

August 21, 2014

The Common Council met as the Water Utility Board at 7:00 pm on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Jeffries, Fuelling, Hoehn, Curtis and Higgins attending. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Chief Beloit; Asst. Chief Harms; Comm. Dieterle; Nancy Sexton; Jerry Thacker; Lois Gray – Posey County News; Pam Robinson – Mount Vernon Democrat; and arriving during the meeting, Supt. Givens.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Supt. Givens arrived at the meeting.

Board member Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Jeffries moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the report of the Water Chairman.

Chairman Curtis stated he has no report really. Supt. Gray is ill this evening. He did state work continues on College Ave on the line to the police and fire station; and they continue work on tearing out the KROFTA.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Board ?
Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?
There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

Board member Curtis stated the Board had raised the limit on adjustments that Supt. Gray was allowed to do on his own, without coming to the Board. He added they have still been having some adjustments that have surpassed his threshold. He would like the Board to consider raising that limit again, for the convenience of folks, so they may not have to come to a meeting.

Board member Fuelling questioned the limit ?

Board member Curtis replied \$1,000.00.

Board member Jeffries stated he thought the last adjustment that came before them, those folks had already had an adjustment.

Board member Curtis agreed but added they need to look at the whole thing actually. Supt. Gray can always come before the Board if he needs more guidance.

Board member Jeffries added they maybe could also put a reporting requirement on it as well.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Curtis moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman
Clerk-Treasurer

The Common Council met immediately following the Water Utility Board on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Jeffries, Fuelling, Hoehn, Curtis and Higgins attending. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Chief Beloit; Asst. Chief Harms; Comm. Dieterle; Nancy Sexton; Jerry Thacker; Lois Gray – Posey County News; Pam Robinson – Mount Vernon Democrat; and Supt. Givens.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Councilman Fuelling moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Standing Committees.

Street & Light Chairman Hoehn stated he has no report.

Comm. Dieterle stated he has no report.
Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Police & Dog Chairman Jeffries stated he has no report.
Chief Beloit stated he has no report.
Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Fire Chairwoman Higgins stated Chief Dixon is absent this evening but he will have an update for them in two weeks on the police and fire station.
Asst. Chief Harms stated he has no report.
Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Sewer Chairman Fuelling stated he has no report.
Supt. Givens stated everything is running good. He will be working with IDEM soon on some changes in their reporting procedures. They are also working on correcting some issues that they had with the Long Term Control Plan.
Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?
There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Council ?
Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker stated they are now ready for the Legal portion of the Agenda.
Attorney Higgins stated the first item is a Public Hearing on the Ordinance of Additional Appropriations in the EDIT.
Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it was noticed for 7:00 pm.
Mayor Tucker opened the Public Hearing at 7:07 pm by asking if anyone in the Audience wished to address the ordinance of additional appropriations ?
There was no response.
Mayor Tucker closed the public hearing.
Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on final reading. Seconded by Councilman Hoehn.
Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?
There was none.
Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:
Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;
Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.
Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.
Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 14-15.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the second reading of the Ordinance Amending the City of Mount Vernon, Indiana Code of Ordinances, Title IX – General Regulations, Chapter 96 – Parks and Recreations and Title XI – Business Regulations, Chapter 110 – Intoxicating Liquors, Section 110.01 – Use of Alcohol on Certain Public Property Prohibited. She reminded Council the ordinance passed first reading at the last meeting, after amendments.
Councilman Hoehn moved the ordinance pass on first reading. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.
Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Councilman Jeffries questioned if this was now sans the 300 foot limit ?

Attorney Higgins replied yes.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Hoehn moved the rules be suspended. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Hoehn moved the ordinance pass on final reading. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 14-16.

Attorney Higgins stated the final item is the first reading of the Ordinance to Amend the City of Mt. Vernon Code of Ordinances, Title 15-Land Usage, Chapter 153-Zoning Code, Section 153.100 Flood Hazard (FH) Area or Flood Prone District. She then stated the flood map for the city has not changed, and there is no cost of enforcement on the city end. The only cost is to update the codification, which is indicated on the bottom of the ordinance.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on first reading. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Council ?

Jerry Thacker sated he is with a ministry that does charity for terminally ill children. He continued by stating they take the children and their families out on a boat for a few hours – he prays for the children. He stated many of the marinas that dock the boat are now crowded with inebriated folks or drug users, which is a problem and not a good atmosphere for these terminally ill children. That is a concern. He is requesting that Mount Vernon could hopefully get an area in town for their operation. He then cited that a child dies every 15 minutes from being terminally ill, therefore, he does as much as he can to help them, in any way he can. One way is by taking them out in the boat. He stated he will his information with the Council and if they can come up with an idea to move his operation to Mount Vernon, he would be most appreciative – away from the usual summer boating crowd, that is. He concluded he will send a letter to the Mayor tomorrow. He then stated his boat is currently sitting 17 miles from Hartford, CT. He asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

He then thanked Council, told them to have a wonderful day, and left the meeting.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone else wished to address the Council ?
There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?
There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?
There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Districts.

1st District Councilman Jeffries stated he has no report other than there is a lot going on downtown.

2nd District Councilman Fuelling stated they were asked to drive their districts to locate any parking issues. He really only has some broken curb issues – with grass growing up in between them too.

3rd District Councilman Hoehn he didn't notice anything in his district either. He added right now the worst thing in Mount Vernon are the railroad tracks on west 4th Street – they are horrible.

4th District Councilman Curtis stated he also drive his district, and there aren't too many curbs actually in his district. He added it is not a major problem in his area. The problem that is in his area is grass being shot into the curbs, but no parking issues.

Councilman Jeffries stated he would like to thank Councilman Hoehn for bringing up the tracks on 4th Street as that reminded him that parking south of 4th Street is pretty bad – especially in the 300 block of Main. The intersection of 3rd and Main is difficult to see if traffic is coming until you are out in the intersection. That needs to be looked at.

Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins stated she wants to address what she originally brought up – the yellowed spots in front of the old Armory Building and the spaces south of the alley in the 100 block of lower Main, by the Eagles Home. She added she also agrees that the 300 block of Main is also bad. Councilman Jeffries stated as the city continues to develop the downtown this will really become an issue.

Councilman Curtis agreed and added as they move forward with the Main Street project this may need to be addressed.

Mayor Tucker stated he received the Notice to Proceed today on that project.

Council concurred to have Attorney Higgins moved forward with an ordinance addressing the parking issues on lower Main Street for the next meeting.

Mayor Tucker stated he spoke with Rodney Buchanan of Evansville Western Railroad and the tracks on w. 4th Street on the list to be taken care of in the next month. He then stated as most people are aware, the City was not awarded the Stellar Grant, but they did good, it was a good experience and they are now going to move forward. He added he appreciates the support the City received from the community, the core committee, everyone.

Lois Gray asked what happens to the donations that were received ?

Mayor Tucker replied all donations and pledges will only be used for the strategic investment plan. He then stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Fuelling moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman
Clerk-Treasurer