

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, July 17, 2017

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Reverend Tony Hodgson.

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 Kelli Storckman

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Mount Carmel Jr. High Cheerleading Coach Alexia Wilcox, who announced the cheerleading team's fundraising event to raise money for new uniforms. The cheerleading team will be selling Mount Carmel Jr. Aces Flags for vehicles and for houses.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Wabash County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lesley Hipsher, who was seeking council approval for the closing of Market Street from Third to Fifth for the Ag Days Festival on August 2<sup>nd</sup> thru August 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Hipsher asked for the closure to begin on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 pm to allow for the setup of the festival. Ms. Hipsher also announced the Retail Merchants Committee has purchased fifteen new trash receptacles to be placed for use along Market Street. Ms. Hipsher emphasized the receptacles are for public use only and not for residential or business use.

Mayor Hudson thanked the community and the surrounding area for all the support during the Fantastic Fourth Celebration. Mayor Hudson thanked the Fantastic Fourth Celebration Committee for all work in putting the celebration and events together.

Mayor Hudson reported the city's cost for the fireworks display was \$12,650.00 and \$9700.00 has been received to date in donations. Mayor Hudson stated donations are still being accepted and would be appreciated.

Mayor Hudson stated this coming week will be very hot and asked residents to please check on their neighbors especially if they are elderly. Mayor Hudson reminded the senior residents of the community that the Wabash County Senior Citizens Center is open until 3:00 pm for those in need of a good meal and a place to cool off.

Mayor Hudson asked citizens to please attend and support the Wabash County Youth Fair this week as the youth of the community put in lots of hard work for the event.

Mayor Hudson reiterated the Ag Days Festival will be held Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> thru Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

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

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department continued its' regular maintenance and mowed city properties.

Commissioner Ikemire announced the bid letting for the city's chip and seal program will be held Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at city hall.

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

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

Commissioner Judge reported the State of Illinois finally approved its budget and the end result will be interesting as it could be good, bad, and indifferent overall for the city. Commissioner Judge stated the city's budget however is holding stable.

Commissioner Judge reiterated the Wabash County Senior Citizens Center is a registered "Cooling Station" for those individuals in need of the facility and the Rides Mass Transit is available to those in need of transportation to the center, as well.

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

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water treatment plant's generator is still not working and will hopefully be repaired this week; the crew has been performing standard yard maintenance and maintenance on the chemicals at the city pool.

Commissioner Dulgar announced the Wabash Valley Regional Water Commission will meet at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, July 18th at the City Hall in Albion.

Commissioner Dulgar stated the maintenance department filled in and planted grass where two service lines had been repaired; repaired water leaks; responded to service calls; backwashed the city pool; and repaired water mains

Commissioner Dulgar reported the wastewater plant's #2 clarifier is back in operation and the #1 clarifier is being inspected; the facility experienced a power outage on July 13th and the security camera system and the telephone were damaged. Commissioner Dulgar thanked Mount Carmel Public Utility for their quick response on getting the issue resolved.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez thanked Scott Balding, Wabash Valley College Wicked Wheels Club, Wabash County Sheriff's Department, Mount Carmel Police/Fire Department and their spouses for their assistance and support at the Wicked Wheels Car Show. The proceeds from the event cookout will be donated to the Shop with the Cop/Fireman Program.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez announced a spaghetti dinner benefit will be held this evening at Twin Rivers Restaurant; the proceeds will be donated to Safe Haven.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez acknowledged Fire Chief Francis Speth, who awarded Josh Howard a certificate of appreciation for his eleven years of service and dedication to the Mount Carmel Fire Department. Josh recently joined the Evansville Fire Department.

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

City Administrative Assistant Witsman presented a fundraising request to the council from Dan Kieffer on behalf of the Knights of Columbus to collect donations for their annual "Tootsie Roll" fundraising event at the designated intersections on September 15<sup>th</sup> and September 16<sup>th</sup>.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the fireworks display went well despite the fact the city had to scramble at the last minute to find a fireworks supplier as the supplier the city had used for years had problems with their license.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced Chad Hill has been hired as the new airport manager, per former manager Ken Wood's recommendation. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated Chad has experience within the air force and also working with airplanes. City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported Chad will begin his employment on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated there are three unions that represent various workers within the city; the police department union, the firefighters' union, and the machinists' union. City Administrative Assistant Witsman announced those union contracts all expire the middle part of this year and negotiations will begin in earnest within the next few days.

**CITY ATTORNEY – KELLI STORCKMAN**

City Attorney Kelli Storckman no report.

**CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB**

City Inspector Gidcumb absent.

**BUSINESS MOTIONS**

Mayor Hudson and the Council approved the Consent Agenda, as amended in the agenda dated July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The consent agenda contains the approval of the minutes for the council meeting held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 and the approval of paying all bills bearing the proper signatures.

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk