

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
August 2, 2023**

Call to Order: Mayor Snedecor 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. Vinzant, Mr. Wells, Mr. Claussen and Mr. Waldrop. Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Longer and City Attorney McCarthy.

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 19, 2023 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Correspondence: Mr. Snedecor and Police Chief Ciszewski thanked the Council and the community for their participation in the Community Night Out held August 1st. Chief Ciszewski estimated over 2,000 people visited the event and a great number of school supplies were distributed by various vendors. He also specifically thanked Suzanna Enslin for coordinating this event.

Committee Reports: Mr. Huddlestun scheduled an Ordinance Committee meeting for Wednesday, August 9th at 5:00PM in the Council Chambers to discuss the Fire Inspection Ordinance and some changes proposed to the employee working conditions ordinance.

Department Reports: Mr. Fulton provided an update on the blocked sanitary line issue at the end of Guyer St., the clean-up of Stinky Creek adjacent to this area and the planned clean-out of debris and overgrown foliage to allow the creek to flow.

Mr. Vinzant questioned the rules for Golf Carts and whether the public is aware of requirements. Chief Ciszewski stated that if on private property, golf cart drivers do not need a driver's license but they must be licensed if on the road. He also noted that as to State Highways, carts can cross the highways but cannot drive on them. Enforcement was discussed and the Chief stated that the rules will again be posted on the facebook page.

Mr. Kopil thanked the Police Department for their added presence in the Green Acres area due to the increased number of trucks and other traffic cutting through because of the construction at US30 and Colorado. Discussion was also held about the need for additional signage on Colorado, south of US30 as drivers leaving from the south Home Depot exit are driving north in the southbound lanes. The Engineer's office will look into additional signage being placed in the area.

Public Works Director Kelly Smith stated the department will be crack-sealing various roads in the coming weeks to help preserve and maintain the surface.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to amend the agenda and add Resolution 2023-13 which had been removed at the last meeting and to approve the agenda as amended. Discussion followed with Mr. Claussen stating the action of this resolution should be discussed at an Executive Session. Attorney McCarthy stated the Council could set an executive session to discuss further. Mr. Snedecor called for a roll call vote on amending the agenda: 2 Aye: Kopil, Vinzant / 5 Nay: Huddlestun, Brooks, Wells, Claussen, Waldrop. Motion failed: (2 - 5)

Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Brooks, to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Unfinished Business:

Tabled: 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. Motion by Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Claussen, to remove this item from the table. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The owner of the property was not present. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to deny the Use Variance. Discussion followed regarding a meeting that had been scheduled with the property owner and the Engineering staff in late July. Attorney McCarthy stated that she had not received any update or documents from the City Engineer regarding a right-of-access document for during construction of the Wisconsin St. bridge. Mr. Claussen pointed out that this document was not a requirement included in the BZA recommendation and the minutes do not show that it had been discussed at the BZA meeting. The City Engineer was not available for comment. Mr. Vinzant withdrew his motion to deny and requested this item be left on the table, Mr. Kopil withdrew his second to the motion and agreed to leave this item on the table.

New Business:

Ordinance 2023-13: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2023 Budget of the General Fund, Recycling Department; the General Fund, Fire Department, and in the CCD Fund, in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana. The Ordinance was read. Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to approve Ordinance 2023-13 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to suspend the rules, declare an emergency and proceed with the second reading of the Ordinance. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2023-13: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2023 Budget of the General Fund, Recycling Department; the General Fund, Fire Department, and in the CCD Fund, in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana. The second reading of Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Huddleston, to adopt Ordinance 2023-13 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Announcements: William Perryman, Maitland St., thanked the Public Works Dept. for their swift response when a tree came down on the street during a recent storm event. He also questioned whether ATV's or off-road vehicles were permitted on city streets. The Council explained that there were rules for each type of vehicle and street use depended on the type of vehicle according to state laws.

Mr. Wells stated that on Sunday, August 6th, from 2-6PM, FireHouse #2 on Old Ridge Rd. will be hosting a back-to-school event with school supply giveaways and a miniature golf course and other activities. The public is invited.

Parks Director Kelly Goodpaster stated that there are two more Thursday Summer Markets and then LakeFront Fest is scheduled for August 17-20. She stated the new bathrooms at Festival Park will be completed in late August and the destination playground at the Pool site will begin in late August. She also noted that the new playground has been installed at Robinson Lake Park.

Mr. Snedecor noted that speedbumps have been added to Ash St. near the hospital and on 12th St. due to the construction on SR51 at the curve. He also stated that Nob Hill and the Hillcrest area will have speed bumps installed when needed and the City moves these around at various times depending on needs and construction projects in areas.

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

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Brooks to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER