

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
August 5, 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. Huddleston, Mr. Maggio, Mr. Vinzant, Mr. Wells, Mr. Claussen and Mr. Waldrop. Also present: Mr. Snedecor, City Attorney McCarthy and Clerk-Treasurer Longer.

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 15, 2020 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Correspondence: Jennifer Webber, Humane Society of Hobart, presented information regarding their Virtual Telethon scheduled for Saturday, August 29th from 8am-8pm. She also provided an overview of the services offered by the Humane Society and thanked the community for their support over the years.

Mr. Vinzant stated the Southlake Mall assessment appeal for years 2015-2016 is set to go forward in front of the tax review board later in August. He noted the County and Ross Township Assessors had met with the City to discuss either settlement or proceeding with the hearing to oppose their petition to lower their assessment. Support from the taxing entities affected in Lake County has been a help to the Assessor and they will proceed with the hearing. Mr. Vinzant also mentioned that Southlake Mall has recently had a change in the management company overseeing the operations of the Mall.

Committee Reports: There were no committee reports.

Department Reports: Mr. Vinzant questioned whether the boat launch at Pavese Park had been serviced recently as last year there were some issues. Park Director Kelly Goodpaster stated there was an issue when it flooded last year but some welding on the structure had been done last fall and the dock is usable. Discussion followed as to the concrete ramp needing repair as the erosion has shifted the concrete and there is a gap that needs repair. Mr. Wells and Dave Sheringa stated they had been discussing this and it may just need some fill. Ms. Goodpaster noted that DNR permits are required to put any fill along the lakeshore.

Events Director Nikki Lopez stated the LakeFront Festival has been cancelled due to COVID concerns with a large number of people this festival draws. The fireworks have been rescheduled to December 31 2020. The Halloween Trunk or Treat will not be held but there may be a golf cart parade on October 31st scheduled. The Thursday Summer Markets have been going well and the Lake County Health Department was on site last week and approved of the provisions in place to continue to hold this event.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Vinzant requested the addition of proposed Ordinance 2020-13 regarding trailers to the agenda. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio to approve the agenda with the addition as stated. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Unfinished Business:

Compliance with Statement of Benefits:

ITR America LLC: 6411 Northwind Parkway: Real Property

ITR America LLC: 6411 Northwind Parkway: Personal Property

Christopher Gilleo, CFO of ITR America LLC was present and provided an overview of the history of the company in Hobart since 2006 with expansions in 2013 and again in 2019. He noted the growth of the business has been on tract with the expectations of the tax abatement compliance but recently there have been some delays in the purchasing of equipment and hiring of some employees, causing the compliance to fall short of the equipment projection by \$13,000. He also noted the employee total of 8 is expected to be complete by the end of 2021 but they are currently utilizing 14 temporary employees between two facilities. Beth Jacobson, Asst. Director of Development, stated the filing is complete and Mr. Gilleo is requesting the Council consider the circumstances and the minimal impact of the equipment purchases of less than \$20,000. Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Wells, to accept the Compliance with Statement of Benefits for both the Personal Property and Real Property as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

New Business:

Ordinance 2020-10: An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Hobart, Indiana Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds for the purpose of providing funds to be applied to reimbursing the City for certain Capital Expenditures previously incurred, to Refinance certain Lease and Installment Purchase Obligations of the City, and to Pay all Incidental Expenses in Connection therewith and on account of the Issuance of the Bonds: The ordinance was read. Todd Samuelson, BakerTilly Municipal Financial Advisor, was present in person and Attorney Randy Rompola, Bond Council, Barnes and Thornburg, was present telephonically. Mr. Samuelson discussed the Comprehensive Plan recently done for the City and the discussions with the City to address the cash deficits and reserves to plan for moving forward. He discussed in detail an overview of the proposed bonds in two series to reimburse the City for some previous capital expenditures and to refinance three lease/purchase agreements the City currently has. He noted the current General Obligation Debt the City has will end by the end of 2020 and there will be minimal impact to the tax rate with this debt issue. Attorney Rompola discussed the proposed Ordinance and stated this will begin the process to issue bonds, stating that Series A are taxable bonds due to the reimbursement component and Series B will be non-taxable. He noted there will be a competitive bid process for the selling of the bonds and provided the Council with a timetable of the process. Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to approve Ordinance 2020-10 on first reading and set for second reading on August 19th. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2020-11: An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Hobart, Indiana, Appropriating the Proceeds derived from the Sale of General Obligation Bonds of the City and all matters related thereto: The ordinance was read. Attorney Rompola and Mr. Samuelson explained that this is a companion to the bond issue ordinance which, in accordance with State Board of Accounts and Dept. of Local Government Finance regulations, would allow for the funds from the sale of the bonds to be used as intended this year. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Claussen, to approve Ordinance 2020-11 on first reading and set for second reading on August 19th. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2020-12: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2020 Budget of the General Fund: Court, Police and City Buildings Departments; and the Law Enforcement Training Fund; Park & Recreation Fund; and Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) Fund of the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The ordinance was read. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to approve Ordinance 2020-12 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Kopil, 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 2020-12: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2020 Budget of the General Fund: Court, Police and City Buildings Departments; and the Law Enforcement Training Fund; Park & Recreation Fund; and Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) Fund of the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The second reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to adopt Ordinance 2020-12 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2020-13: An Ordinance to Amend the City of Hobart Municipal Code concerning Trailers: The Ordinance was read. Mr. Vinzant stated there have been some recent issues regarding RV's being parked throughout the City with individuals living in them. This proposed ordinance basically says you cannot live in a trailer in the City except at a regulated trailer park. Discussion followed regarding permitting an exception if visitors are staying short-term at relatives or friend's homes or in emergency situations or other possible exceptions; the use of trailers for out-of-town construction crews; the enforceability of the regulation and whether this action should be considered now during the pandemic. Police Chief Zormier stated the enforcement would be complaint driven. Mr. Vinzant noted the definition of a "trailer" is earlier in the Municipal Code at §151.01 as follows: *Automobile Trailer. Any vehicle used for living or sleeping purposes and intended or designed to be equipped with wheels or similar device for purposes of transportation from place to place, being either self-propelled or otherwise.* Mr. Vinzant stated that some of the language may need to be clarified which can be done prior to the second reading. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to approve Ordinance 2020-13 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. Aye: Maggio, Vinzant, Claussen, Waldrop / Nay: Kopil, Huddlestun, Wells. Motion carried. (4 Aye / 3 Nay) The second reading of the Ordinance will be held on August 19th.

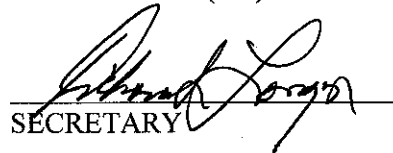
Announcements: Mr. Vinzant stated the Cerebral Palsy Center of NW Indiana is holding a fundraiser and he has raffle tickets available if anyone is interested in supporting this effort.

Mr. Waldrop requested that the Council consider regulations regarding temporary structures such as Quonset huts as this is becoming more and more prevalent in the City. Mr. Vinzant will find the information discussed previously with the Council.

State Representative Lisa Beck stated she has been working with the local Police Academy and is asking anyone who has an issue that should be considered by the state legislators to contact her.

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

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER