

March 3, 2016

The Common Council met as the Water Utility Board on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Pro Tem Curtis presiding and members Jeffries, Williams, Hoehn, and Higgins attending. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Acting Chief Angel; Chief Dixon; Comm. Dieterle; Acting Supt. Moss; Gene Carroll; Ed Adams; Ken and Paula Rudibaugh; Steve Fuelling; Nancy Sexton; Jeff Woodford; Don Kleinschmidt – Pony Express Mustang and Classic Ford Club; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and Jamie Grabert – Mount Vernon Democrat.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis requested action on the claims presented.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated they will now hear the report of Water Supt. Gray.

Supt. Gray stated he has no report.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there were any Legals for consideration ?

There were none.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

There was no response.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis 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 Williams.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis 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.

Bill Curtis, mayor Pro Tem

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 Pro Tem Curtis presiding and members Jeffries, Williams, Hoehn, and Higgins attending. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Acting Chief Angel; Chief Dixon; Comm. Dieterle; Acting Supt. Moss; Gene Carroll; Ed Adams; Ken and Paula Rudibaugh; Steve Fuelling; Nancy Sexton; Jeff Woodford; Don Kleinschmidt – Pony Express Mustang and Classic Ford Club; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and Jamie Grabert – Mount Vernon Democrat.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis 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 Williams.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated they will now hear the reports of the Standing Committees.

Street & Light Chairwoman Higgins stated a few meetings ago she brought up the intersection of Smith and O'Donnell. The Street Department has now put up extra signs and markings and it has really made the intersection safer.

Comm. Dieterle stated he has no report.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Police & Dog Chairman Jeffries stated he has no report.

Acting Chief Angel stated he has no report.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Fire Chairman Hoehn stated it looks like they are getting a new sign.

Chief Dixon stated the sign is up and will be functioning early next week.

Councilwoman Higgins stated she is glad to see this, as someone came into Printcrafters last week asking if they were the police department.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Sewer Chairman Williams stated he has no report.

Acting Supt. Moss stated he has no report.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated they have the Financial Report before them.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated they are now ready for the Legal portion of the Agenda.

Attorney Higgins stated the first item is the second reading of the Public Safety Tax Ordinance.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis requested a roll call vote.

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

Jeffries – yes; Williams – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Higgins – yes.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated the motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Higgins stated this ordinance does require a public hearing. The County has had theirs, and the City needs to have final action by the end of March. Notice of the public hearing was sent to the Mount Vernon Democrat but it did not get published. They will now need to have a special meeting. If they publish on March 9, they can have a special meeting on March 21, but they need to make sure they have a quorum. She added they can conduct the public hearing during the day if needed.

Councilman Jeffries questioned if that is the only business they will conduct at the special meeting, as he had planned to be out of town for spring break that whole week.

Councilman Hoehn added that he will not be available starting the 17th.

Attorney Higgins replied they will have the public hearing, followed by third reading. She added if they could publish in the Posey County News, they could run the notice on March 8 and have the special meeting on March 18. They need 10 days, and that is not possible with the Democrat. Even though the Democrat was established as the designated newspaper, during emergencies, they could publish elsewhere.

Councilman Jeffries moved they publish the notice of the public hearing in the Posey County News, March 8 for a March 18 special meeting to be held at 1:30 pm. Seconded by Councilman Hoehn.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

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

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the second reading of the proposed Ordinance to Amend the City of Mount Vernon, IN Code of Ordinances, Title IX-General Regulations, Chapter 98-Weeds, Section 98.01-Definitions, Section 98.03(A)-Removal by City; Collection of Costs; and 98.05 Lien on Property.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis requested a roll call vote.

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

Jeffries – yes; Williams – yes; Hoehn – yes;

Higgins – yes.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Council ?

Don Kleinschmidt stated he is with the Pony Express Mustang and Classic Ford Club, as well as a life long Mount Vernon resident. As many of them know, they were to hold their first cruise-in in Mount Vernon the same day as the wine fest. The date for the wine fest has had to be changed and he wanted to let everyone know that their event is still on for the same date, April 30. They were unable to change dates since their dates have already been published in a car magazine. The cruise-in will be from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. They have found that evenings work better so they are not in the heat of the day. He hopes it will be a win/win situation where they have a good turnout and the local businesses will be utilized as well. He then asked if anyone had any questions ?

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis thanked Mr. Kleinschmidt for the update and added this will be a fairly big event at the riverfront, which is why they made all the improvements that they have down there, for it to be utilized. He stated he looks forward to this being an ongoing event.

Mr. Kleinschmidt stated for their event on May 14, which is also the same date as the Park & Rec movie night, which should bring even more people to the riverfront.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated under Old Business is the nuisance ordinance.

Councilman Jeffries stated he believes Councilman Hoehn sent information down to Attorney Higgins.

Councilman Hoehn replied that is correct.

Attorney Higgins added Councilman Hoehn and she met and she hopes to get him the finished product in March.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis asked if there was any New Business ?

Councilman Williams stated so many people today buy things on Craig's List, eBay, etc., and they need a safe place to make their purchase/exchange. He wondered about putting a Safe Exchange Zone at the police department. It would only require a sign. They are not guaranteeing the nothing bad will happen, but he feels this would be for the community and again, the only cost would be a sign.

Councilman Hoehn stated he thinks that is a good idea, forward thinking.

Acting Chief Angel stated it sounds great. They are already utilized as a child custody exchange.

Comm. Dieterle could order the sign, per Council consent.

Councilman Hoehn again stated it is a good idea.

Councilman Williams stated with the demolition going on next door, of course he is hearing comments. He wondered about this building, City Hall Annex. It's dirty and it is a Carnegie Building. It is not in as bad of shape as the old City Hall and shouldn't be torn down.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated they were discussing that today, and they will be looking into making repairs to the building.

Councilwoman Higgins stated on December 27, 1902, Andrew Carnegie donated \$14,000.00 to build this building. She stated she may be able to find some grants for improvements, since it is a Carnegie Building.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated they will now hear the reports of the Districts.

1st District Councilman Jeffries stated he has no report.

2nd District Councilman Williams 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 in reference to Indiana's Bicentennial, there will be 33 nominations for the torch relay. They were delivered to Indianapolis on February 26, 2016. They range in age from 17-99 and on April 15, they will know who they are. Councilwoman Higgins then stated the bison has found a home, the entrance to Harmony State Park, where it will be for a year. Folks can donate \$25.00 to submit a name for the bison. She asked that folks contact her for more information.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated it will be a couple more weeks until the demo of the old city hall is complete and until that time, parking in back of city hall annex will be limited. Earth Services has stated that as soon as they are done with this demo, they will move down to 3rd Street demo a house that is on the Blight Elimination list.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtis stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn. Councilman Williams moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries. Mayor Pro Tem Curtis 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.

Bill Curtis, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman
Clerk-Treasurer