

Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2013 – Ligonier City Hall
301 South Cavin 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, and Julia Bell
Mayor Patty Fisel, City Attorney Steve Hagen, and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn
Absent: Council member Kelly Ware

Minutes from previous meeting of August 26, 2013

Motion to approve: Chris Fought Second: Julia Bell Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Name & Address: John Pettit, Ravine Park Drive

Comment: John asked where we stand with the TIF expansion. Mayor Fisel replied that a meeting of the Redevelopment Commission will be held in council chambers tomorrow morning at 9:00 and the expansion will be on the agenda.

Name & Address: Gary Bishop, 306 Pontiac

Comment: Gary made council aware of a problem he encountered at the recycle center when he discovered full bags of garbage in one of the bins. He was able to locate a name and address from one of the bags and forwarded it on to the police department to pursue. Chief Shearer reported that the incident was addressed as the individual was contacted.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business

▪ Ordinance 842-2013 (Elected Officials Salary for 2014)

In the previous meeting, council approved salary increases for the mayor, clerk-treasurer, and council members. Before passing ordinance, the subject was opened for discussion.

Citing mayor and clerk-treasurer salaries for surround communities, council member Chris Fought felt the proposed \$60,000 annual salary is in line. Council President Ken Schuman received four calls. Three of the four felt it was too big of an increase. Chris Fought received several calls and comments with the feeling being that the increase was too much at one time, that it should be phased in. Chris then proposed the salary for the mayor and clerk-treasurer be set to \$52,000 annually, \$2,000 bi-weekly stating this will be a step in the right direction as the positions are underpaid and salary will be revisited again next year.

Motion to pass ordinance 842-2013 on the first reading (elected officials salary for 2014) setting the mayor and clerk-treasurer salaries to \$2,000 bi-weekly and council member's salaries to \$1050.60 quarterly, all to be paid from one-third general fund, one-third water utility, and one-third waste water utility: Chris Fought Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

▪ Ordinance 843-2013 (SRF Bond Ordinance)

The next phase of the sewer project will require bonding in the amount of \$6,230,000. Ordinance 843-2013 was introduced authorizing the issuance of sewage works revenue bonds through the State Revolving Fund (SRF).

Motion to pass ordinance 843-2013 (SRF Bond) on the first reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell Vote: All Ayes

▪ Ordinance 845-2013 (GO Bond Ordinance)

Ordinance 845-2013 was introduced authorizing the issuance of a general obligation bonds for street improvements, property demolition and equipment in the amount of \$570,000.

Motion to pass ordinance 845-2013 (GO Bond) on the first reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell Vote: All Ayes

▪ Ordinance 844-2013 (Additional Appropriations – GO Bond Construction)

Ordinance 844-2013 was introduced to allow the appropriation of the proceeds from the GO Bond in the amount of \$570,000.

Motion to pass ordinance 844-2013 (Additional Appropriations) on the first reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell Vote: All Ayes

Claim Registers – APV #40440-40530

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Park Director Alan Duncan: Thanks to Mike Burdette for assistance with trees and Jeff Boyle for assistance with a water leak. An agreement for the canoe launch was given to City Attorney Steve Hagen for his review. Site Scapes has quoted \$2200 to create a master plan for Pettit Park. Alan asked council to fund the \$2200 from the city's rainy day fund. Discussion led to the following:

Motion to approve use of Rainy Day Funds in the amount of \$2200 to Site Scapes for a master plan of Pettit Park: Chris Fought Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette: Yaw Construction began sidewalk work on North Cavin Street today. Niblock is expected to begin the paving project on Gerber Street on September 23rd.

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer: Fire Chief Jeremy is not in attendance as he is conducting another meeting. October 12 is Public Safety Day at Fashion Farm in conjunction with Pumpkin Fantasyland. Included will be canine demonstration, fire demonstration, SAM, and kids ID.

WWTP Superintendent Mark Schultz: Thanks to council members for taking time to tour the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There are five properties left with hook up connections on the north side. When these connections are completed, the connection can be made and the storm and sewer lines will be separated. They are hoping to be finished by the end of the month.

Council Member Chris Fought: Inquired of Chief Shearer regarding the safe school-sidewalk grant. Bryan reported that a notice for this year's program has not yet been received.

Council President Ken Schuman: The new roads on the north side are so nice – they were done very well.

Council Member Julia Bell: The new mural on the farmer's market is really nice.

Council Member Becky Gray: Thanks to Mark for the WWTP tour. It was very interesting.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn: Citywide garage sales are September 13-14. Citywide clean up is September 21 at the Street Department. The cub scouts are conducting an electronics recycling day at Family Dollar on September 21.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Patty Fisel

- Notice from IDEM of a confined feeding operation was received for Troyer at 9889 N 450 W
- Reynolds-Topeka will be installing new electrical lines for NIPSCO. They have changed their route which now totally misses Ligonier
- Notice was received from IDEM that Precision Tank has applied for an air permit
- The utility reports for Water and Wastewater (Jan-Jun 2013) were received from Umbaugh and are available for review.
- Thanks for the efforts on the Marshmallow Festival. It is a community effort. Appreciate the city departments and employees support of the festival.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman Second: Chris Fought

Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer

Patricia Fisel, Mayor