

Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, October 11, 2021 · Ligonier City Hall
301 South Cavin Street · Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Common Council Meeting

Roll Call

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

Minutes from previous meeting of September 27, 2021

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

Citizens Comments

Denise Landers – Crossroads United Way

Ms. Landers is the Regional Development Coordinator for Crossroads United Way. The Noble County chapter merged with Elkhart and LaGrange County and brought backing and programming to Noble County which were not available at that time. She distributed flyers of some of the programs in Noble County and stressed that funds raised in Noble County are used in Noble County. She stated that every dollar donated can equal four dollars through community grant matches. They are currently in their campaign season.

Alondra Muro - Ligonier

Alondra is an eighth grader attending West Noble and recently moved here from California. She likes to be involved in the community and just wanted to introduce herself.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 964-2021 (2022 Budget)

The budget ordinance passed on the first reading at the meeting of September 13, 2021 and was available for second and third readings.

***Motion to pass Budget 2022 Ordinance 964-2021 on the second reading: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to pass Budget 2022 Ordinance 964-2021 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes***

Ordinance 966-2021 (Water Bond)

The water bond Ordinance 966-2021 passed on the first reading at the meeting of September 25, 2021 and was available for second and third readings.

***Motion to pass Water Bond Ordinance 966-2021 on the second reading: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes***

***Motion to pass Water Bond Ordinance 966-2021 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought Vote: All Ayes***

New Business

Wright Street Extension – Property Purchase

Omega Healthcare is agreeable to a sale price of \$8,500 for property for an extension of Wright Street. They are willing to sign a quit claim deed and offer a special warranty deed but not a general warranty deed.

***Motion to authorize Steve to contract with the title company for title insurance: Chris Fought
Second: Ken Schuman Vote: All Ayes***

COVID Sick Leave

The mandatory sick pay expired on December 31, 2021. Council extended the pay to March 31, 2021. Mayor Fisel stated that at the AIM Summit a few Mayors discussed the possibility of offering benefits to those who are vaccinated. Steve contacted the attorney for the city and needs further information.

Claim Registers – APV # 63677-63819

Motion to approve: Chris Fought Second: Doretta Wiegand Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver

- The capital plan calls for an Aerial Truck in 2023. The lead time is approximately 15-month. We will still need to get a commitment from Redevelopment Commission to pay for the first two payments from Guardian TIF which is laid out in the capital plan. Chief Weaver asked for the approval to proceed with the plan pending the RDC commitment and order the truck now so that it arrives in 2023.

The Aerial Truck can help with the fire rating. With the new station we will have room to house an aerial.

Motion to allow the purchase contingent on the RDC commitment: Ken Schuman
Second: Chris Fought *Vote: All Ayes*

- The construction crew continues work on the new fire station. They had to redo parts of the roofing. The front garage doors are going up this week.

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- Garcia, the concrete subcontractor, is working on the curbs on Martin Street.
- Will start leaf pick up the third week of October.

Park Director Travis Brimhall

- Farmers Market and Flag Football ended last Saturday.
- The new gym floor at the Rec Center should be completed by October 25.
- Water was shut off in the parks and the restrooms are now closed.

Council Member Chris Fought

- Asked about lawn clippings left on the street. Street Superintendent Burdette said the street department will pick up about once a week.
- Opinion on the COVID leave would be that it should be on everyone and not just for certain people.

Council Member Doretta Wiegand

- Inquired whether the Police Department has a chip scanner for dogs. Chief Shearer stated they do not. She will work to obtain one to scan the dogs. The majority are now chipped. It would be helpful if the Police Department had one for after hours when the Animal Clinic is closed.

Mayor Fisel's Comments

- The wage study from Baker Tilly is nearly ready for council. This will allow us to address the positions which the study shows underpaid. In addition, Mayor Fisel recommended 2.5% increase for next year for everyone.

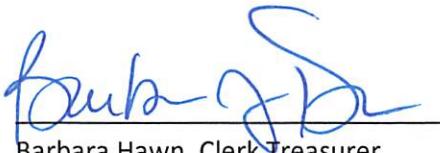
Motion: Ken Schuman *Second: Chris Fought* *Vote: All Ayes*

The salary ordinance will be available at the next meeting to meet the November 1, 2021 passage deadline.

- A notification from IDEM was received stating an air permit for Forest River Plant #91 was approved.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman *Second: Chris Fought*



Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer



Patricia Fisel, Mayor