

Common Council Meeting – Monday, February 14, 2011 – Held at Ligonier City Hall – 7:00 pm – Audio Available

Call to order by Mayor Fisel

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call

Council members present: John Pettit, Gary Bishop, Ken Schuman, and John Lutton. Also present: Mayor Patty Fisel, City Attorney Steve Hagen, and Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

Absent: Council member Karen Richendollar,

Minutes from previous meeting of 1-24-11

Motion to approve by: Bishop Seconded by: Schuman Vote: All Ayes

Minutes from special joint meeting of Council and Redevelopment Commission of 2-1-11

Motion to approve by: Lutton Seconded by: Pettit Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Name & Address: Lois Rosenogle

Comment: Thank you to the Street Dept for keeping the streets cleared – should be commended

Unfinished Business

1. Further discussion of Plan Commissioner Salary

Mayor Fisel read a job description for the proposed Building/Zoning Inspector describing both the qualifications and job responsibilities and asked that Council make any additions or changes tonight.

The current salary for the Building Commissioner is \$10,500, a part time position. The Plan Commission is asking that an additional \$10,000 be approved to add the duties of the Plan Commissioner to the current Building Commissioner. The combined position would remain a part time position with a total yearly salary of \$20,500. In a previous meeting, the suggestion was made to use Rainy Day Funds to temporarily fund the position for 2011. It was further suggested that that the time committed to the position be tracked so a salary after 2012 can be determined. Rainy Day Funds are subject to a public hearing, an ordinance by Council, and DLGF approval.

Motion to approve the use of \$10,000 from Rainy Day Funds, pending a public hearing, Council ordinance, and DLGF approval by: Bishop Seconded by: Schuman Vote: All Ayes

New Business

1. Ordinance 782-2011 – Ordinance Violation Bureau Fine Schedule

Ordinance 782-2011 will amend ordinance 757-09. The City re-codified its ordinances, rendering the ordinance reference numbers in 757-09 inaccurate. In addition, the Ordinance Violation Bureau Fine schedule was reviewed by City Attorney Steve Hagen, Police Chief Bryan Shearer, Police Detective Gary Cox and Code Enforcement Officer Mike Alexander. The group identified violations which could be admitted directly before the Ordinance Violation Bureau. Ordinance 782-2011 amends the City's schedule to cite the correct the ordinances subject to the Ordinance Violation Bureau and to provide the admission of violations of other provisions of the City Code.

Motion to pass Ordinance 782-2011 on the first reading: Schuman
Seconded by: Lutton Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 782-2011 on the second reading: Schuman
Seconded by: Lutton Vote: All Ayes

Motion to further suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 782-2011 on the third and final reading: Schuman
Seconded by: Lutton Vote: All Ayes

2. John Pettit resignation from Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District
 Mayor Fisel thanked John Pettit for his past representation to the Solid Waste Management District. Due to time constraints, Pettit is no longer able to serve. He commented on the good organization of this District, also commenting that they are looking for a closer location on the far west side of the district, possibly in Ligonier. They currently serve a four county area.
 The Mayor asked that if any other Council member might be interested in serving, they let her know.

Claim Registers APV# 32552 through 32757

Motion to approve by: Lutton

Seconded by: Bishop

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette: Mike thanked the City departments for their assistance with the snow removal.
 Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle: Jeff presented the Council with the Water Department's award as the Ground Water Guardian

Park Director Alan Duncan: Alan presented his year end 2010 report for the Park and Rec noting increased membership in 2010 to 773 from 632 in 2009.

Council Member John Lutton: John informed the Council that he would not seek another term. John has represented the City for 24 years.

Citizen Comments

Name and Address: Chris Fought, Main Street

Comments: Chris brought to the attention that the Clock at Triangle Park is 15 minutes. Mike Burdette will have the time on the clock adjusted. He also inquired as to the status of the burned house at 600 South Martin Street. Mayor Fisel addressed the house in her comments below.

Mayor Patty Fisel:

1. Mike Alexander is working with the insurance company on the house at 600 South Martin Street. The house was in pre-foreclosure and this has caused the delay. We hope to have resolution in the near future.
2. Mayor Fisel announced that she will give the State of the City address prior to the next Council meeting, Monday, February 28, 2011. It will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Longardner Room at the Crosswalk. The Council meeting will then follow in the same room.
3. In the absence of Mark Schultz, WWTP Manager, the Mayor updated Council on the emergency sewer project. There was a 50 foot blockage of roots. It was necessary to put a new line in to bypass the line. McKibben from Goshen is currently working on the project which should complete within approximately two weeks. With the new bypass, 4-5 new manholes will be put in. The Mayor commented that the City should be conscious of trees growing over easements and try to prevent this type of problem in the future.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, motion by: John Lutton