

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 19, 2018

5:00 pm

Invocation was given by Becky Reeves.

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 presented an award to Mr. Charlie Windle to mark his previous retirement as well as his years of service and dedication to the City of Mount Carmel.

Mayor Hudson acknowledged City Comptroller Mick Mollenhauer, who was attendance to introduce the auditor, Arlynn Stroman with Botsch and Associates. Ms. Stroman gave an overview of the city's audit for the fiscal year ending April 30th, 2018. Ms. Stroman stated the audit was a "clean" audit; the financial statements are reasonable stated; and no changes needed to be made to make the statements "more proper". Ms. Stroman encouraged the council to please contact her office at anytime with questions and/or concerns.

Mayor Hudson reported two Wabash County Veterans; Loyal "Andy" Anderson and Tom Ford, are among the two hundred recipients of the Bicentennial Honor, which was announced by the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs and the Illinois Bicentennial Office. The two hundred veterans will be honored for their service and dedication at the State of Illinois' Bicentennial Celebration in December. Mayor Hudson stated it is a great honor to have the two veterans represent the City of Mount Carmel.

Mayor Hudson stated it is beginning to look at lot like Christmas, as the Christmas Trees are being put up at the intersections along Market Street.

Mayor Hudson challenged, again, the various city departments to participate in the Bicentennial Christmas Parade, which is titled "Celebrate" and will be held on Saturday, December 1st.

Mayor Hudson reported the Holly Brook Development site is taking shape very quickly and is looking very nice.

Mayor Hudson asked residents to please not blow leaves into the street. Mayor Hudson reported residents may mulch the leaves; bag the leaves and the city will pick them up at no charge; or purchase a \$30 ticket at city hall and the city will pick them up with the leaf vac truck. Mayor Hudson stated the Wabash Valley College Baseball Team is offering the service of raking leaves for a freewill donation.

Mayor Hudson stated, on behalf of the city council, everyone is wished a Happy Thanksgiving and to please drive safely if travelling.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER ERIC IKEMIRE – STREETS, CEMETERIES AND PARKS

Commissioner Ikemire reported in the last two weeks the street department cleaned intakes; mulched leaves in the parks; performed maintenance on equipment; switched the leaf vac to the salt box and spreader due to the weather; salted streets and sidewalks; put up the Christmas Trees along Market Street as well as the Christmas Decorations at the Merchants Park and replaced the water pump in the street sweeper. Commissioner Ikemire stated the leaf vac equipment was

reinstalled and the street department has been picking up the leaves at the locations where a “leaf pick up ticket” was purchased.

COMMISSIONER JOE JUDGE – FINANCE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Commissioner Judge thanked the council, the mayor and City Administrative Assistant Rudy Witsman on the outstanding information that was received from the audit as well as the department heads and all the employees within the city. Commissioner Judge stated the audit report was definitely a group effort

Commissioner Judge announced the WC Cafeteria and Senior Center will have an entry in the Christmas Parade.

Commissioner Judge anticipates announcing grant money awards at the next council meeting as the grant applications should be decided on in the coming week.

Commissioner Judge thanked Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana, again, for their generosity to the Meals on Wheels Program for the WC Cafeteria and Senior Center as the \$20,000 donation check from TMMI was received last week.

COMMISSIONER JUSTIN DULGAR – WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Dulgar reported the West Third Water Tower is fully operational and the various water hydrants throughout the city have returned to normal use. Commissioner Dulgar stated the sediment basins will be cleaned this coming week at the water treatment plant.

Commissioner Dulgar announced Water Treatment Plant Lead Operator Keith Reed has been nominated for the Illinois Rural Water Association Award for Water Systems Operator Specialist of the Year. Commissioner Dulgar stated this is a great nomination for all of Keith’s hard work at the water treatment plant and added it is also great accomplishment on Keith’s behalf as well.

Commissioner Dulgar reported the water maintenance department filled the West Third Street Water Tower and opened the valves; cleaned the main water transmission line from water wells to the water treatment plant; winterized the ballparks, parks, and other city properties.

Commissioner Dulgar stated the wastewater plant had issues with the Mulberry Street Lift Station and Straeffer Pump will be coming to check into the problems.

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. Commissioner Rodriguez thanked the fire chief, the assistant fire chief and all the firefighters that responded to the recent structure fires as well as the Allendale and Belmont Fire Departments.

Commissioner Rodriguez stated Fire Department Captain Mark Seaton is collecting donations for the Shop with a Cop/Fireman event. Commissioner Rodriguez thanked everyone in advance for their generous donations which help to make the event a success.

Commissioner Rodriguez wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – RUDY WITSMAN

City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated city hall will be closed Thursday, November 22nd and Friday, November 23rd for the Thanksgiving Holiday as well as the city dump site and brush harbor. City Administrative Assistant Witsman added Thursday’s trash pickup by Republic will be on Friday and Friday’s trash pickup will be on Saturday due to the holiday.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported, as of the last council meeting, no other individuals have picked up a petition for mayor or commissioner.

City Administrative Assistant stated there is a regular council meeting scheduled for Monday, December 31st at 5:00 pm, which is also New Year’s Eve. City Administrative Assistant Witsman

asked if the council wished to change the meeting to an earlier time in the day. After a brief discussion, the council decided to move the meeting time to 1:00 pm instead 5:00pm.

City Administrative Assistant Witsman reported within the consent agenda is Resolution 650, which recommends using TIF money to assist Travis Wagner with the renovation/expansion of his business at located at West 5th and Walnut Streets. City Administrative Assistant Witsman stated assistance for Mr. Wagner's business "The Grind" was made available by consulting with Keith Moran of Moran Development, who assists the city with its TIF Program. City Administrative Assistant Witsman explained funds through the TIF Program may be used for renovation of existing structures but not the expansion of existing structures. Therefore, the city will try to assist Mr. Wagner with any expenses up to \$5000.00 for the renovations of the existing structure.

CITY ATTORNEY – KELLI STORCKMAN

City Attorney Storckman no report.

CITY INSPECTOR – MIKE GIDCUMB

City Inspector Gidcumb absent.

STREET DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENT – DAVE EASTER

Street Department Superintendent Dave Easter no report.

FIRE CHIEF – FRANCES SPETH

Fire Chief Frances Speth no report.

BUSINESS MOTIONS

Mayor Hudson and the Council approved the Consent Agenda, as presented in the agenda dated November 19th, 2018. The consent agenda included Resolution 650 – TIF funding for Travis Wagner – The Grind; approval of the minutes for the council meeting held on November 5th, 2018 and approval of paying all bills bearing the proper signatures.

Meeting adjourned 5:24 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk