

Common Council Meeting – Monday, April 9, 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 March 26, 2012

Motion to approve by: Ken Schuman

Seconded by: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Name & Address: Ruth Elijah, Martin Street

Comment: Ruth offered praise and a thank you for the cleanup that has taken place in the city.

Unfinished Business

1. Property at 600 South Martin Street

Citibank offered to donate this vacant lot to the city. Last year the city paid for the demolition and dumpsters of the burned out house totaling approximate \$5000. The taxes for 2013 of approximately \$526 would need to be paid by the city. Possible use would be a parking lot for Prentice Park which currently does not have parking. Council previously gave approval to pursue this donation.

2. City Employee Handbook

Council President Ken Schuman complimented those involved in the revision of the city employee handbook for taking on this insurmountable task. The final draft version protects both the city and the employees. The final handbook will be ready for council adoption at the April 23 meeting.

New Business

1. Waive Permit Fee – Citywide Garage Sale

Citywide garage sales are set for the second weekend of April and September. Historically council has waived the \$5.00 garage sale permit fee for the citywide sale.

Motion to waive the garage sale fee for citywide garage sales this year and future years by: Ken Schuman

Seconded by: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

2. Pay Increase for Board of Works

In November 2011, council voted to increase the council member pay from \$2500 to \$4000 annually in the elected official's salary ordinance. Members of the board of works are appointed and therefore salary is set in the city employee salary ordinance approved in August 2011. Mayor Fisel asked council to consider approving the same pay increase for Board of Works members, retroactive to January 1, 2012. This will affect two members as the mayor does not receive additional salary to sit on the board of works.

Motion to set wages for Board of Works members to \$4000 retroactive to January 1, 2012 by: Ken Schuman

Seconded by: Becky Gray

Vote: All Ayes

3. Ordinance 806-2012 (Authorizing Financial Institution)

It is necessary for council to approve the financial institutions used by the city. Ordinance 806-2012 allows the clerk-treasurer to use any local authorized bank.

Motion to pass ordinance 806-2012 on the first reading by: Chris Fought

Seconded by: Becky Gray

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules and pass ordinance 806-2012 on the second reading by: Chris Fought
Seconded by: Kelly Ware ***Vote: All Ayes***

Motion to further suspend the rules and pass ordinance 806-2012 on the third and final reading by: Chris Fought
Seconded by: Becky Gray ***Vote: All Ayes***

4. Region III-A Board of Director's Appointment

Mayor Fisel announced that she is appointing Becky Gray to the Region III-A board of directors for 2012.

Claim Registers – APV # 36215-36335

Motion to approve by: Ken Schuman ***Seconded by: Kelly Ware*** ***Vote: All Ayes***

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Police Chief Bryan Shearer: Bryan announced that Mike Houser will graduate from the academy on April 13, 2012. Bryan commended the fire department for taking the lead in the recent train derailment outside of the city. Everyone worked well together and he is very proud of them.

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette: The 2012 dead tree removal project is complete with 18 trees removed from the city right of way. Mike offered thanks to the water department personnel for their assistance.

Council Member Chris Fought: If possible, Chris would like to see a program put into place and in the budget to plant new trees after the tree removal.

Chris made a request on behalf of Operation Foundation. They are requesting permission to use the Farmer's Market Pavilion as their headquarters during the week of July 25 through August 1, 2012 as their headquarters.

Motion to allow Operation Foundation the use of the Farmer's Market Pavilion by: Ken Schuman
Seconded by: Julia Bell ***Vote: All Ayes***

Mayor Patty Fisel: The mayor commended the fire and city departments and all other units for their efforts in aiding at the train derailment.

The Vance building, which the city purchased in the certificate sale, will need to be cleaned. There are miscellaneous items in the building which we may be able to sell.

The plans for the city hall project are almost final. The architect's did a great job. Everyone is welcome to look at the drawing.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by: Chris Fought ***Seconded by: Julia Bell***