

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 29, 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 Anthony Mouffat with Tru-Green, who spoke to the council regarding the Emerald Ash-Borer, which is damaging Ash Trees and could eventually destroy the Ash Trees. Mr. Mouffat explained the "Adopt-an-Ash Tree" Program, which allows businesses and/or individuals to sponsor the treatment of the Ash Trees. Mr. Mouffat stated he has identified a total of twenty Ash Trees at the golf course and the city parks. Mr. Mouffat asked that the council consider becoming a part of the tree saving program. The cost for treating the city's Ash trees would be approximately \$3000.00 for two years of treatment and the overall span of treatment could take up to ten years. Mr. Mouffat stated the treatment is all incased inside the tree and there are no residual chemicals on the outside of the tree. Mr. Mouffat explained the "Adopt-an-Ash Tree" Program is set up so the city is not burdened with any part of the "sponsorship" as it will all be handled by Tru-Green. The council thanked Mr. Mouffat for his presentation and decided to take his proposal into consideration.

Mayor Hudson announced several businesses along Market Street have taken advantage of the city's façade grant program. Mayor Hudson stated those businesses, whose work has been completed look very nice.

Mayor Hudson stated community pride is very strong in the city as citizens are being very helpful and have been very good at volunteering at various events throughout the community.

Mayor Hudson reported the portable radar speed sign for the area school zones, which was donated by the Rotary Club, will be in operation by the end of this week. Mayor Hudson reminded citizens to please watch their speed while driving, especially in the school zones. Mayor Hudson thanked the Rotary Club for their donation.

Mayor Hudson welcomed Haley Church back to the city and stated she is an asset to the Mount Carmel Register newspaper.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department continued to mow city properties; hauled items used during Ag Days and put them back in storage; opened and closed a grave at Rose Hill Cemetery; cleaned intakes; trimmed up low tree branches hanging over roadways; performed yard abatements; and removed large limb out of roadway at Sixth and Cherry Streets following a storm.

Commissioner Ikemire reiterated on the possible proposal of amending the city ordinance regarding excavation work done on city streets and alleyways. Commissioner Ikemire presented to the council for their review, those proposed ordinance changes.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Commissioner Judge reported the city is holding stable with its cash reserves and expenditures. Commissioner Judge warned however, in the last two weeks, the city's expenditures did outweigh the receipts. Commissioner Judge asked the departments to please keep within their budgets and try to slow down on spending.

Commissioner Judge stated the Senior Citizens Center had the step railings and safety markings on the steps repainted.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water maintenance department finalized the closing of the city pool for the season, investigated a huge sinkhole at Oak and Ninth Street due to a damaged storm drain, and used the jet truck for routine maintenance. Commissioner Dulgar stated the wastewater department purchased a new mower to help cut down on the time spent mowing. Commissioner Dulgar gave an update on the plant's aeration project stating the advertisement for bids should begin by the first part of September. Commissioner Dulgar stated the water treatment department has had some issues with the valve at the Oak Street booster station and repairs are being done. The water department crew has been spraying and weed eating as well as power washing the concrete area by the clarifier and chemicals building in preparation for painting. Commissioner Dulgar reported Pittsburgh Tank and Tower Maintenance have been hired to inspect the inside and outside of the Third Street Water Tower.

Commissioner Dulgar congratulated the high school football team on the big win over Harrisburg this past weekend. Commissioner Dulgar stated the football team will be playing at Mount Vernon, Indiana next week.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez reported in the last two weeks the fire department had five runs and the regular safety meeting was held August 15th.

Commissioner Rodriguez announced October 3rd through October 7th will be the Fix-Up/Clean-Up week for the city. Commissioner Rodriguez stated Republic Services will not pick up tires, paint, or electronics.

Commissioner Rodriguez stated the mosquito spraying throughout the city is still ongoing and asked residents to please get rid of any items that will allow for standing water in areas of their yards.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked citizens to please have a Safe and Happy Labor Day holiday weekend.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported within the past several weeks the city has had two incidents with vicious dogs attacking or attempting to attack individuals and unfortunately a child was bitten over the past weekend. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated it is the dog owner's responsibility to keep the dog(s) secure and tickets will be issued to the owners if the dog(s) are not secured. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated that owners must be responsible and must take care of their dog, as unsecured dogs are a serious problem and the problem will be dealt with seriously.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reiterated he hopes to present at the next council meeting a possible solution for the grass clippings and yard waste pick-up service cost issues.

CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE

City Attorney Price no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb stated an old police squad car was repurposed to use for the water meter readings and will be used by the water department.

City Inspector Gidcumb reported the excavation ordinance changes will hopefully be submitted to City Attorney Tom Price by next week.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Mayor Hudson and the Council approved the Consent Agenda, as presented in the agenda dated August 29th, 2016. The consent agenda consented of approving the minutes for the council meeting held on August 15th, 2016 and paying of all bills bearing the proper signatures.

Meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk