

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 9, 2016

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Terry Beckerman.

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
City Inspector Mike Gidcumb

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Chris Cunningham of Brewsky's Tavern, who was seeking the council's approval to allow Brewsky's Tavern to qualify for the Sunday sale of alcohol. Mr. Cunningham had attended the previous council meeting and was in attendance again, asking if the council had reached a decision. Mayor Hudson stated to qualify for Sunday sales of alcohol fifty percent or more of a "restaurant's" sales have to be food. The council decided to take under consideration Mr. Cunningham's request and to table a decision at this time.

Mayor Hudson thanked the police department, the street department, Mount Carmel Public Utility, Wabash County School District #348 employees, Jeff Linson and employees, Jeff Guisewite and employees, and all the volunteers who assisted with storm damage at Mount Carmel Middle School. Mayor Hudson also thanked the Mount Carmel Fire Department, the Allendale Fire Department and the Keensburg Fire Department for their great efforts in handling a residential fire on West Fifth Street this past Saturday night.

Mayor Hudson reported the HazMat team from Mount Vernon handled the chlorine leak at the Wastewater Plant today. A precautionary evacuation was implemented, which included South School. Mayor Hudson thanked First Baptist Church for opening their doors to those students and any other evacuees. The "all-clear" came at approximately 11:30 this morning.

Mayor Hudson stated that residents may put out their small limbs from the recent storms for the brush crew to pick up or residents may take their "brush" to the city's yard waste site. The site will be open all week to accommodate any residents who wish to haul their own brush.

Mayor Hudson announced the College Drive project is progressing well but is still contingent on the weather.

Mayor Hudson reported lifeguarding certification classes will be held at the Wabash Valley College swimming pool on Sunday, May 15 at 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Mayor Hudson announced this year's theme for the Fantastic Fourth Celebration is the "Sweet Land of Liberty".

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department cleaned intakes; loaded and hauled off storm damage; mowed parks, ballparks, and city property by the levee; patched potholes; cut down and cleaned up a tree; and did repair work on storm sewers.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Commissioner Judge reported the city is holding its own as far as its finances and is paying its bills. Commissioner Judge stated the Senior Citizens Center fixes a nice luncheon meal and is available for anyone regardless of age.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar reported the wastewater plant had a chlorine leak at approximately 7:00 am this morning. Lead Operator Josh Peach and his employees immediately evacuated the building. Commissioner Dulgar thanked the police and fire departments for their quick response and for evacuating the necessary residents. Commissioner Dulgar also thanked the MABUS Hazmat team from Mount Vernon for handling the situation. Commissioner Dulgar stated the situation was unfortunate but thankfully no one was hurt.

Commissioner Dulgar stated Jeff Linson and his workers have started work on the Water Treatment Plant's roof. Commissioner Dulgar reported the Water Treatment Plant has been performing its standard maintenance and Lead Operator Keith Reed attended a training meeting in Dieterich, Illinois.

Commissioner Dulgar thanked water maintenance workers Brian Cropper and Jon Mayhue for their assistance with a sponsor sign at the Little League Park. Commissioner Dulgar reported the water maintenance department continued to assist with the College Drive project; used the jet truck in Keensburg to clean out a sewer main; and continued to perform its standard maintenance.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez thanked Waste Water Plant Lead Operator Josh Peach for his fast response and for leading his employees to safety during the chlorine leak. Commissioner Rodriguez thanked Conoco for providing coffee to those who assisted with the leak; Kieffer Brothers Construction for the use of their property; First Baptist Church, Little Italy's and the street department.

Commissioner Rodriguez announced Little League started this past Saturday and thanked the Elks Club for providing volunteers to assist in the concession stand.

Commissioner Rodriguez stated the fire department responded to a fire at 322 West Fifth Street on Saturday evening. Commissioner Rodriguez thanked Conoco for the drinking water they provided to the fire fighters to drink. Commissioner Rodriguez reported the fire department had ten runs in the last two weeks.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated "Praise God" that no one got hurt during the chlorine leak this morning at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced a Cellular Connection employee from the local Verizon store suggested that the city's parks department be considered for a grant. The city did receive a grant donation in the amount of \$365 from Verizon. City Administrative Assistant Witsman thanked the Cellular Connection employees for voluntarily landscaping underneath the sign for the city park and for the grant donation.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported on the State of Illinois' overpayments to the taxing bodies, which was from the Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the City of Mount Carmel has been over allocated \$19,558. The State of Illinois is conducting a preliminary audit of their findings to ensure everything is correct and then in turn will draw up a repayment proposal.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented to the council a proposal from Ken Wood and the Mount Carmel Airport regarding a grant, which could be used to seal the asphalt cracks and used for the marking the runaway/taxi ways at the airport. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated an engineering proposal shows the cost for the project would be \$165,000 and the city's obligation

would be \$16,500. City Administrative Assistant Witsman urged the council to seriously consider the proposal, as the grant is federal monies that allow improvements to be made to the airport.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced, per a request from Mayor Hudson and himself, that a public hearing is scheduled for 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 24th at Parkview Christian Church, regarding the request from Gibson County Mine to mine coal underground at locations that are adjacent to the city limits. City Administrative Assistant Witsman urged citizens who have concerns to please attend the meeting.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated this meeting constitutes the second reading of the liquor Ordinances 1048-1055 and Ordinance 1057. City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented each of the ordinances individually to the council for their approval.

CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE

City Attorney Price no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb reported he worked with Wabash County Emergency Management Agency Coordinator Gerald Brooks in creating a buffer map through the city's GIS mapping program, which was used for this morning's wastewater plant evacuation.

City Inspector Gidcumb stated approximately six months ago the city participated in a water/sewer rate survey conducted by Carbondale, Illinois. City Inspector Gidcumb read a thank you letter for the city's participation. City Inspector Gidcumb also gave an overview of the survey results and stated overall the city's rates and fees are below the average.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve the expenditure of \$16,500 for the crack filling and marking of runways and taxiway at the airport. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve Ordinance 1048. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Dulgar motioned and Commissioner Judge seconded to approve Ordinance 1049. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve Ordinance 1050. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Ikemire seconded to approve Ordinance 1051. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve Ordinance 1052. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Dulgar motioned and Commissioner Ikemire seconded to approve Ordinance 1053. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve Ordinance 1054. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Rodriguez seconded to approve Ordinance 1055. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Dulgar motioned and Commissioner Judge seconded to approve Ordinance 1057 – Home Kitchen. 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 April 25, 2016. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk