

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 16, 2015
5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Reverend Tony Hodgson.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Bill Hudson Commissioners – Dick Shoaff, Norm Brunson,
Joe Judge, Rod Rodriguez

Also Present: City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman and City Inspector Mike Gidcumb

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson thanked the street department crew, Superintendent Dave Easter, and Commissioner Joe Judge for the time that was spent, since early morning, with the snow removal. Mayor Hudson stated he has received many compliments and he really appreciates the time that was taken for the removal. Mayor Hudson asked residents to please drive with caution and to please not get out unless it is necessary. The roads are very slick and could get worse with the falling temperatures. Mayor Hudson also asked anyone driving out in the county to please be cautious as well.

Mayor Hudson reported expansion is here, progress is here, and some positive and future projects will be announced in a month or two.

Mayor Hudson asked residents to please check on their neighbors during this cold spell, as the temperatures will be dropping to the single digits.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER DICK SHOAFF – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Commissioner Shoaff reported the Senior Citizens Center was closed today, due to the bad weather. Commissioner Shoaff apologized to the residents who have meals delivered; stating it was too dangerous to be out. If the center has advance warning about bad weather, the home bound residents will have extra frozen meals delivered to them.

Commissioner Shoaff stated the city is on task to pay its bills and is running fine.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Judge reported in the last two weeks the street department has been working on picnic tables and other park equipment, working on mowers, and prepping other equipment for spring.

Commissioner Judge asked if residents, who are shoveling their drives, could try to shovel to the left of the drive about six feet back. This will help prevent the snow plow from plowing the driveways shut. Commissioner Judge asked residents to please take their time when shoveling and not to over exert themselves.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez stated, due to the weather, Republic Services will be running one day behind on the trash pick-up.

Commissioner Rodriguez announced the Bellmont Fire Department will be having their annual chili fundraising dinner on Saturday, February 28th. Commissioner Rodriguez also announced the Twelfth Annual Guns and Hoses benefit will be held on Sunday, March 8th at the Mount Carmel Middle School. The proceeds from the Guns and Hoses event will go the Wabash County Youth in Action.

Commissioner Rodriguez stated a 2015 Little League Registration will be on March 14th, with sign-ups being held at South School and NICE School. The opening day for Little League will be on Saturday May 2nd.

Commissioner Rodriguez reported in the last two weeks the fire department had six runs.

COMMISSIONER NORMAN BRUNSON – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Brunson reported the wastewater plant is operating satisfactorily. During the last two weeks, the regular duties have been performed, as well as preventative maintenance orders. Commissioner Brunson stated, per Wastewater Plant Superintendent Josh Peach, the final bids for the spec upgrades could be available by March 1st, 2015. Commissioner Brunson reported the water treatment plant has been doing general maintenance in and around the plant. The clarifier was drained and cleaned to alleviate the taste and odor complaints. The water maintenance department has been doing general maintenance throughout the system. The department rebuilt the well number one's motor and returned it to service, installed a new water meter for new a business at 921 North Market Street, and jetted the sewer main on College Drive, so pictures could be taken of the line with the video camera.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported on the Ordinance 1029, which is a cooperative agreement with Shopko and their recently completed pharmacy expansion. The city agreed, through the TIF program, to assist Shopko with ten percent of their construction costs up to \$30,000. Shopko's total expense was \$198,250 and the city will reimburse them \$19,825.

City Administrative Witsman stated Ordinance 1030 is an ordinance for the proposed water rate increase, which is due to the EPA enforced wastewater plant construction needed to control the ammonia levels. The amount of the increase is \$2.50 and in another year an additional increase of sixty-eight cents will be added. This meeting constitutes the first reading of Ordinance 1030.

CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE

City Attorney Price absent.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb stated the order for the email billing software has been placed and should be ready in approximately four weeks. The form has to be created and then set up in the water billing system.

City Inspector Gidcumb reiterated that a lot of construction is ongoing throughout the city.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Commissioner Shoaff motioned and Commissioner Judge seconded to approve Ordinance 1029 TIF agreement with Shopko. Waive second reading. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Brunson seconded to approve the Minutes from regular meeting of City Council held on February 2, 2015. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk