

July 9, 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 Fuelling, , Curtis, and Higgins attending. Board member Jeffries was not present. Others attending were Supt. Gray; Supt Givens; Chief Dixon; Chief Beloat; Comm. Dieterle; Jeremy Coe – Cabelas King Cat; Randy Adams; Brandy and Troy Ricketts; Shane Claybrooke; Nancy Sexton; Jeff Woodford; Ed Adams; Corey Woolsey – Mount Vernon Democrat; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and arriving during the meeting, Board member Hoehn.

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 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 Higgins 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.

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

Water Chairman Curtis stated he has no report.

Supt. Gray stated the geos are done on the tower site. They are utilizing earthquake resistant piling for stability.

Board member Hoehn arrived at the meeting.

Supt. Gray continued by stating they have poured over 700 yards of concrete and half of the tank walls have been poured. He concluded by stating the contractors are doing a great job and are about a month ahead.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Communications for the Board ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied she has none 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 Curtis moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member
Fuelling.

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
Fuelling, Hoehn, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Councilman Jeffries was not present.
Others attending were Supt. Gray; Supt Givens; Chief Dixon; Chief Beloit; Comm.
Dieterle; Jeremy Coe – Cabelas King Cat; Randy Adams; Brandy and Troy Ricketts;
Shane Claybrooke; Nancy Sexton; Jeff Woodford; Ed Adams; Corey Woolsey – Mount
Vernon Democrat; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and arriving during the meeting,
Scot Keller – MVEDC; Attorney Higgins; and Larry Williams.

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.

Councilwoman Higgins 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 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 was not present.

Chief Beloit stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Fire Chairman Hoehn stated he has no report.

Chief Dixon 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 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 as Attorney Higgins is not present yet, they will deviate from the agenda and go to the Audience. He then stated listed on the Agenda is Jeremy Coe with Cabelas King Cat.

Attorney Higgins arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Coe approached and stated he is with Cabelas and the National Catfish Trail.

Residents of Mount Vernon are very fortunate, as the Ohio River is one of the most popular catfish destinations in the United States. He stated when they put on a fishing tournament, people come from all over, and having one in Mount Vernon, he can guarantee people would come from out of state to fish. There are some big catfish in the Ohio River and everyone wants to get the big one. He added Cabelas National Catfish Trail is looking for a new home in the area and they believe Mount Vernon is it. He stated he would like to have a tournament here in 2016. He continued by stating they have 18 to 20 tournaments every year and even though Indiana has the last amount of water, it has the most fishermen.

Mr. Coe then stated once they start having tournaments somewhere, they will be there for many years to come. At the event, there is a five fish limit, and the biggest fish is counted. They also encourage spectator crowds and they are good public events. Again, this is a good opportunity to get folks from out of state into their community. He then handed out flash drives to the Council containing all of their information as well as an estimated economic impact on the community, as well as the numbers of boats they can expect. He added they have one day tournaments (Saturday) and two day tournaments (Friday and Saturday). He would recommend starting with a one day event and build up from that. There is a hosting fee of \$5,000 for the one day event and \$10,000 for a two day event. The estimated economic impact for a one day event is around \$200,000.00. He concluded by stating the hosting fees covers all advertising for the event. He asked if there were any questions ?

Councilwoman Higgins stated the city has their Be-Centennial next year, of which she is the chair. She wondered if there could be food booths set up at the fishing tournament ? Mr. Coe replied absolutely and added it is best to have the tournament when there is a festival, etc already going on. It draws more people.

Councilwoman Higgins stated they are in the process now of setting up events for the Bi-Centennial.

Mr. Coe added on Saturdays they have a kids rodeo for ages 0-12, as they really don't want kids out on the Ohio River. They have to bring their own pole and bait. Cabelas gives away six \$1,000 scholarships at the end of the year to all of the kids that have participated. He then stated this is also a cat and release event. They put all of the fish back in the water after the weigh in.

Councilman Fuelling stated they are wanting to have an event here next year ?

Mr. Coe replied yes, in 2016. He then stated they are starting to fill their dates.

Councilwoman Higgins asked where the closest tournament is to Mount Vernon.

Mr. Coe replied Metropolis, IL. He then stated he understands there are some issues with parking and he can say that they can make the parking work. He has seen much worse. Parking isn't even an issue.

