

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, January 23, 2017 · 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 January 9, 2017

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman Second: Becky Gray Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Gary Bishop, 306 Pontiac Street

Several months ago Gary requested that parking on Pontiac Street be reviewed and a no parking here to corner sign be put up. The curb was painted yellow for no parking, but people are still parking there, which creates a visibility issue at the intersection of Pontiac and Martin Streets. He would like the city to review and update the ordinance. The street and police department will review and make a recommendation.

New Business

Ordinance 897-2017 (Establishing Fund 249 Public Safety LIT)

Ordinance 897-2017 establishes the Public Safety LIT Fund to manage the monies for the Local Income Tax established by Noble County.

***Motion to pass Ordinance 897-2017 on the first reading: Chris Fought
Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 897-2017 on the second reading: Chris Fought
Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to further suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 897-2017 on the third and final reading: Chris Fought
Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes***

Ordinance 898-2017 (Amending Section 72.11 of City Code – Vehicles in Front Yard)

The police department requested an amendment to the code prohibiting driving through front yards.

***Motion to pass Ordinance 898-2017 on the first reading: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 898-2017 on the second reading: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to further suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 898-2017 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes***

MLK Day

The city currently does not observe MLK Day as a holiday. It is a national holiday, state holiday, and county holiday. Government offices and banks are closed. City Attorney Hagen addressed the issue and asked council to take it under consideration commenting that he does not want people to feel we are being disrespectful. Discussion led to the following:

Motion to table the issue and take time to review before making a decision: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Claim Registers – APV # 50294-50458

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver

- A copy of the Fire Department 2016 yearend report was distributed. Chief Weaver went over a few highlights and offered to answer any questions.
 - Run volume was down from 2015 for a total of 598.
 - Average response time to all calls, including mutual aid was 4.79 minutes.

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- The department took advantage of the weather break and was sweeping the streets today.
- Potholes are being patched.
- Thanks to Water Department employee Tim Buchanan for assisting with a truck repair today.

WWTP Superintendent Don Skinner

- Reviewing the sewer use ordinance with the engineers and will make recommendations for any changes in the near future.

Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle

- Working to get the project ready to bid in April and obtain SRF funding in July.

Park Director Alan Duncan

- Information on building a StoryWalk® was distributed. In conjunction with the library, the department is raising funds. A total of \$4500 is needed by April first. G. Martin Kenney Foundation is granting \$2250 towards the project. This will place 16 stations around the mile track at Kenney Park, each with pages of a story, which can be changed out.
- A plan for summer work in the parks was distributed along with the parks annual report.

City Engineer Rick Pharis

- The seawall project will resume at the first part of March and we still anticipate an on time completion. The delay was due to AEP lines not being moved in a timely manner.
- The Trail Project committee met with Rick Sherck of Noble County EDC. Funding may be available from NCEDC and Jonathan Moen prepared a submittal of the project costs today. We will apply to the Regional Cities for a grant in early February.

Council Member Chris Fought

- Good to see the street sweeper out today. Thanks to the department for taking the Christmas decorations down.
- Inquired about the concrete light posts in the downtown. AEP has indicated it will take longer for the replacements and we anticipate sometime in spring.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- The 1782 notice was received today and distributed to members. The budget was approved as is with tax rates lowered due to higher assessed valuation.
- Council members acknowledged receipt of the December 2016 fund and bank reconciliation reports.

Mayor Fisel's Comments

- Congressman Jim Banks would like a satellite office in Ligonier, on the third Tuesday of the month from 9-12. The former code enforcement office in the police department lobby was offered. Mayor Fisel is waiting to hear back from the office as to the start date.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought