

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
September 21, 2022**

Call to Order: Mayor Snedecor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and 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 in person: Mr. Kopil, Mr. Huddlestun, Mr. Maggio, 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. Wells, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 7, 2022 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Correspondence: Mr. Snedecor stated he had been made aware that the Bureau of Motor Vehicles is discussing the possibility of closing the BMV office located on E. Ridge Road in Strack's plaza. They will be holding a public hearing on Wednesday, October 5th at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center in Festival Park. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Wells, to move the Council meeting on October 5th to 5:00PM to allow the Council to attend the BMV public hearing and to ask the Department Heads to attend the 2nd Council meeting in October. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) Mr. Snedecor noted he had sent a letter to the BMV in opposition to the closing of this license branch:

The City of Hobart is in receipt of your correspondence regarding the public hearing for the proposed closure of the Hobart BMV. Please accept this letter as the City of Hobart's formal objection to the closure of the 7744 E. Ridge Road, Hobart, IN 46342 BMV location.

The BMV considered for closure is in an area which is most accessible to our lower income residents as well as residents who live in the surrounding areas of New Chicago, Lake Station, and Gary. We feel this closure would have a profound impact on those who rely on this specific location for their BMV needs. With inflation this past year making the cost of everyday living for the average American already unprecedented, adding significant distance to those most underprivileged is clearly objectionable.

The City of Hobart is in the process of reaching out to our residents and neighboring community officials whose area this would impact with hopes to have a large showing of objection to this closure at your scheduled Public Hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Signed: Brian K. Snedecor, Mayor

Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Maggio, for the Council to adopt the same opposition to the closing of the Hobart BMV as set out in the Mayor's letter and to forward the same to the BMV prior to their scheduled public hearing. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The City Attorney is directed to prepare a Resolution stating the same for signature of the Council.

Mr. Huddlestun requested the City contact INDOT to discuss the problems with the SR51 and Rt. 6 intersection due to the increased number of accidents in the area. Mr. Snedecor will ask City Engineer Phil Gralik to facilitate a meeting to discuss this intersection.

Committee Reports: An Ordinance Committee meeting is scheduled to be held at the conclusion of this Council meeting.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Unfinished Business:

Public Hearing: Ordinance 2022-28: An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates: 2023 Budget: Mrs. Longer stated per the requirements of the Indiana Bond Bank for possible financing options, there needed to be a change to the Ordinance to include all three separate "anticipated debts" rather than just one. She noted the Ordinance and the Notice had been updated showing all three and published in accordance with the DLGF requirements. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Wells, to amend Ordinance 2022-28 to include all three anticipated debts as shown in the Notice. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

The Ordinance was read. Mr. Snedecor opened the public hearing and called three times for anyone physically present or present telephonically to offer any comments. There being no comments, he closed the public hearing. The final adoption of the Budget Ordinance 2022-28 will be set for Wednesday, October 5th.

New Business:

Ordinance 2022-29: (1st Reading): An Ordinance providing that the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana be Amended by changing an established OS-1 Zone to a B-3 Zone Classification: 1 W. Old Ridge Rd., Nazarene Church, 1.40 acres, Hope Center Resale Shop, Eric Wood: The Ordinance was read. The Plan Commission forwarded a Favorable Recommendation with no conditions. Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Waldrop, to approve Ordinance 2022-29 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2022-30: (1st Reading): An Ordinance providing that the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana be Amended by changing an established Lake County Special Exception Zone to an M-1 Zone Classification: SW Corner of Colorado St. & 83rd Place, Patriot Truss & Components, Nick Kopischke: The Ordinance was read. Representatives of Patriot Truss & Components were present. The Plan Commission forwarded a Favorable Recommendation with no conditions. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Claussen, to approve Ordinance 2022-30 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2022-31: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2022 Budget of the General Fund: Economic Development Department, Law Department and Building Department in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The Ordinance was read. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Wells to approve Ordinance 2022-31 on first reading. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Maggio, to suspend the rules, declare an emergency and proceed with the second reading of the ordinance this evening. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2022-31: An Ordinance Transferring Appropriations within the 2022 Budget of the General Fund: Economic Development Department, Law Department and Building Department in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: The second reading of the Ordinance was held. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Claussen, to adopt Ordinance 2022-31 as presented. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Ordinance 2022-32: An Ordinance Vacating an Unimproved Platted ROW within the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana: 598.91' of 30' unimproved platted Connecticut Street right-of-way, located 300' west and parallel to Ash Street, bounded by 12th & 13th Streets, Cornerstone Partners V LLC, Mike Macki: The Ordinance was read. The Plan Commission issued a Favorable Recommendation to this petition. Motion by Mr. Kopil, seconded by Mr. Vinzant, to approve Ordinance 2022-32 on first reading and set a public hearing for the next regular Council meeting on October 5, 2022 at 5:00 PM. Roll Call Vote taken. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Consideration of Updated Capital Improvement Plan (CIP): Bob Fulton, Assistant to the Mayor, presented an updated Capital Improvement Plan, stating that this was the result of input from various Boards and Departments including Parks, Sanitary, Stormwater, Redevelopment, and Board of Works. Motion by Mr. Vinzant, seconded by Mr. Wells, to acknowledge and approve the updated Capital Improvement Plan as presented. All aye, motion carried. (7-0)

Announcements: Mr. Snedecor stated the Fire Department is facing some challenges with 4 firefighters leaving (3 to another department and 1 retiring). He noted there are currently 5 on the certified hiring list but as the department works through the hiring process, the department may require additional overtime and the leadership positions will be covering some shifts. Fire Chief Randy Smith stated a new round of applications will be solicited by the Fire Commission in October.

Mr. Kopil noted the upcoming Victory for Veteran's Motorcycle Ride is scheduled for Sunday, September 25 beginning at 11:30am with the route from Wicker Park to US 30 to Ridge Road and back to Wicker Park.

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

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Claussen, seconded by Mr. Vinzant, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (7-0) The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER