

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, February 15, 2016

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Terry Beckerman.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Bill Hudson Commissioners – Eric Ikemire, Joe Judge,  
Justin Dulgar

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

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Terry Beckerman, who announced the Seventeenth Annual Ribberfest event will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Beckerman was seeking the council's approval to close Market Street from the intersection of Third and Market up to the intersection of Sixth and Market Streets. Mr. Beckerman asked that the street closure begin on the afternoon of Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday Morning, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Ikemire recommended the street closure to include Third Street from Market to Cherry Street for the Kiwanis' Downhill Derby event, which will be held on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mayor Hudson thanked the street department crew for cleaning the streets yesterday after the snow. Mayor Hudson asked the general public to please drive carefully in the snow.

Mayor Hudson gave kudos to the Wabash Valley College Foundation on another successful Crystal Ball event, which was held on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Hudson reminded residents to please check on their neighbors during the cold winter weather, especially if they are elderly.

Mayor Hudson reported the College Drive project is on-going, weather permitting and asked citizens to please be careful while driving in that area.

Mayor Hudson asked residents to please be careful while driving in town especially in the afternoon of Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, as the Mardi Gras Walk/Run event is to be held on that day.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

#### **COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS**

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department has plowed and salted the streets; cleaned and salted the sidewalks at City Hall and the Senior Citizens Center; worked on servicing mowers for the Parks Department for the spring mowing; started servicing the Holland tractor and the bush hog mower; replaced "faded" stop signs; did repairs to one of the city's trailers that had been damaged.

#### **COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS**

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

Commissioner Judge stated the city's expenditures have gone up in the last two weeks. Commissioner Judge reported however, the replacement income tax, the state use tax and the income tax revenues are all up from this time last year. Commissioner Judge stated those gains are very welcome and the city's budget is holding steady.

## **COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER**

Commissioner Dulgar reported the wastewater plant has been performing standard maintenance and the grit collector that is down should be operational in a couple weeks. The ammonia project is moving forward at the wastewater plant and those bids should be released in the spring.

Commissioner Dulgar stated the water maintenance department cleaned out the deep end of the swimming pool getting it ready for the new liner, flushed hydrants to help alleviate some of the water issues, repaired water leaks, and cleaned the maintenance building office, as well as performing standard maintenance.

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water plant lost all power over the weekend and was unable to pump any water while repairs were being made. There was enough water, however in the reserves to supply water for the day. Commissioner Dulgar stated the water plant crew has been working on getting the cross connections surveys ready to mail. The State of Illinois requires the surveys be mailed every three years.

Commissioner Dulgar addressed the water taste and odor issues that the city has had for years. Commissioner Dulgar stated when the issues occur, not everyone in the city is affected and the issues come and go by themselves, which makes it very difficult to resolve the problem. Commissioner Dulgar reported the water is tested daily and samples are sent to the EPA, as required. Each time the tests results come back relatively normal and the water is always safe to drink. Commissioner Dulgar stated it is his opinion that it is time to look for permanent fixes. Commissioner Dulgar reported he has consulted with Lamac Engineering; has toured the new water facility at Lawrenceville; and will be touring Newton's facility this Friday, where softened water is produced. Commissioner Dulgar added he recently attended a meeting with the Cities of Grayville and Albion, they are considering building a new water treatment facility together. Commissioner Dulgar stated, in his opinion, the city needs to consider refurbishing its' existing water treatment facility, building a new facility with new water wells, or joining the Cities of Albion and Grayville in the building of a regional water treatment facility. Commissioner Dulgar announced an engineering study needs to be done to help determine which would be the best choice and the most cost effective for the City of Mount Carmel. Commissioner Dulgar asked that the council consider making the investment of \$20,000 to have the study done.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez was absent. Fire Chief Francis Speth reported the fire department had nine runs in the last two weeks and had fire training the previous Monday.

## **CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN**

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported since the last council meeting Mr. Rafferty has surrendered one of the two Class C Liquor License, which he purchased. City Administrative Witsman reiterated the possibility of generating another Class C Liquor license had been addressed at the last council meeting and City Attorney Price has been informed not to create another license, at this time. The surrendered license is now available to anyone who is interested. City Administrative Witsman asked the council's approval for City Attorney Price and himself to update the current language in the liquor license application. The updated application would then be presented to the council for their final approval.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented to the council for their approval Resolution 624, which is the city's yearly support of the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission. The agreement states the city will comment funds in the amount of \$1900.00 to the commission.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the Zoning Board met on February 9<sup>th</sup> and were presented an application for a special use permit to allow a beauty shop in a residence at 627 N. Poplar Street. The surrounding property owners were notified of the special use and there no objectors present at the meeting. The Zoning Board voted in favor of recommending the application with restrictions and conditions. The Zoning Board is asking the council to concur in the approval of the application.

**CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE**

City Attorney Price no report.

**CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB**

City Inspector Gidcumb reported

**BUSINESS MOTIONS**

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve Resolution 624 on support of Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission. All present vote Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Dulgar motioned and Commissioner Ikemire seconded the recommendation of the zoning board for a special use to operate a beauty salon at 627 N. Poplar Street. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve the Minutes from regular meeting of City Council held on February 1, 2016. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk