

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting  
Monday, May 13, 2013 – Ligonier City Hall  
301 South Cavin Street – Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**Public Safety Awards**

Public Safety Director Bryan Shearer and Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver presented awards to members of the police and fire departments for excellence in public safety pertaining to first responder calls attributed to saving the lives of two individuals.

Jeff Bush, Robert Weldy, Kevin Sheeley, Mike Shearer, and Eric Bench were honored for their efforts in saving the life of Vance Thompson of Wawaka on February 4, 2012. A letter of appreciation from the family was read.

Mike Alexander, Shawn Cox, Jeff Bush, Jason Stump, Kevin Sheeley, Robert Weldy, and Jeremy Weaver were honored for their efforts in saving the life of Larry Fry of Ligonier on October 16, 2012. Civilian Josh Munson was also honored as he began CPR prior to the arrival of the first responders.

Appreciation was shown to the honorees; they were applauded, congratulated, and thanked by the Mayor and all in attendance.

**Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Public hearing for Library Construction Grant**

Bob Murphy asked for public comment regarding the library grant. Jean Saggars spoke to the limited room and computers available for the children. Chris Leslie spoke to the fact there is no stove and kitchen facilities for food programs. Alyssa Sanchez spoke regarding the small size of the community room and the fact that the summer reading program must be held outdoors as the room will not accommodate the number of children attending.

Bob Murphy asked council to approve a resolution authorizing Mayor Fisel to sign the documents necessary for application of the grant from OCRA.

***Motion to approve the resolution authorizing Mayor Fisel to sign the documents necessary for the application to OCRA for the library grant: Ken Schuman      Seconded: Kelly Ware      Vote: All Ayes***

The public hearing was then closed by Mayor Fisel.

**Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Public hearing for Stormwater Planning Grant**

As there was no public comment, Bob Murphy asked council to authorize a resolution authorizing Mayor Fisel to sign the documents necessary for a grant to cover a comprehensive storm drainage plan from OCRA. The grant is \$30,000 with a \$3400 match.

***Motion to approve the resolution authorizing Mayor Fisel to sign the documents necessary for the application to OCRA for the comprehensive storm water drainage plan for \$30,000 with a \$3400 match: Ken Schuman  
Seconded: Kelly Ware      Vote: All Ayes***

The public hearing was then closed by Mayor Fisel.

**Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Public hearing for Water-Fire Protection Rates**

Eric Walsh of Umbaugh, the city's financial advisor, gave a presentation outlining the need for an increase in the water rates to cover the cost of running the city owned utility. He also outlined the need for a fire protection fee which is currently being paid through taxes rather than user fees.

As there were no comments from the public, the public hearing was closed.

### **Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Public hearing for Stormwater Utility Rates**

Eric Walsh of Umbaugh also presented material regarding the need for a storm water utility. User rates will fund maintenance work necessary to comply with the Sewage Plant's agreed order with IDEM.

As there were no comments from the public, the public hearing was closed.

### **Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Common Council Meeting**

#### **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 April 22, 2013**

***Motion to approve: Chris Fought***

***Seconded: Kelly Ware***

***Vote: All Ayes***

#### **Minutes from previous meeting of April 29, 2013**

***Motion to approve: Chris Fought***

***Seconded: Kelly Ware***

***Vote: All Ayes***

#### **New Business**

- **CF-1 – L & L (Structural Composites) – Real Property**

Annual compliance form for tax abatement was received from L & L (Structural Composites).

***Motion to approve CF-1 for L & L (Structural Composites): Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Chris Fought***

***Vote: All Ayes***

- **CF-1 – Patrick Industries (Creative Woods) – Real Property and 2 Personal Property**

Annual compliance form for tax abatement was received from Patrick Industries (Creative Woods).

***Motion to approve CF-1 for Patrick Industries (Creative Woods): Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Julia Bell***

***Vote: All Ayes***

- **Umbaugh Agreement – 2013 SRF Project**

An agreement for assistance with the next phase of the sewer project and the 2013 SRF Project was received from Umbaugh, the city's financial advisor.

***Motion to approve 2013 SRF Project agreement with Umbaugh: Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Julia Bell***

***Vote: All Ayes***

#### **Citizens Comments – None**

John Pettit, 402 Ravine Park Drive

John commented that the discussion tonight involved a lot of spending. He then quoted Arthur Godfrey with the following: "I'm proud to pay taxes in the United States; the only thing is, I could be just as proud for half the money."

#### **Unfinished Business**

- **Ordinance 834-2013 – Stormwater Rates**

Ordinance 834-2013, establishing an initial storm water rate was passed on the first reading at the meeting of April 29, 2013.

***Motion to pass ordinance 834-2013 on the second reading: Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Julia Bell***

***Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to pass ordinance 834-2013 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Julia Bell***

***Vote: All Ayes***

Rates take effect with the July 1, 2013 utility billing.

▪ **Ordinance 835-2013 – Water-Fire Protection Rates**

Ordinance 835-2013, increasing water rates and establishing fire protection rates was passed on the first reading at the meeting of April 29, 2013.

***Motion to pass ordinance 835-2013 on the second reading: Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Julia Bell***

***Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to pass ordinance 835-2013 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Julia Bell***

***Vote: All Ayes***

Rates take effect with the July 1, 2013 utility billing.

**Claim Registers – APV # 39347-39590**

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

***Seconded: Chris Fought***

***Vote: All Ayes***

**Comments by Members of Council and Administration**

*Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver:* The open house for the remodeled fire station is Saturday, June 1 from 10:00 to 1:00.

*Public Safety Director Bryan Shearer:* Mike Stoner retired as a full time police officer on May 10 after 21 years of service. An open house will be held Sunday, June 2 from 2:00 to 4:00. Mike will continue as a part time officer in addition to his new position on the street department. Mike Houser will be moving to full time pending PERF approval.

*Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle:* The tank project at the water department is scheduled to begin in about two weeks. There were two main breaks recently due to the construction project. The department has been changing out meters (30) and working on hooking up the water at the splash pad which is scheduled to open on June 1.

*Street Superintendent Mike Burdette:* The dead tree removal is completed. Thanks to Jeff and Tim for their help. The department is soliciting quotes for a cement mixer for the skid loader to repair the sidewalks and curbs economically.

*City Engineer Rick Pharis:* The project on the north east side is almost to the end of Cavin Street. Patching will begin in the next week. The project should be complete by the first week in July. Niblock was awarded the bid for the paving project which includes resurfacing the streets on the north side. Additional paving projects will be added. We are currently soliciting quotes for Main Street from Lincolnway West to Union and Union Street from SR5 to Sunnyside. We will also solicit quotes for Gerber from Richmond to Perry Road, Rhode Island, and Main on the north side.

*Council Member Kelly Ware:* Thanks to all of the public safety personnel for the job they do. Thanks to Bryan and Jeremy for the presentation and awards. Appreciate everything all of the department heads do.

*Council Member Chris Fought:* Offered recognition to Ruth Elijah and Betty Peterson for receiving the 2013 Hoosier Hospitality award from the state for their work on the city's mural program.

*Council President Ken Schuman:* The award to Ruth and Betty was well deserved. Thanks to both.

Concerning the rates, Ken commented no one likes to pay more, but it is necessary to be more proactive. We need to fix the infrastructure before we have a disaster. There has been too much fixing after the fact.

*Council Member Becky Gray:* Thanks to those who spoke on behalf of the library project. These are real concerns that need to be addressed.

**Mayor's Comments**

*Mayor Patty Fisel:* Thanks to Eric Walsh of Umbaugh for his presentation on the rates. Thanks to everyone for attending and participating. The goal is to have interaction with the citizens and the council. In addition to the council meetings on the second and fourth Monday, Board of Works meetings are on the second and fourth Wednesday at 1:30.

**Adjournment**

***Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman***

***Seconded: Chris Fought***