

Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, December 14, 2020 · Ligonier City Hall
301 South Cavin Street · Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Public Hearing JSCC & Superior Coatings Abatement Waivers of Non-Compliance

Matt Brinkman of Region 3a was present to assist JSCC and Superior Coatings with non-compliance waiver for tax abatement. The provision set forth in Indiana code would normally require a company to apply for abatement prior to work being done. JSCC and Superior Coatings do have work in progress. Therefore, to qualify for abatement, a public hearing must be held, and council must pass a waiver of non-compliance.

Gary Gatman of Noble County Economic Corporation was in attendance and spoke in favor of granting abatement. The company has an innovative product which he is excited to see produced in the Ligonier facility.

There were no further comments from the public and the hearing was closed.

Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Common Council Meeting

Roll Call

Present: Council President Ken Schuman, Council Members Chris Fought, Doretta Wiegand, and Julia Bell
Mayor Patty Fisel, City Attorney Steve Clouse, and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn
Absent: Council Member Bill Mills

Minutes from previous meeting of November 23, 2020

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Presentation to Tim Buchanan

Mayor Fisel presented a 15 year award to Tim Buchanan of the Water Department with congratulations from the city.

JSCC Tax Abatement

Resolution 1214-2020A

This resolution states that the noncompliance committed by the taxpayer (JSCC Properties LLC) by not applying for a deduction of assessed valuation prior to the purchase and rehabilitation of real property be waived by the Ligonier City Council and that this waiver shall only apply to the deduction of assessed valuation for future property tax liabilities.

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Resolution 1214-2020B

This resolution grants tax abatement for 10 years on real property for JSCC Properties at 1201 Gerber Street Ligonier, IN for building rehabilitation of \$1,500,000.00. On November 10, 2020, the Redevelopment Commission recommended granting abatement for 10 years.

Motion to approve a 10-year real property tax abatement for JSCC Properties: Julia Bell

Second: Ken Schuman

Vote: All Ayes

Superior Coatings Tax Abatement

Resolution 1214-2020C

This resolution states that the noncompliance committed by the taxpayer (Superior Coatings LLC) by not applying for a deduction of assessed valuation prior to the purchase and rehabilitation of personal property be waived by the Ligonier City Council and that this waiver shall only apply to the deduction of assessed valuation for future property tax liabilities.

Motion to approve: Chris Fought

Second: Ken Schuman

Vote: All Ayes

Resolution 1214-2020D

This resolution grants tax abatement for 5 years on personal property for JSCC Properties at 1201 Gerber Street Ligonier, IN for manufacturing and R & D Equipment of \$1,200,000.00. On November 10, 2020, the Redevelopment Commission recommended granting abatement for 5 years.

Motion to approve a 5-year personal property abatement for Superior Coatings: Chris Fought

Second: Ken Schuman

Vote: All Ayes

Ordinance 951-2020 (Amended Salary Ordinance for 2021)

Revisions were necessary to add the IT/Facilities Director Position, the Assistant Chief of Police Position, and the change for the Detective/Sergeant Position from salary to an hourly pay.

Motion to approve Ordinance 951-2020 on the first reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to approve Ordinance 951-2020 on the second reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to approve Ordinance 951-2020 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Snow Route – Glaser Addition

The Glaser Addition allows no parking on either side of the street. This creates a problem for the residents living there as they and their guests can only park in their driveways. Chief Shearer would like to change the no parking to one side only, no parking on the north side of El Dorado and Cadillac, and no parking on the east side of Seville. He would like to establish a snow route so that during a snow emergency the vehicles may not be on either side. This will require an amendment to the traffic ordinance which we would have City Attorney Clouse prepare for the next meeting.

Motion to approve: Chris Fought

Second: Ken Schuman

Vote: All Ayes

City Hall AV Upgrades

A quote on AV equipment for City Hall and the Police Dept. was presented from Fairchild Communications (formerly CWS) in the amount of \$26,152. Council was asked to consider approving the upgrade using funds from the General Fund provided through the reimbursement of COVID/Cares Relief Grant Funds. This project would be completed after the first of the year as additional appropriations will be necessary.

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

December 28, 2020 Meeting

Council was asked if they wanted to hold the December 28 meeting or to cancel due to the closeness of the holidays.

Motion to cancel the December 28th Meeting pending any emergency: Chris Fought

Second: Ken Schuman

Vote: All Ayes

Claim Registers – APV #61467-61518

Motion to approve: Julie Ball

Second: Chris Fought

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- The leaves have all be hauled to farmland.
- The trucks switched over to plow.

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- A couple of changes in the SOP's will be forwarded for review, along with the job description for the Assistant Chief. Will ask for approval at the first meeting in January.

Park Director Travis Brimhall

- The asphaltting of the roads into Woodlawn Park was completed.
- Disc Golf has been a good addition to Kenney Park. The course is being used even in the colder weather.

City Engineer Rick Pharis

- Stormwater project will begin in January.
- The north Welcome sign is up. The one on Lincolnway will be up this week.
- Blessed Christmas and looking forward to a great 2021.

Council President Ken Schuman

- Merry Christmas to everyone.

Council Member Julia Bell

- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Council Member Doretta Wiegand

- 2021 is coming - hang in there – there is light at the end of the tunnel. Merry Christmas.

City Attorney Steve Clouse

- Merry Christmas. Thanks for your trust. Look forward to great 2021.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- Take home vehicles for the department heads was previously discussed. Our policy book already has a provision for take home vehicles although it is not specific to the positions covered. Council was asked to consider if they want to leave the policy as is or to make it more specific. A sample from Albion was provided showing how specific their policy is. Will come back for discussion in January.
- There will be funds to encumber from 2020 to 2021 for projects that have not yet been completely finished this year but need to be paid with 2020 budget appropriations. A list will be provided at the next meeting.

Mayor Fisel's Comments

- Thank you to everyone. We do not always take time to realize the good that we do have. Appreciate the job everyone does. We are here to serve the citizens. Wish everyone a most blessed Christmas

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman

Second: Chris Fought


Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer


Patricia Fisel, Mayor