

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting  
Monday, July 23, 2012 – Ligonier City Hall  
103 West Third Street – Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**Call to order by Mayor Fisel**

**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 July 9, 2012**

*Motion to approve by: Ken Schuman*

*Seconded by: Chris Fought*

*Vote: All Ayes*

**Minutes from previous meeting of July 16, 2012**

*Motion to approve by: Ken Schuman*

*Seconded by: Chris Fought*

*Vote: All Ayes*

**Citizens Comments**

*Name & Address:* Gary Bishop, 306 Pontiac Street

*Comment:* Gary wanted to publicly thank all of the people who showed their concern through his illness and surgery. He added that he is now cancer free.

*Name & Address:* Bob Buttgen, Ligonier

*Comment:* Bob made note of the Operation Foundation banner and commented on what a pretty city we have. He thanked those who participate in the cleanup efforts.

**Unfinished Business**

**1. Perry Township Contract**

Council approved the contract price of \$27,638.83 for 2013 Perry Township Fire Contract at the last meeting, which is the same price as the 2012 and 2011 contract. The contract was presented for signatures.

**2. 2013 Budget Discussion**

Clerk-Treasurer Barb provided budget packets to council members for their review. The budget increased approximately \$198,000 (7%) over the 2012 budget. More than half of the increase was street repairs which had been previously funded by a GO Bond. After discussion, it was the feeling of council that we should go with the numbers as presented.

*Motion to go into the budget workshop with the 7% increase as presented by: Ken Schuman*

*Seconded by: Kelly Ware*

*Vote: All ayes*

In discussion, Chris Fought asked that a 50-50 sidewalk program be considered. Ken Schuman showed concern that using funds for this type of program may cause other items to be cut. Chris commented that possibly CEDIT or Rainy Day funds might be used and asked to have the item placed on the next agenda. It was pointed out that currently the city will tear out and haul away existing sidewalks to residents at no charge.

## **New Business**

### **1. Trash Container Discussion**

The length of time city provided trash containers should be left on the street and curb prior to and following trash pick-up was discussed. A possible ordinance, fines, and means to enforce it were part of the discussion. Chris Fought provided an ordinance from another city. City Attorney Steve Hagen will review the ordinance and draft something similar for review by council at a future meeting.

### **2. Park Board**

Mayor Fisel expressed her concern that it is just the park board that oversees the parks and the park personnel and director. The Mayor oversees the other department heads, but has no authority over the park department. She has received several complaints recently regarding the park system such as no water fountains and restrooms being locked during the day, and kids going to another town to play ball instead of remaining in Ligonier. Alan Duncan, Park Director was present and addressed the issues. The water fountain was not repaired due to a costly expense. Vandalism three years ago in the restrooms caused the park board to close the restrooms to curtail it and they are open only when the shelters are rented. The ball teams in Ligonier are recreational teams and not travel teams. When kids advance to travel teams they must go to another town. The travel teams do use the Ligonier diamonds.

Mayor Fisel still believes it would be beneficial, and advocates abolishing the park board. This would have the park director report to the Mayor and Board of Works as the other departments do. She asked that the council take this under consideration for a future meeting.

## **Claim Registers – APV # 31747 through 37252**

***Motion to approve by: Ken Schuman***

***Seconded by: Julia Bell***

***Vote: All Ayes***

## **Comments by Members of Council and Administration**

***Park Department:*** Park Director Alan Duncan reported that the park has collected approximately \$54,000 for the splash pad. Because the original plan called for \$180,000, he is considering scaling back and doing the splash pad in phases. He has spoken with a contractor and will be obtaining quotes. He has looked into corporate grants, but most corporations will only donate to non-profits organizations. The proposed location for the splash pad is between shelter 2 and 3 in Kenney Park.

***Waste Water:*** Superintendent Mark Schultz reported that the separation project moved across the river today. Last week the construction crew hit a gas line. The evacuations of nearby residents went well and line was repaired in minimal time.

***Street Department:*** Superintendent Mike Burdette reported that the 1999 one ton dual truck has a broken frame and can no longer be used for plowing. He is obtaining quotes to replace the truck. The department will begin striping the streets and paint curbs in the next couple of weeks.

***Council Member Kelly Ware:*** Kelly asked why residents at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & Bowery were allowed to live in a camper for an extended amount of time. This will be checked into. Kelly commented that she agrees with Mayor Fisel and feels the mayor should have input into the park department.

***Council Member Becky Gray:*** Becky agreed with Kelly regarding the park department. She feels the park should come to the council and mayor just like all of the other departments. Alan Duncan commented that certain grants such as land and water grants would not be available without a park board. When asked if we had received any of these type of grants, Alan replied that it has been a number of years since we had applied.

***Council Member Chris Fought:*** Chris commented that Operation Foundation will begin on Wednesday, July 25, 2012 through Wednesday, August 1, 2012. He asked for council approval to close Main Street between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets for the opening and closing ceremonies on July 25 and August 1.

***Motion to allow the closure of Main Street between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets on Wednesday, July 25, 2012 and Wednesday, August 1, 2012 from 3:00 pm until 10:00 pm by: Ken Schuman***  
***Seconded by: Julia Bell***                      ***Vote: All Ayes***

*Council President Ken Schuman:* Ken praised the people involved in sealing off the areas from the gas leak and aiding in the evacuation of residents in the area.

*Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn:* The Lincoln Highway Buy Way Sale is August 9, 10, 11 and the city is participating. She created flyers and has posted them at city hall. She has flyers available for those interested.

*Mayor Patty Fisel:* The mayor was contacted by I & M regarding replacement of a concrete light post that was recently hit by a car. They will replace the post with a wooden post at no charge, but would expect the city to pay for a concrete post. The city should receive reimbursement from insurance for the post.

***Motion to authorize up to \$4000 to replace the concrete light post with the expectation of a future insurance reimbursement by: Chris Fought***      ***Seconded by: Ken Schuman***                      ***Vote: All Ayes***

#### **Adjournment**

***Motion to adjourn by: Ken Schuman***      ***Seconded by: Chris Fought***