



Common Council Meeting – Minutes for July 6, 2020

Council Members in Attendance: Anna Huff (OL), Amy Rosa (OL), David Kauffman (OL), Denny Miller (OL).

Also Present: Mayor: Phil Jenkins (IP), **City Attorney:** Brian L. Hoffer (OL), **Clerk Treasurer:** Jeff Knight (IP) plus 6 guests (via videoconference) and 1 member of the press (via videoconference)

- Call to Order: Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- Roll Call: The four members listed above were in attendance via ZOOM videoconference. There were enough members to constitute a quorum. Todd Nunemaker was unable to attend due to technical difficulties.
- Approval of Minutes from June 15, 2020: Councilman Miller motioned to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Huff seconded. There were no other questions or comments. The minutes were approved unanimously via roll-call vote.
- Petitions or comments from citizens:
 - Public Hearing of Ordinance 1573 – Additional Appropriations: Mayor Jenkins reminded the Council members that this Ordinance pertained to additional appropriations for Outside Services (HR Consultant) and Capital Outlays (furniture acquisition). There was proof of publication. Mayor Jenkins called the public meeting to order at 7:02 pm. There were no questions or comments. Mayor Jenkins closed the public hearing at 7:02 pm.
- Reports from Committees, Boards and Commissions: There were none.

Unfinished Business:

- Third Reading of Ordinance 1568 – RTC/RTN Annexation: Mayor Jenkins presented Ordinance 1568 for third reading. Councilwoman Huff motioned to approve the Ordinance on third reading. Councilman Miller seconded. There were no further questions or comments. The Ordinance was approved unanimously via roll-call vote and will be submitted to the Goshen News and Warsaw Times Union for publication in order to begin the 30-day remonstrance period.
- Second Reading of Ordinance 1573 – Additional Appropriations. As this was presented earlier in the meeting for public hearing, there were no further questions or comments. Councilman



Miller motioned to approve the ordinance on second reading. Councilman Kauffman seconded. The Ordinance was approved unanimously via roll-call vote.

- New Business:

- First Reading of Ordinance 1574 – Additional Appropriation for TIF. Mayor Jenkins presented the Ordinance to the Council members. The additional appropriations requested will be used for internal and external improvements not to exceed \$250,000 for 253 W. Market St. Current tenants include Edward Jones and Panther Pizza. The middle section of this building is where the Nappanee Arts Council will be housed. Also included as part of this additional appropriation request is an amount not to exceed \$150,00 to assist FCDC with replacement of the HVAC system. Councilwoman Huff motioned to approve the request on first reading. Councilwoman Rosa seconded. Prior to the final vote regarding this Ordinance on first reading, Councilman Kauffman recused himself since his Edward Jones office is the tenant in the 253 W. Market St. mentioned earlier. The Ordinance was approved 3-0, with 1 abstention, via roll-call vote.

- Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers: 2020 APV's totaling \$501,767.86: Councilwoman Huff motioned to approve the AP Vouchers. Councilman Kauffman seconded. There were no further questions or comments. The AP Vouchers were approved unanimously via roll-call vote.

- Reports of City Officers:

1. EMS: Nothing to report.
2. Fire Chief: Chief Lehman commented that K21 (Community Foundation of Kosciusko County) gave the fire department a \$16,000 auto-pulse machine. This machine takes the place of humans doing CPR. By using this machine, the save rates are substantially higher. Chief Lehman and Mayor Jenkins expressed their appreciation for K21 obtaining this machine for the City. Chief Lehman also noted the Fish Fry will be held this Saturday (July 11th) on a carry-out only basis.
3. Police: Nothing to report.
4. Street Superintendent – Superintendent Warren noted that Phend and Brown are working on street projects at various locations throughout the City. Superintendent Warren continued by informing the Council that the NIPSCO substation rebuild is under way and tomorrow and Thursday heavy equipment will be brought in which will require that there be no parking on sections of Lincoln and Madison streets while the heavy equipment is unloaded. He also



mentioned that the INDOT State Road 19 paving project should have wrapped up today and thus the temporary detours are no longer necessary. He concluded by discussing the status of the Walnut Street parking lot and dumpster enclosure project.

5. Parks Department: Nothing to report and no questions asked.
6. Senior Center Director: Nothing to report and no questions were asked.
7. Water/WWTP: Superintendent Gerber commented that on the Water side, residents that will be affected by the water main project, expected to start later this fall and over the winter, were sent packages containing easements for them to sign and return to the City. Regarding the WasteWater side, there have been two street collapses in the last week, one in the 100 block of E. Lincoln Street and one in the 200 block of E. Centennial Street. The process is underway to get those streets fixed and back completely open to traffic this week.
8. Clerk-Treasurer: Nothing to formally report. CT Knight notified the Council that the City received 91% of property taxes which was far better than anticipated by Baker Tilly. He continued by noting that the DLGF indicated that the maximum tax levy for the next year will be 4.2%. He also informed the Council that the audit for 2019 is officially underway. There were no further questions.
9. Mayor – Mayor Jenkins discussed that Elkhart County was to remain at Stage 4 of the COVID recovery plan, due to an elevated infection rate, while the rest of the state proceeds to Stage 4.5. There has been a mandate that masks be utilized, and that social distancing continues to be practiced.

Mayor Jenkins concluded the meeting by informing the Council that NIPSCO is in the process of changing streetlights from low pressure sodium lights to LED lights.

Adjournment: With no further business to be discussed, Councilman Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting and Councilwoman Rosa seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm by unanimous voice vote.

Phil Jenkins, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeff Knight, Clerk of the Council