

May 14, 2015

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, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Members Fuelling and Hoehn were not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Chief Dixon; Comm. Dieterle; Supt. Givens; Ed Adams; Larry Williams; Jeff Woodford; Nancy Sexton; Asia Rainey; Kurt Duckworth; Josh Winiger; Brandy Jackson; Randy Adams; Corey Woolsey – Mount Vernon Democrat; and arriving during the meeting, Chief Beloit.

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.

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

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 Higgins moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member 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 report of the Water Chairman.

**Water Chairman Curtis** stated work has started at the plant. They are drilling some test pilings now for the Trident building and they will all see action soon at the end of E. Water Street. He added they also have some geological work going on too. The project completion is 16 months on the tower, and the first of next year to the beginning of March on the plant.

Supt. Gray stated he upgraded the lighting on the Mulberry Tower. It had been lit with a 40 watt bulb – they now have LED that can be seen for miles.

Chief Beloit arrived at the meeting.

Supt. Gray continued his reported by stating they also replaced the exterior door. He then stated the Keck Tower has paint coming off in rather large pieces. He has two quotes to repaint the tower, as follows:

Elite National Tank & Tower	\$ 39,350.00
Pittsburgh Tank & Tower	\$ 33,675.00

Board member Jeffries asked when the last time was the tower was painted ?

Supt. Gray replied when it was built – 1993.

Board member Curtis moved they accept the low quote of Pittsburgh Tank & Tower. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Attorney Higgins asked if these were indeed quotes ?

Mayor Tucker replied yes. He then requested a roll call vote.

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

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

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Supt. Gray concluded his report by stating he has a surplus backhoe and dump truck that he would like to put in the city auction as well as several old pumps that they don't use.

Board member Curtis moved the items be declared surplus. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Attorney Higgins asked if these are items that would have to be removed from his inventory list ?

Supt. Gray replied they are probably not on there.

Attorney Higgins stated if not then they don't need the item numbers off of them. She added the auction will be June 24 at noon.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

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

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

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

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 Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

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

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

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

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John Tucker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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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, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Councilmen Fuelling and Hoehn were not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Chief Dixon; Comm. Dieterle; Supt. Givens; Ed Adams; Larry Williams; Jeff Woodford; Nancy Sexton; Asia Rainey; Kurt Duckworth; Josh Winiger; Brandy Jackson; Randy Adams; Corey Woolsey – Mount Vernon Democrat; and Chief Beloat.

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 Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented.

Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

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 also have the minutes from the Special Session on May 8, 2015 for approval.

Councilman Jeffries moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented.

Seconded by Councilwoman Higgins.

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 Chairwoman Higgins** stated she 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 Beloat stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

**Fire Chairman Hoehn** was not present.

Chief Dixon stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

**Sewer Chairman Fuelling** was not present.

Supt. Givens stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated they have the Financial Report before them and any questions could be directed to Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman.

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 Legal portion of the Agenda.

Attorney Higgins stated the first item for consideration is a Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Funds from the Wastewater/Sewer Operating and Maintenance Fund to the Wastewater Improvement Fund \$530,000.00. She reminded Council that this money was received from the settlement of a large bill and this is not the entire amount, but it is most of it.

Councilman Jeffries moved the Resolution be approved. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

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

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

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 15-14.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item for consideration is the first reading of the traffic ordinance – An Ordinance to Amend the City of Mt. Vernon Code of Ordinances, Title VII: Traffic Code, Chapter 74: Traffic Schedules, Schedule IV – One-Way Streets and Title VII: Traffic Code, Chapter 75: Parking Schedules, Schedule X – Single Space Parking Zones Only, as discussed at their last meeting. She stated this ordinance would change Sherburne Park Drive from one-way east to west to one-way west to east, as well as addressing parking on Water and Main Streets.

Councilman Curtis stated since they authorized that, the one-way possibility needs careful consideration as boats/trailers could bottom out.

Councilman Jeffries added it has been this direction for a long time.

Councilman Curtis replied that doesn't mean there is not a better way.

Councilwoman Higgins stated if they do that, it could affect the foot traffic between the parks. She would be concerned about the crosswalk.

Councilman Curtis moved they delete Section I of the proposed Ordinance, which pertains to the Sherburne Park Drive one-way direction change. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Councilman Jeffries stated, to clarify, only Section I of the proposed ordinance ?

Mayor Tucker replied yes. He then requested a roll call vote.

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

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

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Jeffries then moved the Ordinance be passed on first reading, as amended, by removing Section I of the Ordinance. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Councilman Jeffries stated he would like reiterate that on Water Street there will be single space parking only, as well as Main Street, which comes from concerns of business owners in the area.

Councilman Curtis added this will impact boat trailers the most, and they are hoping to provide options/alternatives for them. Mayor Tucker has directed Comm. Dieterle to check on paving the three city lots – estimated at a cost of \$30,000.00. The Board of Works today indicated they believe they

can find the money for that and also add parking in the 200 block of College Avenue; 2<sup>nd</sup> and Main and behind Buds Hardware. Two of the lots are in proximity to Water and Main.

Councilman Jeffries added there have been lots of conversations about this.

Mr. Duckworth, with the Mount Vernon Boat Club, stated he read in the Posey County News that their facility was suggested by this Board as an alternative to the parking issue.

Attorney Higgins replied no, that was not discussed by this Board, but added if someone wants to use their facility, they can become a member. There is plenty of space on the Boat Club lot, that was stated, but like the city ramp, there is only room to launch one boat. Council did not say anything about using the Mount Vernon Boat Club property.

Mr. Duckworth stated they have 230 members and there isn't room for all them to park there either. He understands there is a problem with the business owners, but the lot at Buds Hardware – that would be a heck of a hike. He added that is no solution, no definite solution. He added they need more parking at their facility and as it is, they have a waiting list of 20-30. He stated he has before asked if there were funds for a solution to this and he was told NO – and here they are a year later. He added he would like to see some sort of direction. Money could be brought in/generated for this.

Councilman Jeffries replied that is the intent.

Councilman Curtis stated they all realize that local businesses DO get business from the boating community.

Mr. Duckworth stated they need to make the riverfront/launch area convenient and easy to use for the boaters. He suggested parking below the amphitheater.

Councilman Curtis replied that has been brought up actually. There is no magic answer,

Mr. Duckworth stated he would like to see a plan for action.

Councilman Jeffries replied they all would. He added some of the Council live in that area as well.

The riverfront is a focal point of the community, but there are also folks that are trying to make a living down there too. They would like to get folks as close as they can to the area.

Mr. Duckworth stated before the silos came down the parking situation should have been considered at that time.

Attorney Higgins replied it was. They had to decide the best use of the land.

Councilwoman Higgins stated she has looked at the Henderson riverfront - Mount Vernon has a much smaller piece of land, where Henderson's riverfront is much wider.

Councilman Jeffries added they are also working with Army Corps of Engineers about the erosion problem down below the amphitheater.

Mr. Duckworth added the parking problem is encroaching on their facility now. They have to have it policed and have cars towed.

Councilman Jeffries stated they are trying to clear out the area some to help the businesses.

Councilman Curtis stated this whole thing is not a done deal. Even if it passes tonight, there are three readings on the ordinance and therefore, more time for input. It takes time and it will give the public more time to respond as well. He added he realizes the boaters buy gas here and patronize the local restaurants, etc. He in no way wants to discourage boaters. He added he believes everyone here is on the same page, but how do they get to the end of the book ?

Mr. Duckworth stated Council needs a plan.

Councilman Curtis stated he would like to hear Mr. Duckworth's plan.

Nancy Sexton questioned the lot on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street/Main – is that still a possibility.

Councilman Jeffries replied yes as well as the lot behind that.

Someone in the audience stated that lot would only hold about three boats.

Councilman Curtis stated it is a large area but it depends on how the lot is laid out as to how many trailers they can fit in there.

Asa Rainey stated the city missed a golden opportunity by not purchasing the Dausmann lot and then charging a fee to park there.

Mr. Duckworth added funds could be generated from the launches – if they had a nice facility to launch from people wouldn't mind paying for that.

Councilman Jeffries stated he would like to see stats on how many people utilize the downtown launch site.

Councilman Curtis replied between 45-60 boat trailers have been in the downtown area at one time.

Mr. Duckworth asked if the Corps has any grants available for ramps/launches ?

Councilman Curtis replied he is not sure but added again, he would like to get with Mr. Duckworth to discuss this further.

Mr. Rainey stated they have a very good asset that isn't being utilized to its full potential.

Councilman Jeffries agreed.

Attorney Higgins stated a few years ago the city tried to do just that by issuing permits/tags and charging a fee. There was really no way police that.

Mayor Tucker stated if there is no further discussion, he would call for a vote.

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

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

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the amended ordinance passed first reading unanimously.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> District Councilman Jeffries** stated he has no report.

**2<sup>nd</sup> District Councilman Fuelling** was not present.

**3<sup>rd</sup> District Councilman Hoehn** was not present.

**4<sup>th</sup> District Councilman Curtis** stated he has no report.

**Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins** stated tomorrow forms will be ready for pick up for the Torch Carriers for the State's Bi-Centennial. They will be available at Printcrafters. Applications will be sent to Indianapolis for approval and only 20 will be chosen. Those interested must be involved with the community. There is also a lot happening in the preparation of the Bi-Centennial Celebration. It is really taking off.

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

Councilman Jeffries moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilwoman Higgins.

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.

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John Tucker  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cristi L. Sitzman  
Clerk-Treasurer