Councilman Hoehn asked if weather/river conditions would ever be an issue.

Mr. Coe replied it would have to be real bad. They don't cancel events. It doesn't look good. He stated fisherman are tough and used to different river conditions.

Councilman Curtis stated these things draw people, lots of people.

Mr. Coe agreed and added folks from lots of different states will be represented.

Councilman Curtis asked if he stated at the Board meeting today that a first time one day event could draw around 45 teams ?

Mr. Coe replied yes, that is correct. He added they even have a local team – The Kings from Mount Vernon.

Mayor Tucker stated his first thought was what an opportunity this would be. They are coming up on their 200th birthday and Councilwoman Higgins is looking for something to have every month next year. This is a different and unique event – and something that Mount Vernon was known for in the early days – being a fishing town. This brings them back to their roots.

Councilwoman Higgins added it would also showcase the riverfront.

Mayor Tucker stated they are in the budget process now and he could find \$5,000.

Councilman Hoehn added the local businesses as well as the city will get a payback.

Councilman Curtis asked if Councilwoman Higgins would be willing to get with Mr. Coe to work on some dates ?

Councilwoman Higgins agreed.

Mr. Coe stated community involvement in something like this is essential to make it work.

Councilman Curtis moved Councilwoman Higgins work with Mr. Coe on nailing down a date for the event and get Mount Vernon on the calendar. Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Councilman Hoehn asked about having it after July.

Mr. Coe replied they can work on that, but they should avoid June and July as that is when the spawn and they won't be biting.

Mayor Tucker then requested a roll call vote.

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

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

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

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

Randy Adams approached and stated he and a group of citizens have been working on a nuisance property ordinance. He added back on August 27, 2013 there was an article in the Posey County News about nuisance properties being addressed at the Council meeting – basically neighborhood issues. They are trying to get the landlords to be responsible for their tenants, therefore, making them more careful on who they rent to. He had a follow up meeting set with Councilman Jeffries on June 22 at 11:00 am here at City Hall to discuss this issue. He arrived at City Hall at 10:55 and finally left at almost noon – he was the only at the meeting. Mr. Jeffries never showed. He added the last time he talked with Mr. Jeffries was at the end of June and he asked to be emailed the proposed ordinance. He emailed that to him on June 27 and on July 5 he has still had no word from Mr. Jeffries. Mr. Jeffries said he would call or drop by my house and he has still had no word from him. He added he emailed Mr. Jeffries again on July 5 and he has still not heard from him. He stated five of them from the neighborhood have gone around town with the ordinance, letting people read it. They have several pages of signatures of City of Mount Vernon residents that believe the city needs this ordinance. He added he feels responsible and needs support, but he can't get a meeting.

Larry Williams arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Adams added this issue has been going on for almost two years now. It is unacceptable.

Mayor Tucker stated he will get a hold of Councilman Jeffries personally and have him contact Mr. Adams. He added he knows he has been working on it.

Mr. Adams stated he would appreciate that as well as a little communication.

Councilman Hoehn stated this is beyond frustrating. The Council has talked about this issue a number of times as well as the number of times police get calls to this same area of town. They are higher than normal. He added he saw on TV the other night that Evansville City Council is discussing the same thing. Evansville's landlords wanted this ordinance in order to get rid of undesirables in areas of town. The police are having to

spend too much time in this area, and as a result, the safety and well being of the rest of the town could be in jeopardy. He added he does not want this issue to get bogged down by a lawyer before it gets to a lawyer. They need a starting point as well as trigger points. The neighborhood is problematic and he can't imagine one night in the apartments. One section of town being that problematic, again, takes the officers away from other issues. Something really bad is going to happen. Council needs to do something. This is not rocket science. The fact that this discussion has been going on for two years, there is nothing in writing – he is embarrassed.

Mayor Tucker stated he can't speak for Councilman Jeffries, but he will get with Mr. Adams and get moving on this. They also need to consider, in reference to the ordinance, the cost of enforcement, who will enforce it, etc. That can all be worked through. Things have been out of control in that area, but he thinks they have gotten a lot better.

Chief Beloit stated the calls there were down during the first quarter of 2015, and he is working on getting the numbers for the second quarter. He added the Indiana State Police started assisting at the end of April.

Mayor Tucker stated he will get with Councilman Jeffries.

Councilman Hoehn stated he would like this to be an Old Business agenda item until this issue is resolved.

Mayor Tucker agreed.

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

Shane Claybrooke approached and stated he owns the Ice House at the corner of 4th and Owen, 701 E 4th Street. He added the parking is parallel to Owen Street and he has paved half of that. He would like to fully pave it to make a driveway, but it is the city right-of-way. He is requesting control of the right-of-way so that he can invest in the paving. He concluded by stating the Board of Works told him he needed to come to the Council with his request.

Attorney Higgins stated she talked with Councilman Jeffries about this. The city has right-of-ways, to use as needed. She suggested to Councilman Jeffries that Council may consider making the street a loading and unloading zone from 4th Street north to the alley. Mr. Claybrooke replied that would be great.

Councilman Curtis agreed that was what they had discussed, a parking regulation.

Councilman Hoehn moved Owen Street from 4th Street north the east/west alley be designated a loading/unloading zone, on the east side of the street, with Mr. Claybrooke doing the paving. 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 – absent; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they are now ready for the Legal portion of the Agenda.

Attorney Higgins stated Scot Keller is here with the Mount Vernon EDC.

Mr. Keller stated the MVEDC was approached by SIGECO concerning revenue bonds for their \$23M environmental project, involving mercury abatement and sulfur emission reduction. The EDC held a public hearing and there were no remonstrance's either at the meeting or in writing. The EDC passed the Resolution – A Resolution of the Mount Vernon Economic Development Commission Approving Terms of the Proposed Financing of Certain Facilities for Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana, Inc. and Related Matters. The EDC is in support of the Resolution. He asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Nancy Sexton and Jeff Woodford left the meeting.

Councilman Hoehn moved the Council accept the Resolution as approved by the Mount Vernon EDC. Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

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 – absent; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Scot Keller left the meeting.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the 3rd reading of the Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of One of More Series of Environmental Improvement Revenue Bonds.

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

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 – absent; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 15-18.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

Councilman Curtis stated he has an update from the Parking Committee. They met last Monday and went over the suggestions from the engineer that Lochmueller provided. They agreed the best long term goal is to utilize the space below the amphitheater. That can not be done over night. It is a long term project involving permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, etc. He added that still does not take care of the immediate problem. They agreed to a temporary solution to limit trailer parking on the north side of Water Street from Locust to College and on Main from Water to Second. He stated no parking boat trailers on either side. It is not a perfect solution. They also discussed ways to improve parking on the east side of the boat ramp – level it out some.

Councilman Curtis then moved the Ordinance to Amend the City of Mount Vernon Code of Ordinances, Title VII:Traffic Code, Chapter 75: Parking Schedules , Schedule X – Single Space Parking Zones Only be amended to the north side of Water Street and restrict trailers on Main from Water to Second. Seconded by Councilman Hoehn. 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 – absent; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

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

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 – absent; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 15-19.

Mayor Tucker stated on July 8 he was notified of a preliminary grant award concerning the DNR engineering feasibility study of the erosion at the riverfront. The city will have a 20% match.

Councilman Curtis added the Parking Committee decided they would also like to talk to the DNR as well on the parking issue and see how they can possibly work that in on engineering and development on some improvements.

Councilman Hoehn added they can also check on getting two boat ramps installed.

Councilman Fuelling stated he would like to thank the Friends of the Park for meeting with the DNR and getting this ball rolling.

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 was not present.

2nd District Councilman Fuelling stated he has no report.

3rd District Councilman Hoehn stated he has no report.

4th District Councilman Curtis stated he has no report.

Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins stated she has no report.

Mayor Tucker stated Saturday, July 25 at 10:00 am there will be a ceremony at Riverbend Park honoring Korean War Veterans. A monument is being donated, as well as constructed, by John Meadors.

Councilman Fuelling stated the Friends of the Park would like to see more of this type of thing to build up the fifth terrace.

Mayor Tucker stated these veterans made the ultimate sacrifice so that everyone here could be sitting here and doing what they are doing tonight.

Mayor Tucker then stated he has been in contact with INDOT and they have assured him once again that the city is on the list to have the Walnut/4th Street switched to a flashing light.

Mayor Tucker concluded by stating after the meeting he would like the Department Heads, as well as Council if they so wish, to hang around in order to discuss budget preparation for the 2016 budget. He then stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Fuelling 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.

John Tucker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman
Clerk-Treasurer