

MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 14, 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,
City Inspector Mike Gidcumb

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hudson brought the city council meeting to order.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged Todd Gill, who thanked and expressed his appreciation to the council and the community for all the support shown toward the Wabash Mission Travelling Softball Team. Mr. Gill stated the group has grown and now has five different teams with most of the girls being from Wabash County. Mr. Gill said the team recently participated in a tournament at Panama City, Florida. Mr. Gill stated "Wabash Mission" recently hosted a tournament in Mount Carmel with twenty different teams participating. Mr. Gill also expressed his appreciation to Bob Mayhue, Dave Easter and the street department crew for all their efforts in maintaining the ballfields, as they do a fantastic job.

Mayor Hudson emphasized he is enjoying seeing all the families in Mount Carmel out hiding and hunting rocks, which is the newest activity in the city.

Mayor Hudson reported the swimming pool is closed for the season and tonight the Wabash County Animal Shelter Buddies will host the dog swim beginning at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Hudson thanked area police and sheriff departments with their assistance in avoiding a disaster yesterday and the prevention of someone driving through the city at a high rate of speed.

Mayor Hudson announced Wabash County Schools start this Wednesday, August 16th and Saint Mary's School started today. Mayor Hudson asked residents to please drive slow and watch out for the school children.

Mayor Hudson stressed to area citizens on next Monday, August 21st to please not look at the eclipse without the proper sun glasses, as your eyes can be damaged.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department continued the mowing of city properties and performing yard abatements; set up, torn down and assisted with the Ag Days event; made repairs to stop signs and no parking signs; made several repairs to equipment specifically mowing equipment; prepared the roadways for the oil and chip program, which begins tomorrow and the fog sealer will be put on the following week.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Commissioner Judge gave "kudos" to the golf course as they are doing a great job with their budget. Commissioner Judge thanked the golf course for an outstanding job and also thanked the public for utilizing the course.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water treatment plant has started cleaning the sediment basins and has been performing its standard routine maintenance. Commissioner Judge stated the Suez Company is in attendance at the meeting tonight to present to the council a ten-year water tower maintenance agreement. Suez is proposing to provide their services to repair and paint both the Third Street Water Tower and the Risley Avenue area water tower. Commissioner Dulgar reiterated the recent water rate increase, which is already in effect, will be used cover the expense of the repairs and maintenance.

Commissioner Dulgar announced Wabash Valley Regional Water Commission will meet at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, August 29th at the City of Albion. Commissioner Dulgar reported the engineering study is complete and will be presented at the meeting.

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

Commissioner Rodriguez reported in the last two weeks the fire department had eight runs and a meeting will be held tonight at the fire station pertaining to first responder emergency calls dealing with drug overdoses.

Commissioner Rodriguez stated mosquito spraying is ongoing throughout the city.

Commissioner Rodriguez emphasized that citizens should be aware of what is going throughout the country and be alert.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported this meeting constitutes the first reading of Ordinance 1079; regarding the “no parking” on the South Side of East Third between Pear and Plum Streets, which was requested by the Wabash County School District at the last council meeting. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated City Attorney Storckman has prepared two ordinances for the council’s consideration; one stating the specific hours for the “no parking” and one stating no specific hours. Ordinance 1079 will be presented at the next meeting for the second reading and council approval.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated within the consent agenda is the agreement with Suez for rehabilitation of the water towers. City Administrative Assistant Witsman reiterated bids were sought for the outside painting of the water towers as well as the cleaning, painting and rehab of the inside of the towers. City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported the Suez agreement states they will work with the city for a total of ten years on the “rehabbing” and maintaining of the water towers.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported the city recently went through an Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) audit, which resulted with a few infractions. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated that included in the consent agenda is a resolution to include taxable allowances that are paid to employees to be consider as IMRF earnings which is a result from the audit. City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported Resolution – R634 has been withdrawn from the consent agenda as it no longer applies.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated the Central States Fireworks Company, which provided the fireworks display this year, has a proposed three-year agreement stating the first-year expense would be the same amount that was paid for this years’ display; the following two years will have a slight increase and the city may withdraw from the agreement at any time.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported he had received two proposals for the city’s auditing with Watler Accounting having the lowest proposal, which is not to exceed \$8965.00.

CITY ATTORNEY – KELLI STORCKMAN

City Attorney Kelli Storckman no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb reported he has still been working on the GIS mapping updates and locations of the water meters.

City Inspector Gidcumb reiterated at the last meeting he addressed his concerns regarding “run-down” properties in the city. City Inspector Gidcumb stated City Attorney Storckman has started the legal paperwork on one of the properties located at 201 S. Mulberry Street. After discussing the issue further, the council decided to proceed with the necessary legalities for the 1615 N. Cherry Street as well as 727 W. Second Street property.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Mayor Hudson and the Council approved the Consent Agenda, as amended in the agenda dated August 14th, 2017. The consent agenda contains the agreement with Suez for the rehabilitation of both water towers; the approval of Resolution R-633, IMRF to include Taxable Allowances as IMRF earnings; the approval of the fireworks agreement with Central States Fireworks; the approval of the minutes for the council meeting held on July 31st, 2017 and the approval of paying all bills bearing the proper signatures.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk