

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
January 15, 2020**

Call to Order: Mayor Snedecor called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Roll Call: The following members were present: Mr. Kopil, Mr. Huddlestun, Mr. Maggio, Mr. Vinzant, Mr. Wells, Mr. Claussen and Mr. Waldrop. Also present: Mayor Snedecor, City Attorney McCarthy and Clerk-Treasurer Longer.

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Vinzant, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of January 2, 2020 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Correspondence:

Presentation of Donations: Justin Mount, Indiana American Water Company, presented a donation check to the Hobart Fire Department in the amount of \$1,500 and a \$3,500 check to the City for Hobart Events: \$2,500 and Water Festival 2020: \$1,000. The Mayor thanked the Indiana American Water for their partnership with the community.

Recognition: Retiree George Luke: Mayor Snedecor presented George Luke with a jacket, recognizing his years of service as a City employee. George recently retired from the Maintenance Department with the City after previously retiring as a police officer from the Hobart Police Department. George has put in over 39 years of service with the City. The Mayor and Council thanked him for his service.

Presentation: 2020 Census: Bob Fulton, Assistant to the Mayor, provided an overview of the 2020 Census, explaining the importance of being counted and the requirements imposed on the Census to keep individual information confidential for 70 years. Census Day is April 1, 2020. Information will be coming to each residence in mid-March.

Revised Calendar for 2020 RDA Bond: Denarie Kane, Director of Development, distributed a revised calendar for the issuance of the 2020 RDA bond, stating that the closing of the bond has been set for February 13, 2020.

2019 Property Tax Distribution Worksheet: Clerk-Treasurer Longer distributed a spreadsheet of the property tax distributions from Lake County for 2019, showing a collection rate of 94.41%. She noted a shortfall appeal will most likely be filed later in the year as budgeting for 2021 begins.

Cancellation of Warrants – Old Outstanding Checks: Clerk-Treasurer Longer distributed a list of the outstanding checks issued more than two years ago from City Funds. In accordance with I.C. 5-11-10.5, these checks are declared cancelled and the amounts will be receipted back into the funds from which they were originally drawn.

NIPSCO Information re: Renewable Energy Services: Don Babcock, Economic Development Director for NIPSCO had provided Hobart Development Director Denarie Kane with written general information regarding Future Focused Energy that she distributed to the Council. Mayor Snedecor stated the Board of Works would be interested in a presentation from NIPSCO regarding their future planning. The Council indicated they would also be interested in a public presentation on this topic from NIPSCO, possibly before a future Council meeting.

Committee Reports: There were no Committee Reports.

Department Reports: Aimee Schallenkamp, MRC Executive Director, distributed the 2019 Year End Report for the Maria Reiner Center.

Mayor Snedecor stated the City fared well during the recent storm event over last weekend.

Fire Chief Randy Smith stated the new ambulance is scheduled to be delivered at the end of January and the 2 new fire engines will be coming in March. He also noted the Baby Box has been installed at House #2 and a ribbon cutting will be held in the near future.

Councilman Wells thanked the various City Departments for their recent participation in the School City of Hobart 8th grade Government classes workshops.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Unfinished Business:

Ordinance 2019-40 (second reading): An Ordinance of the City of Hobart, Indiana Providing that the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana be Amended by Changing an Established R-2 Zone to A-1 Zone Classification: Erin's Farm, 5200 Liverpool Rd., 20.5 acres: Erin Yanz: The second reading of the Ordinance was held. The Plan Commission issued a favorable recommendation with the Condition that the Liverpool Road right-of-way be dedicated. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Huddleston, to adopt Ordinance 2019-40 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

New Business:

Request for a Use Variance: for proposed low traffic property management office at 950 S. Wisconsin St. located approximately 125' north from the NW corner of Wisconsin & 10th Streets, Sec. 154.042, zoned R-2, 0.0164 acres, Dean Hochbaum, Silver Hammer LLC: Mr. Hochbaum, along with his Attorney Bill Emerson, were present. The BZA forwarded a favorable recommendation to the Council with the following conditions: No external storage; no more than 3 vehicles parked on the site; the installation of an 8' public sidewalk from the southern side of the driveway to the southern property line and the property will return to residential use if no longer used as a low traffic property management office. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Claussen, to approve the Use Variance with the conditions as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Resolution 2020-01: A Resolution Authorizing Temporary Transfers Between Funds for Cash Flow Purposes: The Resolution was read. Clerk-Treasurer Longer noted this is an annual resolution for Council consideration to meet cash flow needs throughout the year. Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to approve Resolution 2020-01 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Consideration of Rates: Charge Point Station, N. side City Hall: Nikki Lopez, Events Director, provided some options regarding the repairs needed for the Electric Car Charging Station located on the north side of City Hall. She noted that Charge Point has not determined what repairs are needed for the station and will assess it for a fee but have suggested replacement at a cost of \$7,000 - \$8,000 plus a \$900

software upgrade (\$560 per year after the first year) and an annual maintenance plan of \$1,400. This replacement would allow the City to assess fees for the use of the charging station to those who use it.

In the alternative, Ryan Lisak, Clean Cities, suggested a non-networked "dumb" station that would cost \$1,200 - \$1,600 to purchase and the City staff could handle the electrical work needed to install. This would not be set up with a user fee and would not have ongoing maintenance costs, only the monthly electric charges from NIPSCO, currently approximately \$44.00 per month.

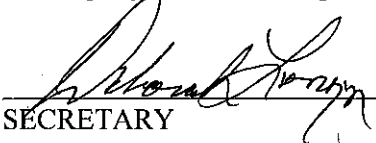
Motion by Mr. Wells to move forward with a non-networked "dumb" station installation and to explore a charging/metered station in the future. Discussion followed regarding the benefits provided by the station to the downtown businesses and the concerns about extended parking in the charging station spaces. Mrs. Lopez stated she is still gathering information regarding options available. Mr. Snedecor noted it appears to be the consensus of the Council to move forward with the non-networked dumb station at this time and look into metered parking spaces or other alternatives to charging for use in the future. Mr. Wells withdrew his motion. Mrs. Lopez will report back to the Council as the repair/replacement of the charging station is done.

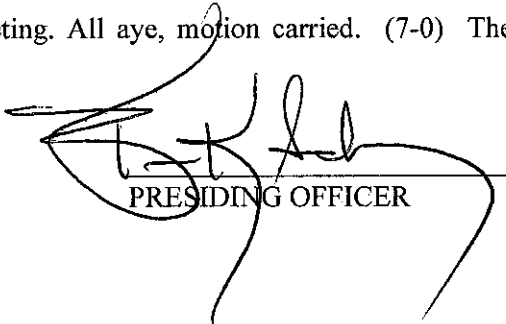
Announcements: Mr. Waldrop asked whether the Council would revisit discussions regarding temporary Quonset hut structures that are showing up all over the City. Mr. Vinzant stated he had 3-4 ordinance proposals that he had presented in the past that he would bring back for Council consideration. Mr. Huddlestun noted the past discussions included enforcement issues regarding regulations.

Mr. Snedecor stated there were two ribbon cuttings for new businesses this past week: Mission BBQ on U.S. 30 and Lotus Landing Massage in the 600 block of 3rd Street. He welcomed these businesses into the City.

Mr. Snedecor asked if anyone wished to address the Council and there was no additional response.

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Claussen to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER