

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 14, 2016

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Reverend Tony Hodgson.

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

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 Crystal Tennis who was seeking council approval to set up her mobile snow cone stand, The Ten Ice Cone, at the city pool this summer. Mayor Hudson stated because of the children leaving the enclosed pool area to purchase snow cones and for liability reasons the request could not be approved. Ms. Tennis stated she has other locations she has checked into for the set-up of the stand, one of the places being the Little League baseball fields. Mayor Hudson acknowledged Commissioner Dulgar who suggested that Ms. Tennis attend the Little League meeting this coming Sunday and present her request.

Mayor Hudson congratulated "The Guns" on their win at the Guns and Hoses Basketball Event on Sunday, March 13th.

Mayor Hudson passed on sympathy to Wabash County Chamber of Commerce Director Lesley Hipsher and her family in the passing of her father over the weekend.

Mayor Hudson reported the new water main line along College Drive is now connected all the way to Oak Street and Wabash Valley College. Residential hook-up connections will now be starting and the new sidewalks then be constructed; weather permitting.

Mayor Hudson stated the deep end of the swimming pool has all been stripped and is almost ready for the new liner. The installation of the new liner depends on the weather, as well.

Mayor Hudson announced residents may soon see a new look along Market Street, due to the façade grant program. This program is being made available through the TIF.

Mayor Hudson reminded citizens to please vote tomorrow, Tuesday, March 15th.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department has patched potholes; cleaned intakes; finished removing trees for the wastewater plant's new outfall line; continued servicing mowers for the spring mowing season; filled in sunken graves at Rose Hill Cemetery and cleaned up around some headstones; and jetted out plugged storm sewers.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Commissioner Judge reported it will soon be time for the new budget year and asked department heads to please submit their budgets to City Comptroller Mick Mollenhauer for review. Commissioner Judge stated if department heads would like to see their individual department's electrical utility costs, that report is now available. Commissioner Judge stated the video gaming

revenue is up from previous months. Commissioner Judge reported the State of Illinois is up to date on all monies due the city except MFT reimbursements.

Commissioner Judge announced the new blinds have been installed at the Senior Citizens Center and the new carpet should hopefully be installed soon, which is due to individual donations.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water treatment facility crew has been cleaning up outside around the plant; spraying for weeds in anticipation of the spring weed growth; cleaning up and getting the chemical building ready to be painted as well as performing standard maintenance. Commissioner Dulgar reiterated Hydro-Max will be here in the next few weeks to give their options and opinions regarding the water taste and odor issues. Commissioner Dulgar asked the council to continue to be thinking about conducting the engineering study for the water treatment facility. The study would assess the plant as well as provide data for future needs. These needs are renovation of the existing facility, or building a new facility, or creating a regional facility with surrounding communities. Commissioner Dulgar stated he will revisit the possibility of the study at a council meeting in the near future.

Commissioner Dulgar reported the bids for the outfall line at the wastewater facility will be released soon. Commissioner Dulgar thanked Street Department Superintendent Dave Easter and his crew for their hard work in getting that area cleaned up in a timely manner.

Commissioner Dulgar stated the water maintenance department has been performing its standard maintenance and have been busy assisting on the College Drive project.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez thanked everyone that assisted with the Guns and Hoses event. It was a successful event and fun was had by all.

Commissioner Rodriguez reported the fire department had twelve runs in the last two weeks. Commissioner Rodriguez thanked Keensburg Fire Chief Wayne Hocking for conducting the three days of Water/Land fire training. The fire departments that attended the training sessions were Allendale, Mount Carmel, Keensburg, Belmont and Albion.

Commissioner Rodriguez announced April 4th through April 8th is Spring Fix-Up/Clean-Up Week. Commissioner Rodriguez stated Republic Services will not pick up electronics, cans of paint, appliances, or piles of construction materials.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced the façade grant program applications are prepared and now ready. The initial project for this year will be available on a first come first serve basis. The City is contributing \$10,000 of TIF funds for this project.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated this meeting constitutes the second reading of Ordinance 1046, which will increase the sewer rate. City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented the ordinance to the council for approval.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reiterated the proposed language changes to the Liquor Ordinance had been presented to the council for discussion at a previous meeting. City Administrative Assistant Witsman gave a brief overview of the proposed changes and asked for direction from the council regarding the proposals. After discussing the proposals, the council members decided to table a decision until a later date. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated he will take the suggestions by the Council into consideration and will present an updated overview at the next council meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE

City Attorney Price no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb absent.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Commissioner Dulgar motioned and Commissioner Judge seconded to approve Ordinance 1046 – Sewer Rate Increase. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of City Council held on February 29, 2016. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk