

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, July 14, 2014 – 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 Kelly Ware and Julia Bell
Mayor Patty Fisel, City Attorney Steve Hagen, and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn
Absent: Council Members Chris Fought and Becky Gray

Introductions

Mayor Fisel introduced and welcomed Kassie Barroquillo, new editor of the Advance Leader and Don Skinner, new Superintendent of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Minutes from previous meeting of June 23, 2014

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman

Second: Kelly Ware

Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments – None

Unfinished Business

▪ **Part-time Police and Fire Wages**

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer commented that he and Fire Chief Weaver are still working on the part-time wages for the fire department. He requested council members to take action only on the part-time police wages at this time.

The average wage for part-time police officers locally (Albion and Kendallville) is \$18.32. Shearer proposed an increase to \$16.50-\$17.00 per hour for academy trained part officers and asked that the increase take affect at the beginning of the next payroll as his budget has 79% of the year's total remaining. He also proposed that non-academy trained officers be paid \$13.00 per hour. Discussion led to the following:

Motion to set the pay of part-time police officers to the following – academy trained \$16.50/hour and non-academy trained \$13.00/hour effective July 20, 2014: Ken Schuman

Second: Kelly Ware

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

▪ **Perry Township Fire Contract for 2015**

The 2014 agreement with Perry Township is \$28,053.41. Barb Donley, Perry Township Trustee, was present to ask that the board consider just a one percent (1%) increase for 2015. The township buys their trucks, pay for insurance, and gas. They like other entities have dealt with cuts due to tax caps. Perry Township receives from the City of Ligonier, one half of the Elkhart Township fire contract. For 2014 that amount is \$1709.28.

The growth index for 2015 is 2.7%. Further discussion led to the following:

Motion to increase the Perry Township fire contract by 1.5% for 2015 and review annually: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Elkhart Township Fire Contract

The Elkhart Township Fire Contract is generally set for three years at a time and expires at the end of 2014. The current year amount is \$3418.55 of which \$1709.28 is forwarded to Perry Township. The council would like further information regarding the runs to Elkhart Township and asked to have a report from Chief Weaver at the next meeting, leading to the following:

Motion to table the Elkhart Township fire contract to the next meeting: Kelly Ware

Second: Ken Schuman

Vote: All Ayes

Claim Registers – APV # 42758 to 42938

Motion to approve: Kelly Ware

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- Niblock began the 2014 paving program today. In addition to the streets to be paved in the program, they will patch the holes in the streets caused from water main breaks.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- The bank reconciliation and fund reports for June were included in the council packet. Members confirmed receipt.

Mayor Fisel's Comments

- The next BOW meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, July 22 rather than Wednesday, July 23 as administration members will be attending a meeting regarding the IACT "Replace Don't Erase" initiative.
- A pre-construction meeting was held with Beer and Slabaugh on the garment building. The project will begin the first week in August. The brick street will be closed and Water Street will be partially closed during the demo. Brick may be available to the public at the corner of Water and Pigeon Streets during the demo.
- A pre-construction meeting was held with Triple Diamond on the former Superior building. They will begin the first week of August and hope to be completed by September. They will make sure there are no problems for the festival on Labor Day weekend.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell