

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
May 20, 2020**

Call to Order: Mayor Snedecor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held via Zoom with the public issued a dial-in number to allow listening and participation capabilities if recognized by the Council.

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

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 6, 2020 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Attorney McCarthy read a brief statement as follows:

Due to the current directives to address the spread of COVID 19, this regular meeting of the common council will be held in real time by video conferencing call through Zoom as City Hall remains closed to the public for safety reasons. The agenda for today's meeting was properly posted on the City of Hobart's website and outside City Hall, additionally it was sent via facsimile to the press on May 14. I want to thank the members of the public and press that have joined us through zoom. Some housekeeping: The meeting is being recorded and it is important that its preservation is audible. We request those members of the public joining to keep the mute/audio and video function turned off during the meeting to ensure the Council members can clearly communicate with one another. During the course of the meeting the public may submit questions/comments the chat function on Zoom. Please direct your "chat" to the participant labelled "Mayor's Office." The Council members will respond either at the time of the question or later in the meeting. For the Council voting today will be done by roll call so that each vote can be properly documented. I would ask that each Council member refrain from talking over other members and unless a member is speaking, that they also mute their microphones or telephones to reduce noise. Thank you in advance for following these instructions.

Correspondence: Mr. Snedecor thanked the City employees, the Council and the public for their patience and perseverance weathering the rainstorm over the weekend. He noted that 31 million gallons was pumped to the Gary Sanitary District, the usual amount being 8 million gallons and stated the Hobart Sanitary District has worked over the years separating the storm sewers from the sanitary sewers so that we no longer have a combined system. He stated many residents experienced flooding, some with ground water and some with sanitary backups. With over 2.7 inches of rain falling in a short period of time on Sunday evening, the system was overloaded but the City kept the pumps running and the dam and bridge improvements helped to move the water through the City.

Mr. Snedecor announced that on June 1st, Public Works will begin to pick up separate recycling again and will begin curbside compost pick-up. City Buildings will open to the public on June 1st with some restrictions in place and meetings will be open to the public. Plexiglass barriers are being placed on countertops in City Hall and at the Public Works facility.

Mr. Wells thanked Mr. Snedecor for the Hobart Hotline videos that are available on the City website. He noted that today's video about stormwater and sanitary sewer activities was timely and informative.

Committee Reports: There were no committee reports.

Department Reports: Mr. Gralik, City Engineer, stated the bridge work done at the railroad bridge and the 3rd Street Bridge helped to alleviate the flooding of the Wisconsin Street Bridge, although it had to be closed for a brief time as water crested over it. He stated that when the Wisconsin Street Bridge is reconstructed, the lake span will be 84' wider than it is now, allowing more water to flow through rather than over the road. He also stated the causeway will be raised 4.5'. He stated the 3rd Street Bridge construction is moving along and will be opened this summer. Once completed, a project at Front

St./Main St./Old Ridge Rd. will take place to reconstruct a storm sewer outfall as the final piece of the project to address downtown flooding. Shortly after this project, the County will begin work on the Wisconsin Street Bridge.

Mr. Gralik also announced that the Safe Routes to Schools project will begin shortly, constructing sidewalks along 8th Street from the Hobart Middle School to Lincoln Street. This is a federal grant project and will be completed this summer.

Fire Chief Smith stated that the two new fire engines were put into service last week and a FEMA Grant for emergency COVID-19 supplies was submitted on Friday for approximately \$63,000 to help reimburse some expenses for supplies and equipment and to provide new supplies needed as the pandemic continues to require PPE for first responders.

Police Chief Zormier stated that Officer Ken Williams noticed some inconsistencies at a business in the early morning hours over the weekend. The suspects had loaded a van with over \$50,000 of motorcycles and a chase ensued into Illinois with the help of a variety of departments. The suspects were ultimately found, arrested and extradited to Lake County where they are being charged and all of the stolen items were recovered.

Approval of Agenda: Denarie Kane, Director of Development, asked the Council to table any action on the Compliance with Statement of Benefits for the property at 6411 Northwind Parkway, owned by ITR America LLC for both Real and Personal Property as there are some details in the CF-1 form that she would like the time to review. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Vinzant, to approve the agenda as presented and tabling the two items as requested from Ms. Kane. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Compliance with Statement of Benefits:

Hanson Logistics: 2201 Northwind Parkway, Personal Property and Real Property
Joseph & Pamela Broadaway (Trailblazers Bike Barn): 11 N. Hobart Rd.: Real Property
Dwayne Hickman (Hickman's Service), 102 S. Hobart Rd.: Real Property
ITR America LLC: 6301 Northwind Parkway, Real Property and Personal Property

Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to approve the Compliance with Statement Benefits for all of these items as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

These items were Tabled at Agenda Approval:

ITR America LLC: 6411 Northwind Parkway, Real Property
 6411 Northwind Parkway, Personal Property

Request for Use Variance: To Operate a proposed real estate property management office at 4520 E. 73rd Avenue located 200' east from the NE Corner of 73rd Ave. and State Pl. Sec. 154.071, zoned R-3, 1.11 acre: Brad Mistina: The owner was present telephonically. Sergio Mendoza, City Planner stated a favorable recommendation was forwarded from the BZA with conditions: the dedication of additional right of way up to 40' along 73rd Avenue, pole barn to be used for office storage, outdoor storage is prohibited, not to exceed 5 vehicles and 4 trailers, the property will return to residential use if no longer used for the low traffic property management office and provide Rule 13 compliance letter. Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Huddleston, to approve the Use Variance with the conditions as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Resolution 2020-11: A Resolution to Extend the Deadline to File the Department of Local Government Finance Form (Form CF-1) For Real and Property with Active Tax Abatements to October 7, 2020 due to COVID-19 Pandemic: The Resolution was read. Ms. Kane encouraged adoption of this Resolution. Attorney McCarthy noted that with the Government Center being closed due to the pandemic, this resolution extends the deadline for Hobart filings to October 7th and is supported by Lake County to allow time to catch up with filings. Motion by Mr. Waldrop, seconded by Mr. Vinzant, to approve Resolution 2020-11 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Announcements: The Council requested Attorney McCarthy provide an update on the property on Colorado Street that was denied a Use Variance and had been given until April 1, 2020 to bring the property into compliance. Attorney McCarthy stated that Lt. Russo visited the property this week and stated the owner still has an employee and is still doing business at the location but was very open and forthcoming with the officer. She stated the owner requested more time to find another location and cited some ongoing animosity between the neighbors that resulted in the complaint. Mr. Snedecor asked if there was anyone on the telephonic meeting tonight to address this issue and there was no response. Discussion followed as to options to enforce compliance including whether ordinance violation citations could be presented or a cease and desist order being put in place by City Court. Attorney McCarthy stated the Lake County Courts were beginning to hear some cases and the case could be filed as originally intended for an injunction but it would take some time for the case to work its way through the court system. Consensus of the Council was to carry on with their prior action, having the City Attorney file for an injunction in the Lake County Courts as soon as possible.

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

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Claussen to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Maggio. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER