

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, August 11, 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 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 28, 2014

Motion to approve: Kelly Ware

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Unfinished Business

- Ordinance 851-2014 (Amended Salary for 2014)
The ordinance to amend the part-time police and fire salaries and the WWTP Superintendent salary was presented.

Motion to pass ordinance 851-2014 on the first reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Kelly Ware

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules and pass ordinance 851-2014 on the second reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Kelly Ware

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to further suspend the rules and pass ordinance 851-2014 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Kelly Ware

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

- Approval of Elkhart Township Fire Contract for 2015-2017
At the previous meeting, council approved the dollar amounts for the Elkhart Township Fire Contract for 2015-2017 adding a 3.5% increase each year. The contract was presented for approval.

Motion to approve the Elkhart Township Fire Contract for 2015-2017: Chris Fought

Second: Becky Gray

Vote: All Ayes

- 2015 CEDIT Plan Revision
A revised CEDIT plan was presented for 2015 adding \$7000 for beautification in the downtown as the Jenny Thompson Foundation has cut back on the amount they will be funding.

Motion to approve the revised CEDIT plan for 2015, adding \$7000 for beautification: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

- Recommendation for 2015 Pay Increases
Mayor Fisel made a recommendation that council approve a 2% pay increase for employees for 2015 (excluding the department head positions which were previously set to \$48,000 for 2015). Council member Kelly Ware asked council to consider a 3% increase to cover increases in insurance. Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn stated that employee insurance did not increase; the employees still pay just \$24 per year for their insurance. The city absorbed the premium increases. In addition, there will be 27 pay periods in 2015 versus the normal 26 pay periods, increasing the amount of payroll necessary. Therefore budgets will not allow for the additional pay increase without cutting other items from the budget. Further discussion led to the following.

Motion to approve a 2% pay increase for employees for 2015 (excluding the department head positions which were previously set to \$48,000 for 2015): Ken Schuman Second: Chris Fought

***Roll Call Vote: Ken Schuman Aye Chris Fought Aye
 Julia Bell Aye Becky Gray Aye Kelly Ware Nay***

Claim Registers – APV # 43037-43180

Motion to approve: Chris Fought Second: Kelly Ware Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Park Director Alan Duncan

- Peddlers in the park went well
- Registration is in progress for flag football
- Ideas for Farmer's Market improvements are welcomed

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- Bryan presented a recap of the first half of 2014 for the Police Department
- Kudos to Gary Cox and the patrolman who took the call regarding the robbery at the local CVS store for their efforts in apprehending the suspects within 6 days. Bryan also praised the community for their efforts and help.
- New part-time patrolman Nick Knafel was introduced. He will attend the academy in November.
- A grant for the Indiana Chief's Association was received in the amount of \$88,000. The city is the acting pass through agency.

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- The 2014 Paving program has been completed
- The new dump truck is in and we are looking at a used dump truck to replace the truck that was sold for salvage
- The curbs and crosswalks are being painted to be ready for the start of school at the end of the week
- We will be patching streets which were dug due to water main issues this week

City Engineer Rick Pharis

- OCRA grant notifications will be released Friday
- We plan to bid the WWTP project the first week of September
- The Wirk Garment building demo is progressing well
- The Superior building demo will be started after Labor Day

Council Member Becky Gray

- Thanks to Bryan and the police department for the extra patrolling on the north side. Things seem to be going well. The neighbors have also implemented a neighborhood watch
- Congratulations to Nick Knafel for joining the part-time police department and plans to attend the academy

Mayor Fisel's Comments

- The Mayor will be meeting with County Engineer Zach Smith next week to discuss the Pigeon Street Bridge that will be constructed in 2018 with assistance of an INDOT grant
- During demo at the Wirk Garment building, the brick street has been closed to avoid heavy truck traffic. The building should be completely down by the end of the week. A sub-contractor will take care of seeding the property after clean up is complete.
- The company from Indianapolis is still interested in the Wirk Garment site for possible housing. Grants they intend to pursue will not be available until 2015. The guidelines set forth for sale of municipally owned property will be followed including appraisals and advertisements.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman Second: Kelly Ware