

November 12, 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, Fuelling, Hoehn, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Chief Dixon; Supt. Moss; Comm. Dieterle; Ed Adams; Larry Williams; Nancy Sexton; Jeff Woodford; Katherine Toone; Lois Gray – Posey County News; 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 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 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.

**Chairman Curtis** stated he has no report.

Supt. Gray stated he would like permission for himself and some other employees to attend training in Columbus, IN on December 7, for continuing education credits. He added they will be gone three nights and would need a city vehicle and credit card.

Board member Curtis moved permission be given. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

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 Board voting as follows:

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

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Supt. Gray concluded his report by stating construction is ahead of schedule and they should be fully operational by January 19, 2016.

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 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 stated under New Business is official action on the Thanksgiving Day meeting,  
Thursday, November 26.

Board member Curtis moved the meeting be canceled. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.  
Chief Beloit arrived at the meeting.

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 if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.  
Board member Fuelling 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 unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

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John Tucker, Mayo

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, Fuelling,  
Hoehn, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Chief  
Dixon; Supt. Moss; Comm. Dieterle; Ed Adams; Larry Williams; Nancy Sexton; Jeff Woodford;  
Katherine Toone; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and 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.

Councilman Jeffries 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 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 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. Moss 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 the Legal portion of the Agenda.

Attorney Higgins stated they have the first reading of the proposed Ordinance Establishing the Salaries of the Elected Officials for the City of Mount Vernon, IN for the Year Ending December 31, 2016, Payable from the General Fund, Water Utility and Sewer Utility.

Board member Jeffries moved the ordinance pass on first reading. 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 – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

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

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 – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Hoehn moved the ordinance pass on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

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 – 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 ?

Katherine Toone approached and stated she would like to discuss codes for vehicles on the streets, as well as a safety issue at Leonard Road and the Hwy 69 bypass. She continued by stating there are currently no ordinances on the books concerning storage of vehicles on public streets, and there is no way to get them off. She added a problem like this is contagious and shows there is disrespect there. The property owners suffer when this happens as well. She added she feels the city codes need to be modernized to take care of this situation.

Councilman Hoehn stated they can't ask them to be moved if the plates are current and they registration is up to date.

Ms. Toone stated that changes nothing. She added this condition changes nothing, they are dilapidated and unsightly. Evansville wants vehicles moved every few days. The city needs to not empower the blighters, but the betterments. She added she has talked with the city code enforcement officer and she is great, but if a vehicle is just sitting on the street taking up a space then there is nothing she can do to get in removed. She would like to see them add an ordinance about that.

Councilman Hoehn stated he is on the Area Plan Commission and suggested they get together after the meeting to discuss this.

Ms. Toone replied she would like that.

Councilman Jeffries asked if she has a particular situation in mind ?

Ms. Toone replied yes, but it would also be for the betterment of the city and give them some recourse. She stated storage on the streets is just putting cars on the streets that people want to keep – nice cars – but taking up space really. She added this is also happening on her street, but there are a series of things that she has seen over her experience.

Councilman Hoehn again stated he will get with her after the meeting and talk about this.

Ms. Toone then stated she would like to discuss the intersection of Leonard Road and the bypass. There is a weak stop sign there and this has been the sight of several wrecks. She added she does not know what it takes to deem an intersection unsafe, but there has also been a fatality there.

Councilman Jeffries stated he believes that intersection is in the county.

Ms. Toone replied she was unaware of that and that she will take this issue up with the county. She added she feels the stop sign needs to be more visible, or strengthened.

Councilman Jeffries replied that is a good thought.

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

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated under Old Business is the nuisance ordinance.

Councilman Jeffries stated he hopes to have an update meeting within the next two weeks.

Mayor Tucker stated under New Business is action on the Thanksgiving Day meeting.

Councilman Hoehn moved the meeting of November 26 be canceled. Seconded by Councilman 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.

Mayor Tucker stated also under New Business is discussion of handicapped parking in the 400 block of Walnut Street.

Councilman Cutis stated he and Councilman Jeffries have talked about this with St. Matthews Church, who is making the request.

Councilman Jeffries stated they have two or three spaces in front of the doors already marked handicapped for the parishioners. They would like this in an ordinance.

Mayor Tucker stated they have done this for others before, but in this case, they put the cart before the horse.

Councilman Curtis stated there is one spot on the north end that is a regular space, on the east side of Walnut Street.

Attorney Higgins stated they are requesting three spots north of the alley.

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

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman asked if this is an actual first reading of the ordinance ?

Attorney Higgins stated they normally need an ordinance prepared before they do a first reading.

Councilman Jeffries rescinded his motion.

Attorney Higgins will prepare the ordinance for first reading at the next meeting.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any other New Business ?

Councilman Hoehn asked that the Council re-establish the audio/video system in order that the meetings can be put back on TV.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman stated the DVR has not worked or been able to pick up a picture for over a year now. The machine will need to be fixed.

Mr. Williams stated Time Warner comes by his store every day to pick up meals, he could get the DVD to them.

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** stated he has no report.

**3<sup>rd</sup> District Councilman Hoehn** stated he has no report.

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

**Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins** stated Tuesday, November 17, Mount Vernon will be 199 years old. She then stated they dug up the time capsule last week, and unlike 25 years ago, it did not have water pouring out of it. She added it is in storage there will be an opening scheduled for January 2016. She concluded by stating December 5 is the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas on Main Street and Children's Party.

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

Councilman Curtis 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