



Common Council Meeting – Minutes for July 20, 2020

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

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

- Call to Order: Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
- Roll Call: All members listed above were in attendance via ZOOM videoconference.
- Approval of Minutes from July 6, 2020: Councilman Miller motioned to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Rosa seconded. There were no other questions or comments. The minutes were approved unanimously via roll-call vote.
- Petitions or comments from citizens: See notes below regarding the Preliminary Plat of Blackstone 6th Addition.
- Reports from Committees, Boards and Commissions:
 - Clerk-Treasurer Report for 6/30/20: CT Knight presented the report that included the receipt of property taxes. He also explained the negative payroll balances in the 300 section of the Fund Report as opposed to the cleaned-up payroll clearing account balances in the 800 section. There is a payroll review going on currently, which is being completed by Baker Tilly. Once that is complete, adjustments will be made to correct the issue as well as any other corrections that needs to be made. Councilman Nunemaker inquired about the negative balance appearing in the Water Utility Operating Fund. CT Knight did not know the answer but said he would make a note and investigate it. He asked if an email response to the Council would suffice. Councilman Nunemaker said yes. Mayor Jenkins interjected that he thought this may be tied to some transactions made by the prior Clerk-Treasurer that were paid out of cash when they should have been paid via SRF disbursement. CT Knight will research the issue and email a formal response. Councilwoman Huff motioned to approve the Clerk Treasurer report. Councilman Nunemaker seconded. The Clerk-Treasurer Report was approved unanimously via roll-call vote.



Unfinished Business:

- Third Reading of Ordinance 1573 – Additional Appropriations: Mayor Jenkins presented Ordinance 1573 for third reading. These additional funds will be used to cover the costs of hiring and HR Consultant to work on behalf of the City and for furnishings for the Mayor’s new office. 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. Councilman Kauffman motioned to approve the additional appropriations on third reading. Councilwoman Huff seconded. The additional appropriations were approved unanimously via roll-call vote.
- Second Reading of Ordinance 1574 – Additional Appropriations. Mayor Jenkins reiterated that the requested funds will be used for renovations to 253 Market Street (\$250,000), and to assist FCDC with installation of a new HVAC system (\$150,000). Councilwoman Huff motioned to approve the additional appropriations on second reading. Councilman Miller seconded. The Ordinance was approved 4-0 via roll-call vote, with one abstention (Councilman Kauffman is a tenant in 253 Market Street).
- New Business:
 - Set Public Hearing for Ordinance 1574 on August 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm: Councilwoman Rosa motioned to approve the setting of the public hearing for the specified date and time. Councilman Miller seconded. The public hearing date was approved 4-0 via roll-call vote, with one abstention (Councilman Kauffman is a tenant in 253 Market Street).
 - Approve Recommendation from Plan Commission for Preliminary Plat of Blackstone 6th Addition (Final Phase): Mayor Jenkins introduced the request and then Superintendent Don Lehman proceeded to give further detail noting that the Plan Commission reviewed the preliminary plat filed by Abonmarche Engineering and approved it 4-0. Crystal Welsh (with Abonmarche) discussed the effort to try and work through some of the inconsistencies caused by Blackstone coming in under the ordinances of the county and then being annexed by the City. She also noted her appreciation for the work the City staff has done regarding this request. Mayor Jenkins confirmed that the Plan Commission did hold a Public Hearing on June 11. Ms. Welsh said yes.



Mr. Tom Keller, who resides at 1073 Blackstone Blvd and is a member of the Blackstone Architectural Control Committee, stood to voice his support for Team Construction and the forthcoming construction. His concern was primarily due to the storm water drainage problems that impact Blackstone. He would like the City to consider how that situations will be resolved and who will ultimately be responsible for correcting the issue. Mayor Jenkins thanked Mr. Keller for his comments and reassured him that the City will review the issue and get back with him. Councilwoman Huff motioned to approve the recommendation from the Plan Commission for Preliminary Plat of Blackstone 6th Addition. Councilman Nunemaker seconded. The recommendation was approved 4-0 via roll-call vote, with one abstention (Councilman Miller's customer is a Team Construction).

- Approve BZA Special Exception for 305 E. Hudson St.: Superintendent Lehmann explained that this is a special exception with Pam and Eric Morrell in order to allow them to operate a one chair beauty shop out of her house. The BZA voted 3-0 to allow the special exception. Councilman Nunemaker motioned to approve the special exception. Councilwoman Huff seconded. Councilman Nunemaker asked if there were any restrictions on hours or parking or signage. Superintendent Lehmann responded that there will not be any on street parking, with only one customer at a time and ample parking in her drive. There is the ability to have a 1 square foot sign on her property. Hours had not been discussed. She will be the only one allowed to operate out of the beauty shop. Councilwoman Huff asked if there were any objections from any neighbors. Superintendent Lehmann responded that the neighbors had been sent notices, but they haven't heard anything. Mrs. Morrell's daughter stated that they approached all the neighbors and they were ok with it thus the lack of response to the City. The special exception was approved unanimously via roll-call vote.
- Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers: 2020 APV's totaling \$555,097.09: Councilman Nunemaker motioned to approve the AP Vouchers. Councilman Miller seconded. There were no further questions or comments. The AP Vouchers were approved unanimously via roll-call vote.
- Reports of City Officers:
 - Each City Officer was given the opportunity to discuss the reports they submitted. All the City Officers were present with the exception of the Senior Center.



Adjournment: With no further business to be discussed, Councilman Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting and Councilwoman Rosa seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm by unanimous voice vote.

Phil Jenkins, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeff Knight, Clerk of the Council