

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
June 3, 2020**

Call to Order: Mayor Snedecor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The meeting was held with the building open to the public and a call-in number for remote public participation.

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

City Attorney McCarthy advised the public to mute their phones to allow the Council to conduct business and Mr. Snedecor would ask if anyone would like to speak to an issue as the Council went through their agenda.

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Mr. Waldrop, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2020 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Correspondence: Mr. Vinzant stated that the Plan Commission will consider the mylars for Cressmoor Development at their meeting on Thursday evening.

Mr. Snedecor thanked the Public Safety officers for protecting the public and the protesters during the peaceful protest over the weekend at SouthLake Mall and the Route 30 area. Chief Zormier thanked the many departments who assisted in crowd and traffic control. Mr. Snedecor also thanked all departments for the handling of City business and services as we are still dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and for the Lift Station and Public Works Departments during the recent rain events to assure the stormwater systems were open and working. He noted the excessive amount of rain overtaxed the system in many areas but the improvements made to the stormwater system did alleviate some flooding potential, including the expansions of the bridges over the waterway at the railroad bridge and the 3rd Street bridge.

Committee Reports: There were no committee reports.

Approval of Agenda: Mrs. Longer noted that ITR America has requested their Compliance with Statement of Benefits previously submitted and tabled by the Council be withdrawn to allow some corrections to the filing. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to approve the agenda with the removal of the Compliance with Statement of Benefits from ITR America as requested. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Ordinance 2020-03: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2020 Budget of the MVH Restricted Fund (#203) in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The Ordinance was read. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio to pass Ordinance 2020-03 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to suspend the rules, declare an emergency and proceed with the second reading of the Ordinance this evening. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2020-03: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2020 Budget of the MVH Restricted Fund (#203) in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The second reading of the

Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio to adopt Ordinance 2020-03 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Discussion: re: Sanitary Sewer Overflows: Mr. Vinzant provided an overview of concerns regarding the Sanitary and Stormwater systems being overtaxed during the recent rain events, particularly the 3rd Street systems, and noted that some of the issues are caused by sump pump and downspout discharges that are connected to the sanitary system. He reviewed the current Hobart Municipal Code Chapter 53, specifically § 53.002 Prohibited Discharges, § 53.003 Connection to Sewer, § 53.007 Unpolluted water discharge, § 53.015 City's right of entry, § 53.016 Violation, Notification and § 53.017 Appeals. Mr. Vinzant proposed the Council consider some options to disconnect illegal discharges, including (1) inspections to get residents to disconnect sump pump and downspout discharges from the system; and (2) allow stormwater to be pumped to the street from residences. Discussion followed regarding instituting a fine for illegal discharges or all paying a sump pump fee until allowing the City to enter to prove they are not connected or do not have a sump pump.

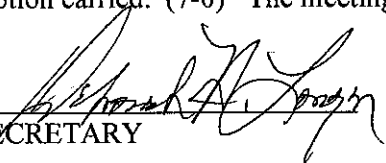
Mr. Fulton, HSD President, discussed the extensive smoke testing that was done in the Mundell area years ago resulting in the stormwater master plan and stated it is a serious issue that also effects the Gary Sanitary District (GSD) compliance issues with the EPA. He noted on an average day between 2.7 and 4.0 million gallons are discharged to the GSD which spiked to 16 million gallons during the recent excessive rain events. City Engineer Phil Gralik stated the peaking factor was 7 million gallons and that most of the issues are caused by sump pumps, downspouts and manholes that take on water as there is a massive jump in discharge 10-15 minutes after a large rain event.

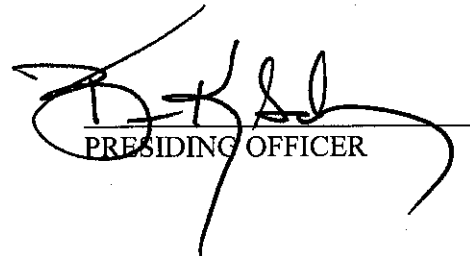
Discussion continued including looking at other municipalities and how they deal with illegal connections while providing residents with options to get rid of their water while not overloading the systems. Mr. Snedecor noted that while allowing discharge into the street may be an option, it also may become a public safety issue in the winter months when the water freezes in the streets. Mr. Claussen mentioned installing ditches along roadways to allow the water somewhere to go. Each district has different challenges and the options may differ to alleviate the problem. General consensus of the Council was to provide support to the HSD to formulate a plan with the staff to address the problems and offer options to residents toward a solution.

Announcements:

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

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Vinzant to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Claussen. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER