

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART  
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
January 7, 2019**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Snedecor called the special meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** The following members were present: Mr. Herzog, Mr. Huddlestun, Mr. Maggio, Mr. Vinzant, Mr. Claussen and Mr. Waldrop. Absent: Mr. Brezik. Also present: Mayor Snedecor and Clerk-Treasurer Longer.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Herzog, to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Mr. Brezik arrives.

**New Business:**

**Resolution 2019-01: A Resolution Amending Chapter 5 Thoroughfare Plan of the Comprehensive Plan for Future Land Use of the City of Hobart:** The Resolution was read. Mr. Snedecor noted the Plan Commission provided a favorable recommendation to this amendment with a unanimous (9-0) vote of support.

Zoning Administrator Ross Pietrzak explained that this amendment of Chapter 5 of the Comprehensive Plan is the first part of a two-part process with this amendment including the changes in the plan that the City is currently moving forward on with planning and design. He noted another amendment would be coming in the future but this amendment includes some chapter changes in addition to changes to the map.

City Engineer Phil Gralik stated the chapter changes include an updated list of the arterials and collectors roadways to reflect the NIRPC Function Classification Map and there has been a statement added that intersections at collectors and arterial locations shall be roundabouts unless a roundabout is determined not to be feasible, is impractical or unbuildable by the City. This would put any developers on notice that a roundabout is expected at intersections on certain roadways.

As to the changes proposed to the Thoroughfare Map, Mr. Gralik noted there are roundabouts proposed at both Cleveland and County Line Road and at Coral Drive and County Line Road. He stated this is due to the designation of a historical landmark of the house and property at the northeast corner of Cleveland and County Line Road which would make the roundabout difficult at that intersection but in discussions with the developer of adjacent property, the Coral Drive roundabout could be used to provide better traffic flow into a private road entryway/parking area for the County Line Orchard on the east side of County Line Road, lessening traffic back-ups in the area. This would also make pedestrian traffic crossing County Line Road at the Orchard south of Cleveland Avenue would be safer and more manageable. Mr. Gralik stated this layout would eliminate a conflicting movement, allowing traffic to flow. Discussion followed as to the impact on Coral Drive and the subdivision on the west of County Line Road with a suggestion to make a large one-way loop during the Orchard season. Mr. Gralik stated this plan will take most of the stacking of traffic off of a public street. Mr. Gralik noted there would be curbs and sidewalks along County Line Road that will also connect to the bike trail. Mr. Vinzant stated that the City needs to keep in mind that this is a plan and the areas designated on this map are part of the plan but not being designed at this time but will be considered when developments are proposed. Mr. Gralik noted the roundabout at Cleveland Avenue and SR 51/SR 130 is currently under design by INDOT

and sidewalks are planned for the north side of Cleveland Avenue to connect to this roundabout intersection.

Mr. Gralik noted the extension of S. Hobart Road from 10<sup>th</sup> Street to SR 130 is necessary as there is currently a path through this area but if development was to ever take place, it is included in NIRPC's Regional Priority 2030 Plan and should be considered for future access. Mr. Gralik continued through the map, noting the roundabout at 10<sup>th</sup> and Lake Park Avenue which is under design and an extension of 11<sup>th</sup> Place behind Joan Martin School would provide better access to the school. There are two roads near Liverpool Road, south of 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue that would be removed from the plan as they are in the Hobart Marsh Plan. Mr. Gralik stated it was important to leave Liverpool Road in the plan as it would provide a straight path on the west side. Mr. Vinzant suggested that Liverpool should be extended south all the way down to the Silverstone development. Mr. Gralik stated this could be included in the next amendment.

Mr. Gralik stated that everything included on the southwest portion of the map is from the southwest traffic study recently prepared by Butler, Fairman & Seufert for the City to facilitate economic development in this area, showing parallel relief roads to US 30 on 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and 79<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He stated the dog-bone roundabout at 79<sup>th</sup> and Mississippi is part of Merrillville's plan.

Mr. Gralik stated the current and most critically important project the City is looking to undertake is the roundabout at 61<sup>st</sup> and Marcella which is included in this thoroughfare map. Discussion followed regarding the extension of Sycamore Street north of 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue. Mr. Vinzant requested this area be removed as it is merely a side street and serves no purpose. Mr. Gralik stated there should never be a stop sign on an arterial street and possibly the closing of the entry to Deep River Drive off of 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue may be a possibility by using the Sycamore Street access off of Arizona Street. City Planner Sergio Mendoza explained the need to provide access from a collector road rather than an arterial is important to show as part of the plan. Mr. Vinzant asked that the close-off of Deep River Drive be shown as part of the long-term plan.

Mr. Brezik asked if anything further needed to be considered in the northwest corridor, west of I65, to be shown on the map. Mr. Gralik stated the Liverpool Road area was part of this consideration but additional thoughts will be given to the west side near Colbourne and Mississippi St. to improve flow and access for future developments.

Mr. Mendoza noted that any amendments to the plan as proposed here must go back to the Plan Commission but amendments may be considered and proposed in the future by the Plan Commission to the Council. He noted that updates are ongoing and if any developments are proposed in the future, the plan can be amended as needed.

Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Herzog, to adopt Resolution 2019-01 as presented. Voice vote taken. Aye: 6 / Nay: 1 (Vinzant). Motion carried. (6-1)

**Announcements:** There were no announcements.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Mr. Herzog, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

  
SECRETARY

  
PRESIDING OFFICER