

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 1, 2016
5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Reverend Tony Hodgson.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Bill Hudson Commissioners – Eric Ikemire, Joe Judge,
Rod Rodriguez

Also Present: City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman, City Attorney Tom Price
City Inspector Gidcumb

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson read a card from the family of Staff Sargent Kenneth Cunningham thanking the city for bringing the fire department's ladder truck to the memorial service in Albion honoring Kenneth.

Mayor Hudson congratulated the Junior Lady Aces basketball team on their fourth place finish in the recent tournament. Mayor Hudson commended the coaches on their dedication in allowing the girls to reach the state play-offs.

Mayor Hudson stated the College Drive project is hit and miss at this time due to the weather conditions. Mayor Hudson reminded citizens to please be very careful while driving down College Drive.

Mayor Hudson reiterated at the last council meeting Vikram Singh had inquired about the availability of a Class C Liquor License. Mr. Singh was informed a license was not available, at that time. Mayor Hudson stated the city council's position is to encourage businesses not discourage them. Mayor Hudson recommended that the council consider changing the ordinance to allow an increase in the number of Class C Liquor Licenses. Mayor Hudson asked City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman and City Attorney Tom Price to formulate a new ordinance that will be compatible with the City of Mount Carmel. Mr. Singh would then be offered the Class C License first by the city.

Mayor Hudson announced step one in the cleaning up of downtown Mount Carmel. Mayor Hudson stated the details were worked out on the purchase of the Hadley Building and the vacant lot south of the building. Mayor Hudson asked the council's approval for the purchase of the properties. Mayor Hudson acknowledged City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman, who gave an explanation regarding the pending purchase. City Administrative Witsman stated the vacant lot south of the Hadley Building is currently owned by Larry and Cathy Kieffer and may be purchased for \$4000.00. City Administrative Assistant Witsman added the Hadley Building may be purchased for \$640.00 from the Wabash County Trustee. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated it has been the goal of this council and previous councils to get access to the Hadley property in order to have it demolished. City Administrative Assistant Witsman explained the monies will come from the new TIF and one of the reasons the TIF was developed to was to allow for the improvement of the downtown area.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department has cleaned intakes; plowed and salted streets; cleaned and salted sidewalks at City Hall and the Senior Citizen Center; cut down and cleaned up trees; worked on rebuilding side brooms for the street sweeper; replaced damaged and faded stop signs; and worked on servicing equipment for the Parks/Recreation Department and the Street Department.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures – See attached agenda with financials.

Commissioner Judge reported the city's budget is holding stable even though the winter time is hard on equipment, which causes expenditures to increase. Commissioner Judge asked department heads to "keep up the good work". Commissioner Judge added the State of Illinois still does not have a balanced budget.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar absent.

COMMISSIONER ROD RODRIGUEZ – FIRE, HEALTH & SAFETY, GARBAGE, CITY HALL AND CIVIL DEFENSE

Commissioner Rodriguez reported in the two last weeks the fire department inspected Dr. Anadkat's Office, Oakview Heights, and the Wabash County Museum for smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, and exit signs/areas. Commissioner Rodriguez stated the fire department also had three runs in the last two weeks.

Commissioner Rodriguez announced March 13th is the Twelfth Annual Guns and Hoses Event. All the proceeds from the event will go to the ShoCap Program, which benefits juvenile children.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman asked for the council's approval to appoint Phillip Kingsbury to the Fireman's Pension Board.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported the swimming pool liner for the eleven foot area needs replaced, per the gentleman who performs yearly routine maintenance on the pool. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated he has searched for grants to offset the expense, but was unsuccessful in doing so. City Administrative Assistant Witsman added the pool liner had a ten year warranty and the liner has lasted twenty years. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated he has received a price from the company that supplied the liner the last time and the total price for the liner and installation will be close to \$46,000. City Administrative Assistant Witsman asked for direction from the council on the matter. The council agreed action needed to be taken in order for the pool to be open by Memorial Day Weekend. City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced the city will readily accept contributions from any civic minded persons.

CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE

City Attorney Price no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb reported he has been working on and printing maps for the Wabash County Emergency Management Agency. A printer had previously been donated by the agency and WEMA Coordinator Gerald Brooks recently donated ink cartridges for that project. City Inspector Gidcumb stated this is a good example of the city and county are working together.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Judge seconded to approve Ordinance 1045 to authorize the expenditure of \$4000.00 from TIF funds for the purchase of the vacant lot at 414 North Market Street from Larry and Cathy Kieffer. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Rodriguez seconded to approve Ordinance 1045 to authorize the expenditure of \$640.00 from TIF funds for the purchase of the lot and building at 416 North Market Street from the Wabash County Trustee. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Ikemire seconded to approve the expenditure of \$46,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund to purchase and install a new liner for the swimming pool. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Rodriguez seconded to approve the appointment of Phillip Kingsbury to The Fireman's Pension Board. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Rodriguez seconded to approve the Minutes from regular meeting of City Council held on January 18, 2016. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

Commissioner Judge and Commissioner Ikemire seconded to pay all bills bearing the proper signatures. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk