

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 4, 2007  
TIME: 6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Frank Manus, Glenn Tebbe, Gary Herbert, Larry Bower, Ken Dornich and Helen Gardner.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes were approved.

David Frederick of H.J. Umbaugh & Associates was present to explain Ordinances 2007-06-10 and Ordinance 2007-06-11. These ordinances are amending and restating sewer and water rates to establish oversize meter charges for 10" meter rates.

**Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Larry Bower to pass on 1<sup>st</sup> reading Ordinance 2007-06-10 amending and restating sewer rate to include a 10" meter rate. All ayes. So passed.**

**Motion by Helen Gardner and seconded by Ken Dornich to pass on 1<sup>st</sup> reading Ordinance 2007-06-11 amending and restating water rate to include a 10" meter rate. All ayes. So passed.**

A special Council meeting will be held June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. serving as a public hearing and passing of these two ordinances on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings.

The audio ordinance that Gary Herbert had handed out at the end of the May meeting was discussed. Gary stated our intent was not word for word, but maintaining and more accurate of minutes a spirit for the public to be informed.

City Attorney Steve Taylor stated the minutes must be kept in written form according to State Law as a memorandum of the meeting. The minutes are required to make a record of any action taken by City Council at the meeting. Audio can be used but they cannot be the official minutes. Steve stated that he had a problem with some of the wording in the ordinance Gary had handed out as it referred to the audio recording as the official minutes and that would be contrary to Indiana Law.

The written minutes must be kept forever. Audio only has to be kept two years. The Indiana State Code designates about the minutes and what has to be

included. The State Board of Accounts and the Public Access were contacted and they confirmed that the written minutes are the official minutes. Audio can be used, but they are not to be used as the official minutes for the City Council meetings.

Other places do audio and/or video and have made provisions with the news media or public access channel through the schools. By using one of these outlets it would save the City money.

Council members, Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer do not have a problem with audio and/or video. The Clerk-Treasurer used to tape the meetings with her own equipment and tapes. The Mayor encouraged Gary to pursue investigation of this.

The Council had five applicants for the School Board. Two of them do not qualify. The three applicants remaining were: Bill Myers, Dave Weigel and Jim Hawkins.

Council appoints two, Mayor appoints two, Marion Twp appoints one and Washington Twp appoints two.

Helen Gardner noted that Jim Hawkins served all but two months of Jim Saler's 4-year term and was re-appointed for 4-years. Technically he could be reappointed.

Glenn Tebbe thanked Jim, but feels he has pretty well served 8-years. Term limits were put on to change those that serve on the School Board.

It was noted that after someone is off of the Board they can re-submit an application when another opening comes up and could be put back on. They would need a gap in time serving, it cannot be consecutive terms.

Gary Herbert stated that Jim Hawkins did stop by his shop, but Gary stated he was not aware that Jim had served all but two months of 8-years.

Jim Hawkins spoke of the role that he has played of being on the School Board and would like to continue, but stated that whatever the Council decided was alright also.

Ken Dornich told Council that Dr. David Weigel coaches the TigerShark swim team and is paid and he would continue coaching them without pay if he is appointed to the School Board.

**Motion by Helen Gardner and seconded by Larry Bower to appoint Dr. David Weigel to the School Board. All ayes. So passed.**

David Fry handed out a letter from Brian Robbins and himself about the 150<sup>th</sup> Greensburg Anniversary coming up in 2009. They would like the City to appoint a small 3-4 person task force designed to assist in the assembly of a committee and to create an initial budget for the committee's function. David requested Council to give this some thought for now.

Devan Sieg, Karen Higgenbotham and Angie Messer came before Council about the Carousel Center and their request for financial assistance.

Karen Higgenbotham reported that she had met with the County Council and the County Commissioners and they agreed to help out financially.

The representatives explained that the capital campaign money is for the mortgage debt only, the golf outing and movie campaign goes to the operating fund. They advised that the Center was holding it's own until the Federal law was passed in 2001 that a licensed agency transporting children could no longer use a passenger van, but must use a mini bus by July 1, 2006. They had to use \$29,500 for the mini bus and that is what has caused them to have to come to the City and County for assistance. The bus was needed for the summer programs. They cannot re-finance their mortgage because of the grant that was secured by the City as owner of the real estate and the five-year rule on transfer. They are a not-for-profit organization.

Council questioned the amount of children that use the center, how many from the City/County, where the center stands on the re-financing, the type of campaign funding and rate increase. The issue is to help out financially to get thru till next April, but the information they have provided only goes to November of this year.

The property was donated to the City and the City owns the building through a grant that was secured by the City for the construction of the Carousel. Mayor told Council that the Carousel did not cost the City anything. The City will look into how soon the real estate can be conveyed to them so they can re-finance to help them.

Bud Ryle and Neil Cortus of the Animal Shelter Board came before Council with documentation to request \$10,800 (to be split by City and County) to fund an Animal Control Officer.

They had approached the County Council and were told to approach the City Council and then come back.

They stated more help was needed to take care of the animal shelter. Amy Marshall is the Office Shelter Manager. They would like to have two people on salary and benefits to cover the positions with all the changing that is taking place at the Animal Shelter.

The shelter works closely with the Rescue groups and will be starting a spayed/neutered program, 380 phone calls a month, 197 customers a month and 30 dog runs a month. Shelter was requesting \$10 an hour for a 36 hour work week for the new position.

With the information given the City has an obligation and if the County wants the City's recommendation then Glenn stated that he is positive with this.

This is the City's responsibility stated Larry Bower and Ken Dornich told of going to the shelter the day that the Delta Group was there with their donations and was impressed with the Shelter and the way it was operated.

**Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Helen Gardner to approve the new position and a split with the County of the \$10,800 being \$5,400. All ayes. So passed.**

**Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Larry Bower to pass on 1<sup>st</sup> reading Ordinance 2007-06-12 for a vacated alley and street closing. All ayes. So passed.**

**Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Larry Bower to approve tax abatement compliance renewals for: Schlemmer Lake Point (1), Valeo (7), K-Fab (2), Tree City Tool (1), Harpring (1), M & S Precision (2), Greensburg Commerical Warehousing (1), Bishop-Sears (1), S & DS Investments (1), Mi-Tech (1), Witkemper (1), Green Sign Co. All ayes. So passed.**

Larry Fair of M & S Precision requested two new Tax Abatements. Delta Faucet is their major customers as well as several other smaller companies. They are very happy with their newly purchased facility.

**Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Ken Dornich to approve a 10-year tax abatement on the Real Estate of \$1,585,000. All ayes. So passed.**

**Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Larry Bower to approve an amended SB-1 as applied for in 2007 and to come back with an update in 2008 up to \$1,760,500 on the Personal Property. All ayes. So passed.**

Mayor Manus announced that the playground at North Park will not likely be used for a water facility.

Larry Bower handed out a sheet of information to be reviewed on criteria for possible private club exemption from Ordinance 2006-9.

Helen Gardner questioned the status of the well testing at North Decatur School. Rick Denney told Council the testing was completed and the existing wells around the area were affected very little. Rick reported that he had been given news of a well on the Golf Course on 421 North and Mr. Campion has granted Rick permission to go in on the property after he has purchased it.

Helen Gardner questioned about the garage sales that are held constantly from May till November. Helen stated the City needs to get an Ordinance to control these. City Attorney Steve Taylor recommended setting up a perimeter of how many and how long.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:

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Attest:

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Clerk-Treasurer

