

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 22, 2015

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Reverend Tony Hodgson.

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

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

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Dave Stoneberger, who was representing the Wabash County Little League and the Babe Ruth League. The league was seeking the council's approval to install a new sod infield at the West Fourth Street ballfield, at no expense to the city. The council tabled their decision until the next council meeting on July 6th, as the Wabash County Youth in Action and the Men's Softball League may have to relocate an upcoming scheduled events.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Police Chief John Lockhart, who presented to Officer Greg Hart and Officer Art Kimmel their certifications for completing a sixteen hour course to be Child Safety Seat Technicians. The officers volunteered their time to complete the course and the funding was also donated for the course. Police Chief Lockhart announced child safety seat inspection events will be held on September 19th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the fire department and also on October 3rd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Wabash Valley College Health Fest. Police Chief Lockhart stated individuals may also request an inspection at the police station.

Mayor Hudson read a "Thank You" from the Library Board Foundation to the police department, the fire department, the street department, and the city council for the assistance provided during the Library's recent 5K Walk/Run event.

Mayor Hudson announced there will be lots of activities during the upcoming Fantastic Fourth Celebration. The celebration will begin on July 1st with Walk-Up Wednesday at the amphitheater sponsored by Hogg Heaven and the "Proud to be an American" event will be held from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm that same evening. On Thursday, July 2nd the Wabash Senior Citizens will be hosting their annual fish fry; the golf course is offering 18 holes of golf plus golf cart rental for \$22.00 and a family movie night will held at the amphitheater starting at 8:30 pm. On Friday, July 3rd the golf course will again be offering the \$22.00 golf special and a community concert will be at the amphitheater from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. A Veterans Breakfast will be held at the Senior Citizens Center on Saturday, July 4th from 7:30 am to 9:30 am followed by the "Proud to be an American" parade beginning at 10:00 am and another community concert at the amphitheater from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. There will also be a food court at the amphitheater and a Veteran's Luncheon at the VFW. The swimming pool will offer a free swim from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm on July 4th, as well. The fireworks celebration and display will begin at 8:00 pm at Riverview Stadium. The Fantastic Fourth celebration will end with the Rotary Corn Day on Sunday, July 5th.

Mayor Hudson reported on several new improvements throughout the city to include the Chestnut Grove housing and several face lifts on some of the stores in Mount Carmel.

Mayor Hudson stated the swimming pool has a new manager and is operating well.

Mayor Hudson complimented the residents who are keeping their lawns mowed, as this keeps the city looking very nice.

Mayor Hudson reported the fireworks display cost the city \$12,650.00 and the city has received \$7215.00 in donations. Mayor Hudson stated collection buckets will be at the gates at the fireworks display for free will donations and donations can be sent to city hall, as well.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department had patched holes in city streets, cleaned intakes, moved trees and debris from recent storms, filled ruts on the west end of the levee base, repaired an electrical problem at the West Fourth Street ball field, and four of the street department employees attended at safety seminar at Lawrenceville.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Commissioner Judge stated the Senior Citizens Center fish fry will be Thursday, July 2nd with carry-outs starting at 11:00 am and serving for dining in will be from 11:30 to 12:30. Commissioner Judge encouraged residents to please attend the event.

Commissioner Judge reported the SRO Grant has been submitted and hopefully the city will have positive feedback by September 1st. Commissioner Judge thanked Police Chief John Lockhart and City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman for their assistance in submitting the grant.

Commissioner Judge stated the police department would like to express their gratitude to Toyota Manufacturing Incorporated of Indiana for the \$2000 grant to be used for defibrillators. The grant will cover the expense of two of the three defibrillators that the police department is seeking to purchase. Commissioner Judge reiterated that the city is \$1000 short on where they need to be on purchasing the units and stated anyone wishing to make a donation may contact City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman at City Hall.

Commissioner Judge reported the city's finances are holding stable. Commissioner Judge stated he and City Administrative Assistant Witsman had recently spoken with Representative David Reis regarding the State of Illinois' income tax reimbursement, while at a meeting they had attended in Olney. Unfortunately, the city won't have any answers any time soon regarding the issue. Commissioner Judge asked each department to please stay within their budgets for the next quarter and stated their cooperation is very much appreciated.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar reported water maintenance department completed their standard weekly maintenance as well as shutting the levee gates, cleaning and eeling seven sewer mains. Commissioner Dulgar thanked Kieffer Brothers for the use of their jet truck, while the city's is out for repair. Commissioner Dulgar stated the wastewater plant has kept busy due to all the heavy rain. Commissioner Dulgar added the discharge pipe from the wastewater plant to the river cannot be salvaged and a different location is being sought for the new pipe.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez stated during the past two weeks the fire department had eleven runs. Commissioner Rodriguez reported one of the emergency calls was a one and a half mile oil spill. The spill was from Shopko on West Ninth Street to North Cherry Street.

Commissioner Rodriguez reported mosquito spraying is still being done, as the weather allows.

Commissioner Rodriguez stated Republic Services has completed replacing the new trash toters.

Commissioner Rodriguez announced ShoCap will have a golf outing on Saturday, June 27th and on July 2nd from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm the Chamber of Commerce will be selling baby back ribs at Borowiaks IGA with the proceeds being donated to the fireworks.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has received the 2014 application for the new enterprise zone designation, which will commence January 1, 2016. The first stage of the application review has been completed. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the city has cleared the first hurdle and hopefully will receive notification by the end of September or the first of October awarding the city with the new enterprise zone.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported Lamac Engineering has completed the drawings for the new water lines along College Drive and is seeking the council's approval to solicit for bids for that project.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated David VanWormer will be opening a new business called 410 Outdoors in the Shopko/West Ninth Street area. Mr. VanWormer has applied for a loan from the city's revolving loan fund. The loan committee has agreed to award the loan and recommends the council approve the loan, which is for the amount of \$10,000 over a five year payout.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported at the last council meeting an individual representing the Mount Carmel High School Band Boosters had requested to do fundraising solicitation at the designated intersections. City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented to the council the documentation he and City Attorney Tom Price had researched regarding this matter. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the city may allow such fundraising, if the "solicitors" are registered with the Illinois Attorney General's office as a charitable organization. The fundraiser has to be a statewide fundraising activity and the persons having the event must assume liability for any personal injuries and/or property damage during the activity; as required by law.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented to the council for their consideration the possibility of changing the ordinance regarding the opening of graves at Rose Hill Cemetery. City Administrative Assistant Witsman asked to no longer allow graves to be opened on Sundays and/or holidays because of the overtime expense to the city. The council will table a decision until a later date.

CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE

City Attorney Price no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb reported he has sent out several grass nuisance letters and several constructions projects are ongoing.

City Inspector Gidcumb presented to the council a request from Comeaux's Daiquiri Depot to allow a fence to be put up on the backside of their business with an entrance from the inside of the building, only.

City Inspector Gidcumb stated the zoning board had a special use request from William Dardeen for the placement of a mobile home on the property located at Golden Aces Way and East Fourth Street. All the zoning board members voted to recommend the request be sent to the council for its approval.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Commissioner Ikemire motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve the solicitation for bids the College Drive water line project. All present vote Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Rodriguez seconded to approve a loan to David VanWormer from the Revolving Loan Fund for a new business called 410Outdoors. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Dulgar motioned and Commissioner Rodriguez to approve the request from Comeaux's to allow a fenced area adjacent to their present building for outdoor seating. The following stipulations apply: gate will operate from the inside only, entrance will be from inside the building, and the fence will be at least 8' high. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Ikemire seconded to approve the Special Use Permit to place a mobile home at 402 Golden Aces Way. Case #15-SU-02. All present voted Aye by roll call vote.

Commissioner Judge motioned and Commissioner Dulgar seconded to approve the Minutes from regular meeting of City Council held on June 8, 2015. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk