

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, November 7, 2016

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Rebecca Reeves.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Bill Hudson Commissioners – Eric Ikemire, 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 Eric Fisher with Republic Services, who spoke to the council regarding the garbage pick-up service in the coming winter months and garbage trucks not being able to go down certain alleys in the city, when they are snow and/or ice covered. Mr. Fisher suggested that garbage be picked up in the street instead, in those certain areas, as last year some resident's garbage was not picked up for at least two consecutive weeks at a time. The council stated some concern that there are areas in the city which have too much of an incline for the garbage to be set out near the street and also asked how Republic Services would notify those residents ahead of time to not put their garbage in the alleyway. Mr. Fisher stated Republic Services is very willing to work with city to resolve the issues. City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman stated he would meet with Mr. Fisher to address the issues and present a plan at the next council meeting. The council was in agreement that Republic Services has improved the garbage pick-up service and is greatly appreciative for their efforts.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Wabash County Executive Director Lesley Hipsher, who announced the 51st Annual Mount Carmel Christmas Parade is scheduled to be held on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> stepping off at 5:15 pm. Ms. Hipsher was seeking council approval for the parade to start at Third and Market Street and end at Eighth and Market Street. Ms. Hipsher stated the Chamber is seeking volunteers for crowd control and reiterated that candy, etc. is not allowed be thrown from the parade entries to the crowd along the parade route. The parade committee encourages entry participants to provide walkers and hand out items instead.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Terry Beckerman, who asked council approval for the closing of the intersections at Third, Fourth, Fifth and Market Streets on the afternoon of Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Uptown Event. Mr. Beckerman reiterated that Market Street itself would remain open and just the cross streets of those intersections would be closed.

Mayor Hudson reminded citizens to be sure and vote on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. The polls are open from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Mayor Hudson reported Neikirk Engineering has taken advantage of the façade grant program and had their building front painted. Mayor Hudson announced Casey's on West Ninth Street is expanding and will be constructing an addition to their current building.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Terry Beckerman, who announced a grant has been applied through the Grinnel Mutual Insurance Company for the amphitheater. Mr. Beckerman encouraged residents to please go to the amphitheater's facebook page or the insurance company's facebook page and vote for the city's amphitheater.

Mayor Hudson thanked the police department, the auxiliary police, firemen, and parents for making Halloween and Trick or Treating a safe night.

Mayor Hudson congratulated the high school football team on their 10-1 record.

Mayor Hudson thanked Dave Dallas and the Elks Club for presenting of the POW/MIA flag to be raised at the Veteran's Park and for the flag pole that will be set on Wednesday or Thursday of this week. Mayor Hudson announced a Veteran's Day Ceremony will be held this coming Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at the corner of Third and Market Streets.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

### **COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS**

Commissioner Ikemire stated in the last two weeks the street department serviced the Ford F-550 truck; worked at Rose Hill Cemetery leveling and setting tombstones in place; performed maintenance on street department equipment; ran street sweeper on city streets; mowed and mulched leaves in city park and properties; trimmed low branches hanging over roadways; worked on leaf vacuum trying to get it in working order; assisted the water maintenance department with the hauling of sand for a water main break and for a break in the sanitary sewer housing behind the Super 8 Motel.

### **COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS**

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

Commissioner Judge absent.

### **COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER**

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water maintenance flushed hydrants; replaced a fire hydrant in front of the radio station and repaired water main breaks. Commissioner Dulgar stated the water treatment plant ordered new valves for the Oak Street booster station; is receiving bids for work on the back-up generator; received two bids for the cleaning of the city's water wells and is waiting on a third bid. Commissioner Dulgar reiterated an inspection had been done on the Third Street water tower and the city has been contacted by another company to conduct an inspection with a bid, as well. Commissioner Dulgar reported the wastewater plant has to conduct a Capacity, Management, Operations and Maintenance Study. The study will show the overall system efficiency and what repairs might need to be done.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez stated in the last two weeks the fire department had nine runs; conducted hazmat training; had training at Wabash General Hospital on how to respond to "out of control" patient; and tested all the hoses on the trucks.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN**

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reiterated the water treatment plant is in need of a transfer switch for the standby generator and he submitted those bids to the council for their advisement. City Administrative Assistant Witsman acknowledged Mayor Hudson, who opened and read the submitted bids; bid one from Horrall Electric with option one being \$6963.13 or option two with a standard switch in the amount of \$5635.41 and bid two from S.K. Smith Electric in the amount of \$8668.17. City Administrative Assistant Witsman requested the authority to analyze the bids and select a contractor before the next council meeting. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the issue needs to be addressed as soon as possible as the process will be a lengthy and expensive one.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reminded citizens this Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> city hall will be closed for Veteran's Day.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported the Street Department was getting the equipment ready for the leaf pick-up service and it was discovered one of the leaf machines is beyond repair through the analysis of a local mechanic. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the street department will now only have one operable machine for the leaf service, which is approximately fourteen years old. City Administrative Assistant Witsman further stated Street Department Superintendent Dave Easter contacted a supplier and was informed deliver time for a replacement machine would be ninety to one hundred and twenty days with the minimum replacement cost being \$55,000. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stressed the city is now faced with the dilemma of

how to deal with and satisfy the residents that have come to expect that their leaves would be picked up. The council discussed the issue and after considering various options it was decided to make one pass throughout the city with the one operable leaf vacuum equipment. City Administrative Assistant Witsman asked residents to please be patient with the leaf pick-up service and encouraged them to bag or mulch their leaves.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman asked the council to table the discussion of the RV parking ordinance until the next council meeting, as Commissioner Judge has some input for the discussion.

**CITY ATTORNEY – TOM PRICE**

City Attorney Price no report.

**CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB**

City Inspector Gidcumb no report.

**BUSINESS MOTIONS**

Mayor Hudson and the Council approved the Consent Agenda, as presented in the agenda dated November 7th, 2016. The consent agenda consented of approving the minutes for the council meeting held on October 24th, 2016; paying of all bills bearing the proper signatures; Ordinances 1063 and 1064.

Meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

---

Mayor

ATTEST:

---

City Clerk