

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
October 7, 2020**

Call to Order: Councilman Waldrop 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 and Mr. Waldrop. Absent: Mr. Claussen and Mayor Snedecor. Also present: 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 September 16, 2020 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Correspondence: There was no Correspondence.

Committee Reports: Mr. Waldrop reported the Insurance Committee has met and the reports are good and in line with the expectations for the year. Use of generic drugs is also encouraged and being adhered to by the employees.

Mr. Vinzant stated that the Latonya Spearman of Lake County Assessor's office updated the City stating the Southlake Mall Appeal was heard downstate in late August but no decision has been rendered and she does not expect a decision until sometime in 2021. He noted the December 2020 tax distribution will not be affected by the appeals due to the lack of a decision.

Department Reports: There were no Department Reports.

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

Unfinished Business:

Ordinance 2020-20 (2nd Reading): Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates: Budget 2021: The second reading of the Ordinance was held. Mrs. Longer stated that all required notices had been issued and the public hearing was held at the Council meeting on September 16th. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to adopt Ordinance 2020-20 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Ordinance 2020-22 (2nd 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 Re-Instating a Previously Approved PUD Zone Classification: Lake Park Townhomes Phase III, Robert Hennessey: The second reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to adopt Ordinance 2020-22 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

New Business:

Compliance with Statement of Benefits:

Hancock Enterprises, LLC (Albanese): 5441 E. Lincoln Hwy: 2017 Personal Property

Paine, LLC (Albanese): 5441 E. Lincoln Hwy: Personal Property

Wynright Corporation: 6300 Northwind Parkway: Real Property

Wynright Corporation: 6300 Northwind Parkway: Personal Property

By consensus of the Council, all four Compliances were considered individually but with a Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to approve all four (4) Compliance with Statement of Benefits as presented. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Resolution 2020-14: A Resolution to Approve and Authorize the Execution of an Amendment to the development Agreement between the City of Hobart, Hobart Sanitary District, Hobart Storm Water Management Department and Cressmoor Development, LLC and Cressmoor Financial, LLC: The Resolution was read. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun, to approve Resolution 2020-14 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Ordinance 2020-23: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2020 Budget of the General Fund: Sanitation and Police Department and the State Seizure Fund and Public Safety Income Tax Fund in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The Ordinance was read. Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to approve Ordinance 2020-23 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Motion by Mr. Maggio, 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. (6-0)

Ordinance 2020-23: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2020 Budget of the General Fund: Sanitation and Police Department and the State Seizure Fund and Public Safety Income Tax Fund in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The second reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to adopt Ordinance 2020-23 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Announcements: City Engineer Phil Gralik stated the Deep River outfall project at Front and Center Streets had to suspend activities for a short time due to some soil testing that was necessary before proceeding. The contractor is scheduled to be back on the site on October 12th and will be working weekends to make up some of the time lost on the project in the hopes of getting some pavement in before winter. He also noted that Walsh & Kelly are putting in sidewalks on Friday of this week and are working on paving Kelly Street.

Ryan Wozniak, 128 N. Wilson, questioned whether the locked gate at Veteran's Elementary School could be unlocked to allow access to the playground area after school. The Council directed him to contact the School City of Hobart. Mr. Wells noted that Supt. Buffington had stated that the construction was not yet complete and they are trying to limit access at this time to allow the grass to take hold and to finish up some of the necessary improvements.

Ms. Seipal, Cookville TN, addressed the Council and was present with her extended family. She is the mother of the woman who was involved in an auto accident on October 3 on N. Hobart Rd. She thanked the Police Officers and Firefighters who helped to save her daughter's life. Angel Gilarski noted there was a fire station less than 2 minutes away from the accident site but it was closed and the 1st responders had to come from another station. She thanked the officers and firefighters for their service but asked the Council to re-consider the closing of a station.

Keith Smith, 521 Pershing, questioned why the City doesn't have more firefighters on duty and noted this was the 2nd fatality in the last month. He asked Fire Chief Smith for information on staffing numbers. Chief Smith stated that 1 firefighter will be added on Friday, October 9th and a second one will be selected from the applicants list in the near future once testing is complete. Keith urged the Council to get the stations open now, take whatever action is needed to hire the 7 firefighters needed. He also stated:

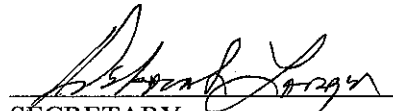
"Ms. Longer, I am going to officially put a public records request in right here please. My email is: ksmith88cubs@yahoo.com I would like any communications over the last 120 days between the Mayor, the Chief, and the Council in regards to our fire station being reopened."

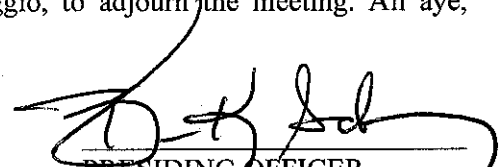
He stated he will continue to question the Council and the Mayor until he gets some answers or the fire department is fully staffed and the houses all open.

Gladys Meca, 3008 Riverside Dr., stated her son has been dating the woman injured in the accident and thanked the Fire Dept. and Police Dept. for their actions that saved the woman's life.

Mr. Waldrop 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. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (6-0) The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER