Common Council Meeting - Monday, February 27, 2012 - Held at Ligonier City Hall - 7:00 pm - Audio Available

Call to order by Mayor Fisel

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: Council President Ken Schuman, Council members Chris Fought, Becky Gray, Kelly Ware, and Julia Bell Mayor Patty Fisel, City Attorney Steve Hagen, and Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

Minutes from previous meeting of February 13, 2012

Motion to approve by: Ken Schuman Seconded by: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Name & Address: Norma Donley, Ligonier

Comment: FLA (Future Ligonier Alliance) is considering adding two Lincoln Highway signs on Lincolnway West – at Pettit Park and Woodlawn Park and is currently obtaining quotes.

Strawberry Daze will be the 3rd Friday in June and FLA would like to close 3rd Street east and west of Cavin Street, or use close and use Main Street as an alternative. Police Chief Bryan Shearer and Street Superintendent Mike Burdette will investigate and get back at a later date.

Name & Address: John Pettit, Ligonier

Comment: Inquired as to adding his business to the business listing on the city website. There is a form on the site which needs to be completed and sent and it will be added.

Name & Address: Erica Dominguez, 208 S. Main Street

Comment: Ms. Dominquez was present translating for George Pizana. He would like to add a baseball field in a residential area at 924 N. Main Street and was inquiring as to the procedure to get approval.

It would be necessary first to go before the plan commission with a rezoning request. Mayor Fisel will meet with them after the meeting to provide further information.

Unfinished Business

Property on East Union Street

Mr. Tom Wigent previously expressed interest in purchasing city property off East Union Street. He is not asking if the city would consider splitting the property as he prefers to purchase only 2 acres rather than the entire area. Appraisals for the entire property have already been completed by the city.

A survey would need to be completed to split the property as there is currently no legal description for the portion he is interested in purchasing. It was asked if splitting would be in the best interest of the city.

Motion to table the issue for further investigation by: Kelly Ware Seconded by: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Refunding of Waterworks Revenue Bonds

City Attorney Steve Hagen explained that refunding the bonds is similar to refinancing a mortgage in that savings through a lower interest rate can be realized.

Steve Carter from Umbaugh further explained that although the waterworks had not been in the greatest financial shape in the past, they are doing better now with revenue sufficient to pay debt and operations. Refunding of the bonds could over the course of time offer the waterworks a savings of approximately \$200,000. The bonds sale would be a private placement with a single buyer.

Waterworks Bond Ordinance

Ordinance 804-2012 allowing the refunding of the waterworks bonds of 1998 and 2003; authorizing the issuance of waterworks refunding revenue bonds for such purpose...

Motion to approve Ordinance 804-2012 on the first reading by: Julia Bell Seconded by: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules and approve Ordinance 804-2012 on the second reading by: Julia Bell Seconded by: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

Motion to further suspend the rules and approve Ordinance 804-2012 on the third and final reading by: Julia Bell Seconded by: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

Ordinance 804-2012 Passed

SRF Bond Ordinance

The SRF (State Revolving Fund) bonds would be used to finance the sewer and storm water separation project on the north side. The separation is an unfunded state mandate. In the past the city has incurred fines do to overflow issues. The new bonds cannot be issued on top of the current sewage debt without a rate increase. Funds are available to pay of the Sewage Revenue Bonds of 2002. Ordinance 805-2012 authorizes the payoff of these bonds and the issuance of bonds for the separation project.

Motion to pass Ordinance 805-2012 on the first reading by: Ken Schuman Seconded by: Julia Bell Vote: All Ayes

2011 Police Dept. Annual Report - Chief Shearer

Police Chief Bryan Shearer presented a power point with department statistics for 2011 with comparisons to 2010. He noted that the city's population doubles during day time working hours with the number of people employed in the city's industry. The accomplishments of the department were noted, with emphasis on the code enforcement officer and school resource officer at West Noble Primary.

Claim Registers - APV # 35879 through 36000

Motion to approve by: Chris Fought

Seconded by: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Waterworks Superintendent Jeff Boyle

Jeff recently returned from water school and noted new rules are coming

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

The department is currently updating the street signs with the new design mandated by the state

City Engineer Rick Pharis

The bids for the north east basin project were opened. If any residents have questions regarding the project they can call Rick for further information.

Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver

The department is wrapping up their annual fundraiser. It allowed them to purchase a unit for the first responder truck. Training on the unit took place this evening. The department will have a booth at Showcase Ligonier.

Mayor Patty Fisel

Mayor Fisel is giving her State of the City address on Thursday, March 1, 2012 in the basement of the Police Department at 7:00 pm and encouraged everyone to attend. City department will have displays and information available. City personnel will be available for questions.

Northeast Indiana Solid Waste meets in Ashley monthly. The mayor asked if any council member would be interested in serving on the board.

Nominations for the 2011 professional local government person are being accepted by the state until 3/16/12.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by: Ken Sch	uman Seconded by: Chris F	ought
Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer	Patricia Fisel, Mayor	