

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 1, 2016

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Patricia Stouse.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Bill Hudson Commissioners – Eric Ikemire, Joe Judge,
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 announced the former Hadley's building demolition was completed on Tuesday, July 26th; the area was cleaned up on Wednesday and was seeded on Thursday.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Commissioner Joe Judge, who showed some items he had gathered from the former Hadley's building, which will be donated to the Wabash County Museum. Mayor Hudson had gathered items for donation as well, in hopes the museum will set up a "Hadley's Corner" display in remembrance of the former café. Mayor Hudson stated it was sad to see the building go but it was time as the roof had collapsed into the basement and the remainder of the building would be falling in soon as well.

Mayor Hudson reminded residents all vehicles are to be moved off Market Street by 3:00 pm on Tuesday, August 9th to allow for the setup of the Ag Days Festival. The streets will be closed from the intersections of Third and Market to Fifth and Market for the event. Mayor Hudson asked citizens to please be careful while driving on Fifth Street next to the festival as there will be lots of children in attendance.

Mayor Hudson stated for the safety of the public; bicycles, skateboards, dogs and animals are not allowed during the Ag Days Festival.

Mayor Hudson welcomed the city's newest doctor, Dr. Tom Selby, whose office will be located at 120 Jacquess Avenue.

Mayor Hudson announced the last day for swimming at the city pool will be Sunday, August 14th and the "Doggie Swim" will be held on Monday, August, 15th. The city swimming pool will then be closed for the season. The doggie swim is sponsored by the Wabash County Shelter Buddies. Mayor Hudson acknowledged City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman who stated each year after the closing of the pool city hall receives several phone calls regarding the early closure. City Administrative Assistant Witsman explained the city is required to have certified life guards on duty while the pool is open and the certified life guards are Mount Carmel High School students; so in turn the pool has to close when schools starts.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department mowed city properties; performed yard abatements; patched potholes; repaired and painted barricades; continued to paint parking stall lines in the uptown area; took down fences around the former Hadley's building; put barricades up in the area of the Hadley's demolition; and hauled dirt for the backfill of the Hadley's demolition site.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Commissioner Judge stated he would be handing out the first quarter budget reports to the department heads for their review.

Commissioner Judge announced on Thursday, August 12th at 7:00 pm the VFW is hosting a bingo night fundraiser for the benefit of the Wabash County Senior Citizens Center. All the proceeds will be donated to the center to help offset the costs for the newly installed heating and air conditioning system. Commissioner Judge encouraged residents to please attend the fundraising event in support of the Senior Citizens Center.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar absent.

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

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

Commissioner Rodriguez stated the mosquito spraying is still ongoing throughout the city.

Commissioner Rodriguez encouraged citizens to please attend the local farmer's market as several vendors are participating and a good variety of items are being sold.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced the farm lease bidding was held prior to the council meeting at 4:00 pm. The city's farmland located at the north end of Empire Street, which is approximately 22 acres was bid at \$200 per acre by Timberlake Farms. The airport farmland, which is 525 acres more or less, was bid at \$305 by Ivers Farms. The farm lease agreement is a three year contract.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reiterated regarding Verizon's cell tower lease agreement proposal, which states Verizon is requesting to sub-lease its cell phone tower and the city would receive revenue from the sub-lease. City Administrative Assistant Witsman asked for direction from the council regarding the proposal and stated he will report back at the next meeting after conferring with Verizon.

CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE

City Attorney Price no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb absent.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Mayor Hudson and the council approved the Consent Agenda, as presented in the agenda dated August 1st, 2016. The consent agenda consented of approving the minutes for the council meeting held on July 18th, 2016 and paying of all bills bearing the proper signatures. All present voted Aye by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk