

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, September 26, 2022 · Ligonier City Hall
301 South Cavin Street · Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Call to order by Council President Ken Schuman

Roll Call

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

Minutes from previous meeting of September 12, 2022

Motion to approve: Chris Fought

Second: Matt Kreager

Vote: All Ayes

Procedure for Public Comment

City Attorney Jack Birch let the audience know that the Council intends to hear as much as possible. If you intend to speak up, you must sign up with your name and address for the record.

New Business

Domestic Violence Awareness Proclamation – Noble County Prosecutors Office

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Noble County Victim's Advocate Ashleigh Schalinski was present along with Jody Messer from the Prosecutors Office. They asked the city to join the other communities in the county in proclaiming October Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Ligonier. Ken Schuman read the proclamation which was prepared.

Motion to approve as read: Chris Fought

Second: Ken Schuman

Vote: All Ayes

Tax Abatement for Infinite Resources – Personal Property

Gary Gatman of Noble County EDC and Adam Gerig of Infinite Resources were present to request tax abatement for \$300,000 in equipment for automation. The equipment will eliminate obsolete equipment and add three employees, putting the company in full operation. It includes a robot palletizing system. The Redevelopment Commission recommended a five-year abatement by passing Resolution 0914RDC-2022.

Resolution 0926-2022 (Tax Abatement)

Council Resolution 0926-2022 was available for approval of a five-year abatement.

Motion to approve: Chris Fought

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Claim Registers – APV # 66287-66357

Motion to approve: Julia Bell

Second: Doretta Wiegand

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- Public Safety Days is October 8 at Fashion Farm Pumpkin Fantasyland.

Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle

- Water tower painting continues – hope to be completed in two to three weeks if the weather cooperates.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- The budget adoption will be at the next council meeting on October 10, 2022.

Citizens Comments

- ***Stan Collet – 213 Mercer Street***

Concerns about a dead tree on his neighbor's property that it could possibly fall on his property. City Attorney Birch said the City does not have the authority to take the tree down. Police Chief Bryan Shearer said they would have someone take a look at the situation the following day.

City Attorney Birch provided information regarding the public comments regarding the dismissal of the Park Director. He explained that there would be no specific answers. Employment issues and decisions are a private action and we do not discuss in public. All City Department Heads serve at the mayor's pleasure. The decision was discretionary, and action was taken after hearing from multiple advisors. He stated that council would be taking comments from City Residents and would be allowed three minutes to speak.

- ***Aaron Waggoner – 505 South Main Street***

Mr. Waggoner expressed his displeasure in the action taken to dismiss the Park Director, asking the mayor to reconsider and reinstate.


▪ **David Magnus , 105 West Miller Street**

Mr. Magnus expressed his thoughts about the situation and asked that the city be sure to train the people put into the positions. He thanked the people who came to the meeting and is happy they care about the parks and the city.


Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Chris Fought

Second: Ken Schuman



Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer



Patricia Fisel, Mayor