

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 17, 2005

Invocation was given by Rev. Brant Hazlett of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Tom Meeks, Commissioners, Jack Emmons, John Fearheiley, Mike Witters, and Norm Brunson.

Also Present: City Administrator Merle Weems and City Attorney Tom Price

MAYOR COMMENTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Fearheiley to approve Resolution #509, Support of Commitment of Funds on CDAP Grant in the amount of \$600,000 for Mt. Carmel online economic development project prepared by Greater Wabash Committee. All present voted Aye.

Mayor Meeks recognized all those who provided help with the Wabash River flooding. Many city workers, emergency personnel and volunteers provided equipment and man-hours for the city's protection. "It was a great community effort," Meeks said. City Administrator Merle Weems said that City Inspector Don Price compiled an album of photos of different areas that were flooded along with minutes from the meetings that were held at City Hall. Mayor Meeks noted that City Engineer Mike Neikirk will be working with the Department of Natural Resources to complete a map of the city that highlights potentially-impacted properties at various water levels should the levee break.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

COMMISSIONER JACK EMMONS - FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Commissioner Emmons reported that the bike path on Oak Street is now fully lit, thanks to the efforts of Public Utility. "It really does make a big difference," he commented.

Cash Investment balance as of 1/17/05:	\$130,863.00
Receipts:	23,354.00
Expenses:	53,998.00
Cash Investment Balance:	100,220.00
 Recreation Fund:	13,698.00
Receipts:	0.00
Expenditures:	105.00
Balance:	13593.00
Accounts Payable:	73.00
 Garbage Fund Account beginning Balance:	\$45,054.00
Receipts:	12,947.00
Expenses:	17,714.00
Balance:	40,287.00
Accounts Payable:	1,761.00
 Airport Fund:	(17,879.00)
Receipts:	1,820.00
Expenditures:	2,219.00
Balance:	(18,277.00)
Accounts Receivable:	1,947.00
Accounts Payable:	2,229.00
 Water Fund Account beginning Balance:	\$12,191.00
Receipts:	36,419.00
Expenses:	21,037.00
Balance:	27,573.00
Accounts Payable:	14,852.00
 Sewer Fund Account:	\$6,070.00
Receipts:	\$22,108.00
Expenses:	12,260.00

Balance:	15,918.00
Accounts Payable	6,034.00
Golf Course Fund:	(\$159,374.00)
Receipts:	32,500.00
Expenses:	6,859.00
Balance:	(133,733.00)
Accounts Payable:	3,700.00

COMMISSIONER WITTERS - STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Witters reported that the street department has been very busy this winter. With the busy season, they have not had time to take down the Christmas decorations. The street department hopes to remove those decorations this week. The street department also helped with sandbagging and were out salting the streets after the snowfall on Sunday. Commissioner Witters commended Mayor Meeks for his efforts in getting agencies together to help with the flooding and being the "point person" for communication and decision making.

COMMISSIONER BRUNSON - FIRE, HEALTH & SAFETY, GARBAGE, CITY HALL AND CIVIL DEFENSE

The fire department had one fire run within the past two weeks. The department was also called out a total of 11 times for sandbag unloading and sandbag placing. The fire department's ladder truck that was recently taken out of service for repairs is now back in service. Commissioner Brunson commended Mayor Meeks for taking a week's vacation to help out with the flood-related duties.

COMMISSIONER FEARHEILEY - WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Fearheiley commended his department personnel who have been regularly monitoring the levee system. The water maintenance men have been walking the levee every day, trying to make sure that it was sound and secure. There were a few sand boils pop up from time to time, but were taken care of immediately. Bill Reed, Superintendent of the Water Maintenance Department, asked Commissioner Fearheiley to extend his thanks to Brian Cropper and Craig Racster for always being available with their four wheelers to help bring diesel fuel and hose needed for the levee pumps. Commissioner Fearheiley also thanked Gary Chalcraft for his help in hauling sandbags for the city.

A motion was made by Commissioner Witters and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to approve spending \$11,500 for a 2003 Ford F250 truck for the Street department. All present voted Aye. Mayor Meeks noted that the truck has 15,000 miles on it and was previously leased by Snap-on Tools. The starting asking-price was \$13,500, but City Administrator Merle Weems was able to deal that number down to \$11,500.

A motion was made by Commissioner Witters and seconded by Commissioner Emmons to approve the bid of Jeff Guisewite Inc. in the amount of \$5,800 to tear down a house and out building located at 418 W 4th street. All present voted Aye.

City Attorney Tom Price gave the following report.

The city is acquiring a property at 1203 Market St., which is a vacant house subject of complaints by neighbors because of its condition. The property owner has 30 days to clear any possessions out of the home, after which the city will be looking toward demolition proceedings.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brunson and seconded by Commissioner Emmons to approve Ordinance #837 Amending Maximum Speed Limits in Oak Meadows II Subdivision. All present voted Aye.

City Administrator Merle Weems gave the following report.

The city has met with CGI, Communications, Inc., a company out of Rochester New York who is affiliated with the IL Municipal League, to provide the city with free Web videos for its website. The trade for streaming the Web videos is the opportunity for CGI to sell patriotic banners to local businesses. The banners will feature local companies' names in a two-foot section at the bottom. The city has received permission from Mt. Carmel Public Utility to place the banners on its poles. The city must agree to perform any needed maintenance to the banners.

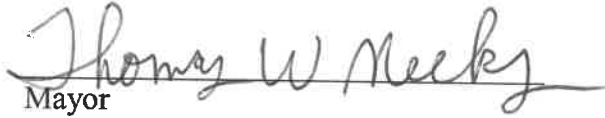
BUSINESS MOTIONS

A motion was made by Commissioner Brunson and seconded by Commissioner Emmons to pay all bills bearing the proper signatures. All present vote Aye.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fearheiley and seconded by Commissioner Brunson to approve the minutes from the last City Council Meeting dated January 3, 2004 All present voted Aye.

The City Council went into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. to discuss city employees. Regular session reconvened at 6:33 p.m. Golf Pro Bruce Bottom and Economic Development Consultant Eric Gregg were both offered contracts for future employment with the City of Mt. Carmel.

Meeting was adjourned.


Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk