

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, June 26, 2023 · Ligonier City Hall
301 South Cavin Street · Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Call to order by Mayor Earle Franklin

Roll Call

Present: Council Members Ken Schuman, Council Member Chris Fought, Doretta Wiegand, Julia Bell, and Matt Kreager
Mayor Earle Franklin, City Attorney Jack Birch, and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn

Minutes from previous meeting of June 12, 2023

Motion to approve: Julia Bell

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 990-2023 (Cross Connection Control-Revised)

At the June 12, 2023 meeting, the ordinance was tabled for further information. The revised ordinance was presented for passage.

Motion to pass Ordinance 990-2023 on the first reading: Chris Fought

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules: Chris Fought

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to pass Ordinance 990-2023 on the second reading: Chris Fought

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to pass Ordinance 990-2023 on the third and final reading: Chris Fought

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Elkhart Township Fire Contract for 2024-2025

At the June 12, 2023 meeting, the Council voted to hold the 2023 pricing of the Elkhart Township Fire Contract for two additional years after hearing from Township Trustee Donna Schwartz. The contract was presented for approval.

Motion to approve: Matt Kreager

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Star of the West Tax Abatement (Real and Personal Property)

Star of the West is building a new building and purchasing new equipment for their mill in Ligonier. The Redevelopment Commission recommended that the Council approve a 10-year tax abatement for both the real and personal property. Members of Star of the West were in attendance to give an overview of their project and answer questions. Ken Schuman stated that the Mill has been in business for 150 years and are investing 120 million dollars in our community which will benefit us for years to come, which led to the following.

Motion to approve a 10-year tax abatement for the real property for Star of the West and pass Resolution

0626A-2023: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to approve a 10-year tax abatement for the personal property for Star of the West and pass

Resolution 0626B-2023: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Claim Registers – APV # 68310-68432

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- Thanks to the other departments for helping to get the streets cleaned and opened up after the storm yesterday.

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- After going through our 57 policies, we have completed the accreditation process and we will be presenting for approval at our upcoming conference. The holding cells are no longer being used. It helped having Police Secretary Kelly Janes assist Chris Shearer by matching the standards with our policies.
- Will accept our SRO National Conference Model Agency this Friday.
- Will be bringing a Memorandum of Understanding with WNSC with regards to the SRO Program to the Board of Works. This is now mandatory by July 1, 2023.

Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle

- This Thursday and Friday the final taps on the Main Street project will be done so we can start the street project.

Park Director John Parrish

- There was considerable damage in Kenney Park from the Sunday storm. We had six trees down with four on the track. There were also power lines down and AEP responded within a half hour. Everything was cleared by 9:00 pm last night.

Council Member Julia Bell

- Addressed the Park Department stating we need handicapped equipment in the parks. Nothing for them to play on. John Parrish has already started looking into this for our future budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- Asked the council to consider changing the garage sale policy. The current policy allows two garage sales per year for two consecutive days with no Sunday sales. This policy was set in the 1980's. Would like to see changes made that are not as restrictive. The Plan Commission will address this in their next meeting.

Mayor Earle Franklin

- Thanks to Jack for his help with the necessary paperwork we have had to do recently.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Chris Fought

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes



Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer



Earle Franklin, Mayor