# Ligonier Common Council Meeting Monday, July 23, 2018 · 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 Clouse, and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn

Minutes from previous meeting of July 9, 2018

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

#### **Citizens Comments**

Jane Noelle, 423 West Long Drive and Kathy Hagen, 626 Seville Court – Ruth Stultz Preschool Board Members
A presentation and request for funds to remodel the Ruth Stultz Preschool building was brought before the Hagen
Family Foundation. They encouraged the school board to inquire into demolition of the existing building and building a
new structure. Since the building is owned by the City, Mrs. Noelle and Ms. Hagen were requesting permission from the
council to pursue this option. The pre-school board is still pursuing funding for either option. Discussion led to the
following.

Motion to pursue the demolition of the existing building and building of a new structure pending funding and approval of plans: Julia Bell Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

### **Unfinished Business**

#### Ordinance 922-2018 (Annexation)

Ordinance 922-2018 for annexation of property owned by Prairie Meadows passed on the first reading on July 9, 2018 and was available for the second and third readings.

Motion to pass Ordinance 922-2018 on the second reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes

Motion to pass Ordinance 922-2018 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Kelly Ware Vote: All Ayes

## **Public Safety Longevity**

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Shearer readdressed the request to increase the longevity pay for the full-time sworn officers of the police and fire department (participants in the Police and Fire 1977 Pension Fund). To stay competitive with the surrounding communities, he asked that longevity be increased from \$100 to \$200 per year with the maximum of \$6,000 at 30 years. In addition, he asked that their salary for 2019 be increased by two percent. He noted that the longevity pay would be paid solely from the Public Safety LIT Fund, which was established by the county to help with the Police and Fire budgets. Discussion led to the following.

Motion to approve a two percent pay increase for 2019 and to increase longevity to \$200 per year for sworn

full time police and fire: Ken Schuman Second: Becky Gray

Roll Call Vote: Kelly Ware – Abstain Chris Fought – Aye Ken Schuman – Aye

Julia Bell – Aye Becky Gray – Aye

## **New Business**

### **Advanced Metal Etching – Tax Abatement Request**

Advance Metal Etching presented a request for tax abatement for new equipment. The Redevelopment Commission recommended a 10-year abatement.

Findings of fact were conducted by City Attorney Clouse.

Motion to approve the Findings of Fact regarding tax abatement for Advanced Metal Etching: Ken Schuman Second: Julia Bell Vote: All Ayes

Resolution 0723-2018 approving tax abatement on the equipment was available for approval.

Motion to pass Resolution 0723-2018 approving 10-year tax abatement to Advance Metal Etching for new equipment: Ken Schuman Second: Julia Bell Vote: All Ayes

#### Ordinance 921-2018 (Establishing Fund 475)

Ordinance 921-2018 establishing a non-reverting fund for the construction and maintenance of the Strawberry Valley Trails was available for passage.

Motion to pass Ordinance 921-2018 on the first reading: Chris Fought

Second: Kelly Ware Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules: Chris Fought Second: Kelly Ware Vote: All Ayes

Motion to pass Ordinance 921-2018 on the second reading: Chris Fought

Second: Kelly Ware Vote: All Ayes

Motion to pass Ordinance 921-2018 on the third and final reading: Chris Fought

Second: Kelly Ware Vote: All Ayes

### Salary Increase for 2019

Mayor Fisel recommended a 2.5% pay increase for 2019 for all civil employees and elected officials.

Motion to approve a 2.5% pay increase for 2019 for all civil employees and elected officials: Julia Bell

Second: Becky Gray Vote: All Ayes

#### **Updated Capital Plan for 2018 and 2019**

Earlier in the year, department heads met with Umbaugh and the city engineers to revise the five-year comprehensive capital plan. Several changes were made to the plan, including a few new items and change of funding source for others for 2018. Council was asked to approve the changes to proceed with the additional appropriation process. The 2019 changes will be included in the 2019 budget.

Motion to approve the 2018 Capital Plan revisions: Chris Fought Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes

**Claim Registers – APV #54615-54749** 

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

#### **Comments by Members of Council and Administration**

#### **Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver**

The fire department cleaned the downtown sidewalks this past weekend.

#### **Street Superintendent Mike Burdette**

- Staff is busy painting curbs in preparation for the start of school which is earlier this year.
- Will be grinding stumps this week in connection with Operation Foundation.

## **Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle**

- S & S is wrapping up the water project. Paving is about complete. A punch list was prepared today which includes things such as grass seed, and dirt, touch up paint. They anticipate being done in about a week.
- Controls at the plant will be switched over tomorrow.

## **WWTP Superintendent Kenny Sprague**

The one-year warranty walk through on the wastewater project was completed. Just a few minor things which will be addressed.

### **Park Director Alan Duncan**

• Two new treadmills for the women's workout room were purchased with the remaining CEDIT funds budgeted for the furnace.

## **City Engineer Rick Pharis**

- Bids for the Union Street paving will be opened at 1:30 and quotes for the Wastewater paving at 1:45 on Tuesday and awarded at the Redevelopment Commission meeting on Wednesday.
- Quotes for the Third Street extension at Bowery going into the new compost site will be opened at 2:00 on Tuesday and awarded at the Board of Works meeting on Wednesday.
- The community crossings paving project will be beginning soon.

## **Council Member Kelly Ware**

Thanks to Mike and Street Department staff for picking up the brush that was collecting on West Second St.

### **Council Member Chris Fought**

Operation Foundation starts Wednesday through Saturday. Headquarters is at the Strongtower Worship Center (Old Elks Building). Thanks to the city for their cooperation and assistance.

#### Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

• Plan to have the public hearing for the budget on September 24 with adoption on October 22. These are very important meetings. Appreciate council's attendance for them.

#### **Mayor Fisel's Comments**

Trish Clark resigned from both the BZA and Park Board. There is also still a vacancy on the Plan Commission. Need to appoint replacements. If you know of anyone willing to serve, please let me know.

## Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman Second: Chris Fought

Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer Patricia Fisel, Mayor