans by members of the public.
- 5. Production of minutes of all public redistricting meetings by the Town's Clerk-Treasurer to be made available for review after approval at the next Council meeting.

D. Individual Notice Regarding Districting Process

Individual notice regarding any aspect of the districting process shall be given without charge to any individual or organization that requests it. Such requests shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, Bargersville Town Hall, 24 N. Main Street, Bargersville, IN 46106. The Clerk-Treasurer's Office is open from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday. Additional notice shall be provided as described elsewhere in these Guidelines.

IV. SUBMISSION AND CONSIDERATION OF DISTRICTING PLANS

To meet the statutory requirements of the Town Districting Statute and Ind. Code §3-5-10-7, the Council must adopt on final passage an ordinance approving a districting plan no later than June 20, 2025. The Council intends to adopt a final districting plan on the timetable set forth in the Notice.

A. Preparation of Draft Plan by Redistricting Coordinator

By Resolution adopted contemporaneously with the adoption of these Guidelines, the Council has designated the Council President as the Town's Redistricting Coordinator for the purpose of developing a draft plan (the "Draft Plan") that complies with the legal requirements for the creation of legislative body districts. The Redistricting Coordinator is further directed to ensure that the Draft Plan complies in all respects with the applicable portions of these Guidelines.

It is the responsibility of the Redistricting Coordinator to prepare a Draft Plan that is made available to members of the public and members of the Council not later than Noon on June 6, 2025, the date designated for the submission of plans by the public. The Draft Plan shall thereafter be available for review in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer during normal business hours at the request of any member of the public prior to consideration of its final adoption.

B. Public Preparation and Submission of Redistricting Plans

The Council shall also receive redistricting plans submitted by any member of the public so long as any such plan is submitted in writing to the Clerk-Treasurer's office during regular business hours between the date of adoption of these Guidelines and prior to Noon on June 6, 2025.

Any plan offered by a member of the public must meet the following criteria to be considered:

1. It must have been submitted in writing to the Clerk-Treasurer's office during regular business hours between the date of adoption of these Guidelines and Noon on June 6, 2025;

- 2. The precincts (or portions of partial precincts) contained in each proposed legislative body district shall be clearly written on the form provided (Note: the Guidelines direct that precinct boundaries be respected except in extraordinary circumstances):
- The plan as submitted must stand as a complete Town-wide plan for redistricting (i.e., all pieces of geography within the Town must be accounted for in some district); and
- 4. The plan must <u>comply completely</u> in all respects with these Guidelines and with the instructions attached as Exhibit "2". Any total deviation in excess of 5% from population equality must be justified in writing with reference to the objective criteria set forth in these Guidelines.

A plan <u>must meet</u> the above requirements to be considered by the Council. As described in these Guidelines, each plan will be evaluated for:

- 1. contiguity
- 2. compactness;
- 3. population deviation;
- 4. respect for precinct boundary lines;
- 5. compliance with the requirements prohibiting discrimination;
- 6. respect for communities of interest;
- 7. adherence to natural geography and building patterns; and
- 8. any other relevant criteria.

To assist in the evaluation of proposed plans each individual submitting a proposed districting plan is required to complete a statistical sheet and description in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "3" and list:

- a. the total population for each proposed district; and
- b. the population deviation from the ideal for each district.

A complete set of instructions and the statistical report for publicly submitted plans is set forth as Exhibit "2" and Exhibit "3" to these Guidelines and is specifically incorporated herein by reference.

C. Written Comments Regarding Redistricting Guidelines and Draft Plans

The Council will also receive public input in the form of written comments and objections by the public to any aspect of the districting process, including the adoption of the process or criteria set forth in these Guidelines and to any Draft Plan. Any member of the public desiring to submit written comments to the Council regarding the redistricting process set forth in these Guidelines should submit those comments in writing in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer during regular business hours between the date of adoption of these Guidelines and Noon on June 4, 2025. Written comments regarding the Draft Plan or any plan proposed by the public may be submitted until Noon on the date of the June 10, 2025 public hearing designated below.

D. Public Hearing Regarding Plan(s)

The Council shall hold a public hearing at the June 10, 2025 regular meeting of the Council (the "Public Hearing"), for the purpose of reviewing the Draft Plan and any public plans submitted

to the Council and to take public testimony and comments regarding the Draft Plan and any plans proposed by the public. The Council shall make any necessary revisions or modifications to the plans under consideration prior to final adoption.

As the Town Districting Statute requires the adoption of an ordinance to approve a districting plan, unless waived in accordance with Indiana law¹⁰, the Council shall adopt an ordinance at two separate meetings of the Council at which a quorum is present. It is presently anticipated that the first reading of an ordinance to approve a districting plan will be adopted at the meeting at which the Public Hearing is held, and that the final passage of the ordinance approving a districting plan will occur at a regular or special meeting of the Council thereafter. The second meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 24, 2025. Additional meetings and revisions to any plan under consideration may occur at subsequent special or regular meetings at the Council's discretion. The final adoption of an ordinance approving a districting plan shall occur no later than June 30, 2025 in accordance with Ind. Code §3-5-10-7.1.

E. Additional Public Meetings

Should additional public meetings become necessary at any point in the redistricting process, such meetings will be held and any statutorily required notice shall be given. Notice of all redistricting meetings shall be posted in advance in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer or as otherwise customarily posted for Council meetings. Parties interested in the redistricting process who desire to be notified regarding any additional public meetings should leave their name, complete address, work and home phone numbers, and electronic mail address with the Clerk-Treasurer's office and every effort will be made to give such individuals notice of any additional public meetings that may be required. Notice to such individuals will be attempted by either regular mail, electronic mail, phone or face to face communication.

V. AMENDMENT OF REDISTRICTING GUIDELINES

Should it become necessary at any time to amend these Guidelines the Council may do so upon a vote of the majority of the members of the Council at any duly called meeting of the Council.

¹⁰ Pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-5-2-9.8, after unanimous consent of the members present to consider the ordinance, the ordinance may be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the elected members at the same meeting at which it is introduced.

¹¹ The date and time of the second meeting will be determined by the Council and announced no later than the June 10, 2025,

¹² The term "additional public meetings" refers to meetings not set forth in these Guidelines or in the Notice attached as Exhibit "1".

EXHIBIT "1"

Notice Regarding Division of the Town Council of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana into Legislative Body Districts

Pursuant to Ind. Code §36-5-2-4.1, the Town Council ("Council") of the Town of Bargersville (the "Town") is dividing the Town into three (3) single member districts on or before June 30, 2025, with the remaining two (2) members to be elected at-large, for the election of Council Members in 2026 and thereafter. To accomplish this division, the Council has adopted Redistricting Guidelines which are available upon request in the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, Bargersville Town Hall, 24 N. Main Street, Bargersville, IN 46106 from 7:30 am to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The division of the Town Council into legislative body districts will be accomplished pursuant to the following schedule:

June 4, 2025 by Noon	Last Day for Members of the Public to Submit Objections or Written Comments Regarding the Redistricting Guidelines to the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer.
June 6, 2025 by Noon	Deadline for Plans Submitted by the Public. Redistricting Coordinator Makes Draft of Town Districting Plan Available for Examination by the Public at the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer.
June 10, 2025 7:00 p.m.	Public Hearing for Purpose of Reviewing and Evaluating Draft of Town Districting Plan and Plans Submitted by the Public, and Adopting on First Reading an Ordinance Preliminarily Approving a Plan. ¹³ Written comments on any plan must be received by the Clerk-Treasurer by Noon on June 10.
June 24, 2025 1:00 p.m. (tentative)	Public Meeting for Purpose of Making Revisions to Plan to be Adopted by Council and to Adopt an Ordinance Approving the Plan on Final Passage (actual meeting date announced at the June 10, 2025 hearing)
Within 30 days of Adoption	Filing of a Certified Copy of the Ordinance Establishing Districts with the Clerk of the Johnson County Circuit Court no later than Thirty (30) Days After the Ordinance is Adopted Pursuant to Ind. Code §36-5-2-4.1(i).

Each of the meetings set forth above will be held in the Bargersville Town Hall Council Chamber, 24 N. Main Street, Bargersville, IN 46106, and shall begin promptly at the time indicated above. The public's participation in the redistricting process is welcomed. All Council meetings are open to the public. The public is invited to submit proposed districting plans that comply with the Redistricting Guidelines adopted by the Council. A Public Plan Submission Kit (including census data) is available during normal business hours in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer set forth above. To be considered by the Council, redistricting plans submitted by the public must comply

¹³ Pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-5-2-9.8, after unanimous consent of the members present to consider the ordinance, the ordinance may be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the elected members at the same meeting at which it is introduced.

with the Redistricting Guidelines and must 2025.	be submitted to the (Clerk-Treasurer by No	on on June 6,

EXHIBIT "2"

Instructions for Submitting District Plans for Bargersville

The procedures for submitting district plans for the Town Council of the Town of Bargersville, Indiana is set forth in this Public Plan Submission Kit. For your plan to be accepted for consideration these procedures must be strictly followed.

This kit contains the following items supplied on written or digital media:

- 1. A map of the Town showing current precinct boundaries in .pdf format.
- 2. A table of existing precincts and corresponding population statistics.
- 3. A copy of the Redistricting Guidelines for Town Redistricting.
- 4. Summary forms for submission of district plans.

Plans must be submitted in writing (note instructions below concerning provided forms) to the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, Bargersville Town Hall, 24 N. Main Street, Bargersville, IN 46106 during regular business hours no later than noon on June 6, 2025. Plans submitted after this time will not be considered by the Council.

Criteria for Submitted Plans

Plans must include all territory within the Town and meet the following criteria in order to be considered by the Council. For more detailed discussion concerning these requirements refer to the "Redistricting Guidelines by the Bargersville Town Council" document.

- 1. Districts must be composed of contiguous territory.
- 2. Districts must be reasonably compact.
- 3. Districts must be composed (as nearly as possible) of equal population based on 2020 Federal decennial census data.
- 4. Districts should conform to existing precinct boundary lines (except as allowed by the Guidelines).
- 5. Districts should not intentionally dilute the voting strength of any language or racial minority group.

Census Data

Census data is available on the website of the United States Census Bureau at www.census.gov. The Council will only consider plans using official 2020 census data.

Submission of Plans

Plans submitted for review must be complete plans for the entire Town which provide three (3) districts meeting the above criteria. All geographic territory in the Town must be included. Plans must be submitted to the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, Bargersville Town Hall, 24 N. Main Street, Bargersville, IN 46106 no later than noon on June 6. Plans submitted should include the following items:

- 1. Detailed Description. The plan should be described by listing the precincts or portions of precincts (described by census blocks, streets or other boundaries) assigned to each district. The plan may use the provided form to enter the district assignments, or precinct assignments may be entered on a spreadsheet by the submitter.
- 2. Summary Sheet. The summary sheet enclosed in the Public Plan Submission Kit must be completed, dated and signed by the submitter.

EXHIBIT "3"

Summary of Town of Bargersville Council Redistricting Plan

The attached plan is submitted for review and consideration by the Bargersville Town Council.

Submitter Inf	ormation		
Name:			
Town:	State:	Zip	
Daytime Phone	e:	Evening Phone:	
Electronic Mai	l Address:		
Do you wish limited.	to present testimony to the	Council regarding this plan?	Testimony will be time
YES	NO		
	ted Plans are the property are not returnable.	of the Town of Bargersville a	nd are part of the public
Plan Summary			
District	Ideal Population	Plan Population	Deviation
1	3,187		
2	3,187		
3	3,186		

Note: Ideal Population for Districts is based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing Bureau of Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. The population counts are contained in the table included in the Public Plan Submission Kit.

"Plan Population" is the total number of persons in each of the districts as proposed in the submitted plan. "Deviation" is the positive or negative number obtained by subtracting the Plan Population value from the Ideal Population Value.

Date Plan Submitted:, 20	25
Signature of Submitter:	_
If plan is being submitted on behalf of an organization please identity the organization or entity below:	n or entity other than the above Submitter,
Name of Organization:	
Address of Organization:	
Town/State/Zip:	
Name/Phone	
Contact:	
Electronic Mail Address:	

Note: Plans must be submitted no later than Noon on June 6, 2025, and meet the requirements contained in the 2025 Redistricting Guidelines adopted by the Town to be considered by the Council.

ATTACHMENT "B"

Redistricting Coordinator's Plan

Summary of Town of Bargersville Council Redistricting Plan

The attached plan is submitted for review and consideration by the Bargersville Town Council.

Submitter Information

Name:	Rı	ith Ann Moore				
Address:	330 Three	Notch Lane				
Town:	Bargersville	State:	Indiana	Zip:	46106	_
Daytime Phone	e: <u>(317) 796</u> -	7316 Ev	ening Phone:			
Electronic Mai	l Address:	rmoore@b	argersville.in.go	V		_
Do you wish limited. X YES			cil regarding th		stimony will be tir	me

Note: Submitted Plans are the property of the Town of Bargersville and are part of the public record. They are not returnable.

Plan Summary

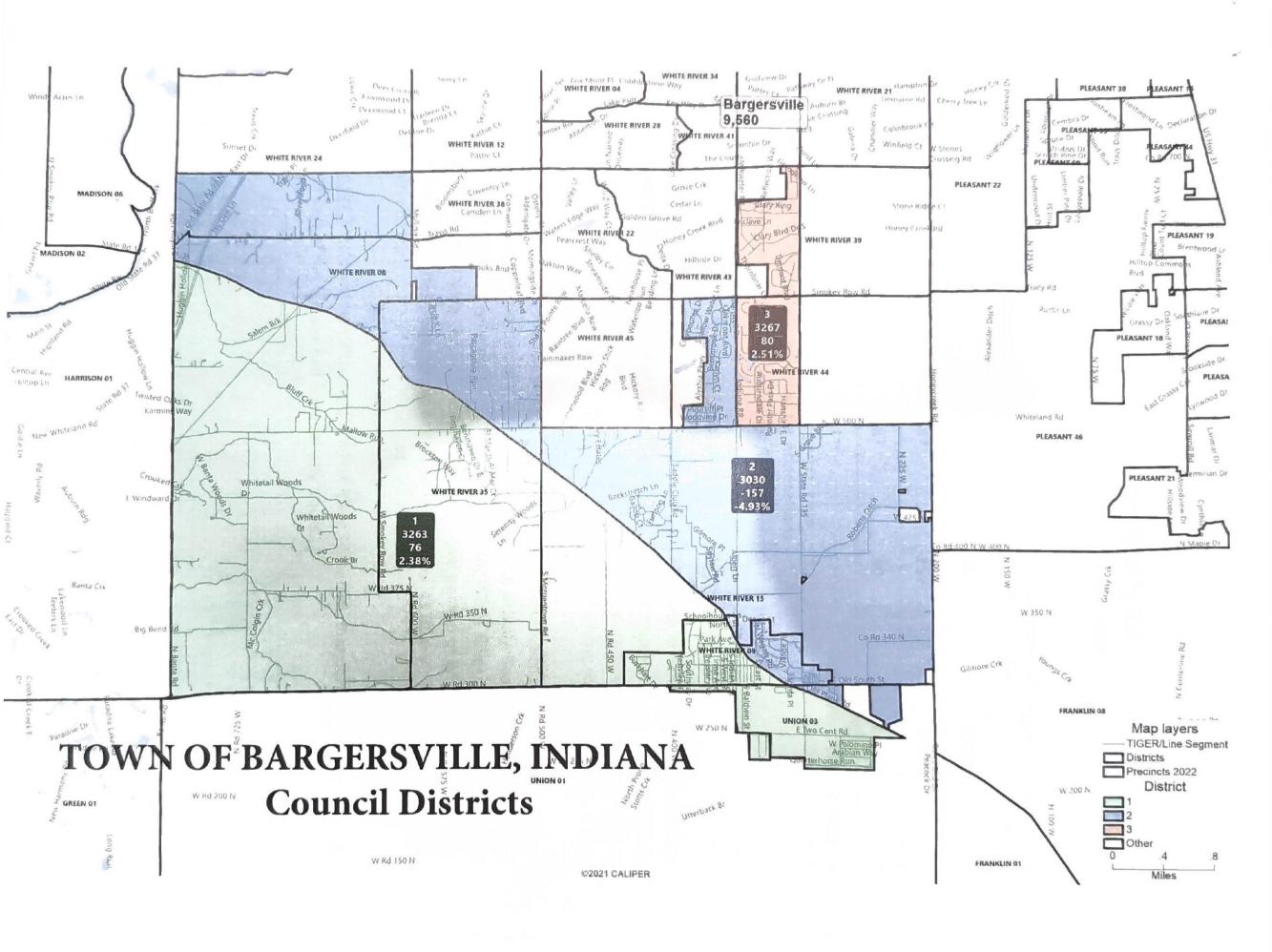
District	Ideal Population	Plan Population	Deviation
1	3.187	3,263	2.38%
2	3,187	3,030	-4.93%
3	3,187	3,267	2.51%
	3,107	Total Deviation:	7.44%

Note: Ideal Population for Districts is based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing Bureau of Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. The population counts are contained in the table included in the Public Plan Submission Kit.

"Plan Population" is the total number of persons in each of the districts as proposed in the submitted plan. "Deviation" is the positive or negative number obtained by subtracting the Plan Population value from the Ideal Population Value.

Date Plan Submitted:	
Signature of Submitter:	h Ann Moore
If plan is being submitted on please identity the organization	behalf of an organization or entity other than the above Submitter or entity below:
Name of Organization:	Bargersville Town Council
Address of Organization:	24 North Main Street
Town/State/Zip:	Bargersville, IN 46106
Name/Phone	
Contact: Councile	or Ruth Ann Moore, (317) 796-7316
Electronic Mail Address:	rmoore@bargersville.in.gov

Note: Plans must be submitted no later than Noon on June 6, 2025, and meet the requirements contained in the 2025 Redistricting Guidelines adopted by the Town to be considered by the Council.



Town of Bargersville, Indiana

Redistricting Coordinator's Proposed Plan

Statistical Analysis

District	Population	Ideal Population	Difference	Deviation Percentage
1	3,263	3,187	76	2.38%
2	3,030	3,187	-157	-4.93%
3	3,267	3,187	80	2.51%
	9,560*	9,561**		Total Deviation: 7.44%

^{*} Matches 2020 Census Data Adjusted for Annexations

Proposed Legislative District Descriptions

- (1) <u>District 1</u> includes the following: (1) that portion of White River 08 lying south of State Road 144; (2) that portion of White River 09 lying south of State Road 144; (3) that portion of White River 15 lying south of State Road 144; (4) that portion of White River 35 lying south of State Road 144; andba (5) that portion of Union 03 lying south of State Road 144.
- (2) <u>District 2</u> includes the following: (1) that portion of White River 08 lying north of State Road 144; (2) that portion of White River 09 lying north of State Road 144; (3) that portion of White River 15 lying north of State Road 144; (4) White River 24; (5) that portion of White River 35 lying north of State Road 144; (6) that portion of White River 44 lying west of the Indiana Rail Road railway tracks, (7) White River 45 (if any); and (8) that portion of Union 03 lying north of State Road 144.
- (3) <u>District 3</u> includes the following: (1) White River 39, and (2) that portion of White River 44 lying east of the Indiana Rail Road railway tracks.

^{**} Exceeds 2020 Census Data Adjusted for Annexations due to Rounding