

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
July 19, 2023**

Call to Order: President ProTem Claussen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, and moment of silence. The meeting was held with the building open to the public. The call-in number for the zoom connection was available and listed on the agenda and the website.

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

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Wells, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 5, 2023 and the Executive Session of July 5, 2023 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Correspondence: Mr. Claussen presented a Certificate of Recognition to Cody Johnston, a 2023 Hobart High School graduate and 2-time State Champion in pole vaulting. Cody recently received the New Balance National Title, Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Player of the Year and it was recently announced that he will be on the USA U20 Pole Vault Team. Cody and his parents were present and thanked the City for the recognition.

Committee Reports: There were no committee reports.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Huddlestun, seconded by Mr. Brooks, to remove Resolution 2023-13 from the agenda and approve the agenda as amended. Roll Call Vote taken: 6 Aye: Kopil, Huddlestun, Brooks, Wells, Waldrop, Claussen / 1 Nay: Vinzant. Motion carried. (6-1)

Unfinished Business:

Continued: Ordinance 2023-11 (2nd Reading): An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Hobart, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Notes in one or more series to evidence a Loan or Loans from the State of Indiana from the Counter-Cyclical Revenue and Economic Stabilization Fund pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-22.1 for the purpose of providing funds to be applied to Refunding certain Bonds of the City and the City of Hobart Redevelopment District and offsetting property tax revenue shortfalls incurred and to be incurred by the City: The Ordinance was read. Bond Counsel Randy Rompola provided an updated version of the Ordinance, clarifying that the Note is pursuant to a Loan Agreement and will not be considered part of a purchase agreement and recommended amending Ordinance 2023-11 with this new version. Motion by Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to Amend Ordinance 2023-11, substituting the updated version provided by Bond Counsel. Discussion followed with Mr. Vinzant stating the version he printed has formatting errors included. City Attorney McCarthy noted the version placed into OneDrive for the Council review is the updated version and does not have formatting issues as described by Mr. Vinzant. Mr. Claussen called the question to amend the Ordinance with the updated version as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Motion by Mr. Huddlestun, seconded by Mr. Brooks, to Adopt Ordinance 2023-11 as amended. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Continued: Public Hearing: Ordinance 2023-12 (2nd Reading): An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Hobart, Indiana, Appropriating the Proceeds derived from the sale of General Obligation Notes of the City and all matters related thereto: The Ordinance was read. Mr. Claussen

noted that the Public Hearing had been opened and continued at the last meeting and he called 3 times for anyone in person or telephonically to speak for or against the Ordinance. There was no response. The Public Hearing was closed. Motion by Mr. Brooks, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to Adopt Ordinance 2023-12 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

New Business:

Request for a Use Variance: to permit a boat & trailer dealership at 603 S. Wisconsin St., located approx. 150' north from the Wisconsin St. & North Lake Shore Drive intersection, zoned R-1, 0.248 acres: Art Kraft, Baitmasters, LLC., was present and stated he has been working on this for over 4 months, originally understanding that the City had no issues with his permit application with the state and then finding that he needed a Zoning Use Variance to allow this type of business use on the property. Mr. Claussen noted that the BZA had forwarded a favorable recommendation with the condition that the business was not to exceed the storage of 14/boats/trailers and only under the current owner, Baitmasters, LLC. City Engineer Phil Gralik noted that there will be an on-site meeting on Friday regarding the reconstruction of the bridge and the causeways, scheduled to begin later this year and while the City may not require any additional easements, a temporary access agreement on Mr. Kraft's property will be needed during the construction. Attorney McCarthy noted that no agreement is currently in writing regarding this access. Motion by Mr. Vinzant to table this request. The motion died for lack of a second. Motion by Mr. Waldrop, seconded by Mr. Brooks, to adopt the findings of the BZA, allow the variance with the limitation of the 14/boats/trailers as stated in the BZA conditions, limit the Use Variance to only under the current owner of Baitmasters LLC and to acknowledge the owner agrees to allow City access during the construction of the bridge project. Discussion followed with concerns regarding the acknowledgement of the access without having it memorialized in writing, the deadline by the State for the owner's application for a boat dealership which would expire today, and whether a short-term use variance could be considered. Mr. Gralik pointed out that due to the time change, it was already 8PM in Indianapolis and the permit application has now expired. The City could request another extension by the State and will work with the owner regarding a written access agreement. Mr. Waldrop rescinded his motion and Mr. Brooks rescinded his second. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Brooks, to table this request. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0) [Mr. Vinzant had disconnected from the meeting.]

Resolution 2023-12: A Resolution Approving a Joint Interlocal and Mutual Aid Agreement for the South Lake County Crash Reconstruction Team (S.L.C.C.R.T.): The Resolution was read. Police Captain James Gonzalez was present and stated the Board of Works had previously approved this agreement. Mr. Claussen stated as a former reconstructionist for the Police Department, he understands the importance of this training and since the County will no longer be providing reconstruction services, this interlocal will help all of the communities when the situation warrants a reconstruction team. Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Huddleston, to approve Resolution 2023-12 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Announcements:

Mr. Claussen asked if anyone would like to address the Council and there was no response.

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (6-0) The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER