

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
September 15, 2021**

Call to Order: Mayor Snedecor called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and moment of silence, remembering the family of Donald Potrebic, former City and County Councilman who passed away earlier this week. 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 in person: Mr. Kopil, Mr. Huddlestun, Mr. Maggio, Mr. Vinzant, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Waldrop. Absent: Mr. Claussen. Also present: City Attorney McCarthy and Clerk-Treasurer Longer.

Reading of the Minutes: Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Wells, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 1, 2021 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Proclamation: Mr. Snedecor read into the record a proclamation naming September 20-26, 2021, National Rail Safety Week.

Correspondence: There was no Correspondence.

Committee Reports: There were no Committee Reports.

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

Unfinished Business:

Tabled: Ordinance 2021-24: An Ordinance to Amend the Covenants and Restrictions Governing Certain Parcels of Real Estate in an Established PUD Zoning Classification: Cressmoor Estates, S. of 37th Ave., W of Lake Park Ave., E of Wisconsin St., D.R. Horton, Inc. Due to the ongoing discussions regarding the PUD, this item remains on the table.

Ordinance 2021-25: (2nd Reading) An Ordinance Replacing Ordinance 2020-14, fixing the Salaries of Officer and Employees of the City of Hobart for the Fiscal Year Commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022. The 2nd reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Waldrop, seconded by Mr. Kopil to adopt Ordinance 2021-25 as presented. Discussion followed: Mr. Vinzant proposed requiring employees to get the COVID vaccine in order to receive an increase; Mr. Wells stated he would like to see more workers added to cover short-staffing rather than giving a 2% raise to full time employees; Mr. Huddlestun stated the City needs to keep moving forward or there will come a time that a large jump is needed to attract and retain workers and reminded the Council there was no raise in 2021. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Snedecor called the question. Roll Call vote taken. 5 Aye: Kopil, Huddlestun, Maggio, Vinzant, Waldrop / 1 Nay: Wells. Motion carried. (5-1)

Ordinance 2021-26: (2nd Reading) An Ordinance fixing the Salaries of Police Department Sworn Personnel of the City of Hobart for the Fiscal Year Commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022 The 2nd reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to adopt Ordinance 2021-26 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. 5 Aye: Kopil, Huddlestun, Maggio, Vinzant, Waldrop / 1 Nay: Wells. Motion carried. (5-1)

Ordinance 2021-27: (2nd Reading) An Ordinance fixing the Salaries of Firefighter Sworn Personnel of the City of Hobart for the Fiscal Year Commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022. The 2nd reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to adopt Ordinance 2021-27 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. 5 Aye: Kopil, Huddleston, Maggio, Vinzant, Waldrop / 1 Nay: Wells. Motion carried. (5-1)

Discussion followed as to lateral transfers for new Police and Fire sworn personnel, allowing them to begin with the City as 2nd Class. Mrs. Longer stated the current ordinances as adopted do not contain this language but she will work with the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance amending these for the Council's consideration at the next meeting.

Ordinance 2021-28 (as Amended): (2nd Reading) An Ordinance fixing the Salaries of Elected Officials of the City of Hobart for the Fiscal Year Commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022. The 2nd reading of the amended Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to adopt Ordinance 2021-28 as amended. Discussion followed. Mr. Snedecor stated that the Council should reconsider their stance on not getting an increase in their wages due to the great amount of time they put into the position. Mr. Wells stated he did not support a Council increase. Mr. Maggio and Mr. Waldrop asked that the Council consider giving increases to Board/Commission members as they have not received an increase in many years. Mr. Huddleston noted the need to keep moving forward with increases or people will not be interested in holding positions in the future. Mr. Vinzant stated he has talked with people who live in other areas who do not pay their Council and people serve their community without needing to be compensated and he believed the amount the Council receives is too large. Mr. Vinzant called for the question. Roll Call Vote taken. 4 Aye: Kopil, Huddleston, Maggio, Waldrop / 2 Nay: Vinzant, Wells. Motion carried. (4-2)

Ordinance 2021-29: (2nd Reading) An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 2020-18 and Establishing the Amount of Additional Compensation of Certain Officers of the Municipal Utilities of the City of Hobart and designating the Fund from which said Additional Compensation is to be paid Commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022. The 2nd reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Huddleston, to adopt Ordinance 2021-29 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. 5 Aye: Kopil, Huddleston, Maggio, Vinzant, Waldrop / 1 Nay: Wells. Motion carried. (5-1)

Public Hearing: Ordinance 2021-30: An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates (2022 Budget): Mr. Snedecor opened the Public Hearing and called three times for anyone who wanted to comment, including those participating telephonically, to do so. There was no response and he closed the public hearing. The 2nd Reading/Adoption of this Ordinance is set for October 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Ordinance 2021-31: (2nd Reading) An Ordinance Amending the City Employee Handbook, Section 2-Expectations & Policies. The 2nd reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Wells to adopt Ordinance 2021-31 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

New Business:

Request for a Use Variance: to permit an online retail business in an accessory structure at 840 S. Lake Park Ave., 375' south of the SW corner of 8th St. & S. Lake Park Ave., zoned R-2, 2.08 acres: Samantha & Timothy Hoogland; The BZA forwarded to the Council a favorable recommendation for this variance with the following conditions: No more than 3 employees, structure cannot be enlarged or expanded, no

signage permitted and no customers allowed on site. Mr. Maggio stated this is within his district and he has had no complaints from neighbors and no one remonstrated against this use. Motion by Mr. Maggio, seconded by Mr. Wells, to approve the Use Variance with the conditions as presented. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Ordinance 2021-32: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2021 Budget of the General Fund: Recycling Department, Economic Development Department, Law Department and Sanitation Department and in the Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) Fund in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The Ordinance was read. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Wells, to pass Ordinance 2021-32 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Kopil, to suspend the rules, declare an emergency and proceed with the second reading of the Ordinance. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Ordinance 2021-32: (2nd Reading) An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2021 Budget of the General Fund: Recycling Department, Economic Development Department, Law Department and Sanitation Department and in the Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) Fund in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The 2nd Reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Wells, to adopt Ordinance 2021-32 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Ordinance 2021-33: An Ordinance Vacating a Platted Median within the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: located west of Rand St. & Lake Park Ave. intersection. Cressmoor Development LLC: The Ordinance was read. Mr. Snedecor stated this is the median off of Lake Park Avenue into Cressmoor Estates and will make it clear that the City is not responsible for the development and maintenance of the median area and will be turned over to the HOA once established. Mr. Vinzant stated the Plan Commission voted unanimously in favor to vacate the median. Discussion followed as to the City's responsibilities should the HOA refuse the responsibility. Attorney McCarthy stated that some communities assess an HOA fee with their property tax bills to assure that maintenance fees are collected for future use but an Ordinance would need to be adopted to create this assessment and would not include HOA's already established. Motion by Mr. Waldrop, seconded by Mr. Vinzant, to pass Ordinance 2021-33 on first reading. Roll call vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to suspend the rules, declare an emergency and proceed with the second reading of the Ordinance. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Ordinance 2021-33: (2nd Reading) An Ordinance Vacating a Platted Median within the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: located west of Rand St. & Lake Park Ave. intersection. Cressmoor Development LLC: The 2nd reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to adopt Ordinance 2021-33 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (6-0)

Announcements: Mr. Huddlestun announced that the Ordinance Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 29th at 6:00pm and will also be available via Zoom. Mr. Huddlestun stated discussion will be about vacant buildings, Humane Society requests and possible HOA provisions among other possible items. Notice will be sent.

Mr. Vinzant thanked the community for another successful LakeFront Festival and Dam Duck Race. He also stated the Community Foundation will be taking grant applications until October 8th and organizations may contact him for additional information.

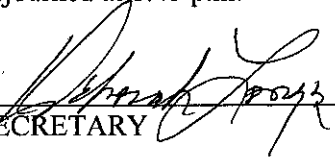
Mr. Huddleston thanked the Police, Fire and Public Works departments for recent safety measures taken in the Nob Hill area. He noted that those individuals ignoring stop signs were generally residents of the subdivision.

Mr. Snedecor thanked Karen Hansen for covering the Building Department during the interim without a Building Commissioner.

Mr. Kopil reminded the Council of the ceremony held at the Doughboy on the last Friday of each month honoring those in service to the country who have lost their lives, including this month, those lost in Afghanistan during the evacuations.

Mr. Snedecor asked if anyone wished to address the Council and there was no additional response.

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Vinzant to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER