

CITY OF WHITING – NOVEMBER 6, 2007

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA**

The Common Council of the City of Whiting met in regular session on Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Stahura presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by the invocation from Mayor Stahura.

I. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Greer, Jennings, Sarvanidis, Spebar, Stolman, and Zubeck were present. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Drewniak, City Attorney Sejna, Clerk-Treasurer Elect Adam, and interested citizens.

Councilwoman Unate was unable to attend the meeting.

II. MINUTES

Mayor Stahura asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 16, 2007, regular Common Council meeting.

Councilman Stolman moved to approve said minutes, as submitted. Councilwoman Greer seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilmembers Greer, Jennings, Spebar, Stolman, and Zubeck voted aye. Councilman Sarvanidis abstained from voting, due to his absence at said meeting. Vote: 5 ayes, no nays, 1 abstention. Motion carried.

III. COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS OR REMONSTRANCES

None.

IV. REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Stahura reported that the Board of Public Works and Safety took action to approve hiring a new Police Officer to alleviate the overtime being paid.

Mayor Stahura informed the Councilmembers that, after 24 years, the Santay property on White Oak Avenue has been sold. The new owner, Connie Jevdosic, has already begun work on renovations.

Mayor Stahura reported that BP requested permission to close 129th Street for a Gate project. They have agreed to delay start of this project until either all lanes of Indianapolis Boulevard and/or Standard Avenue are reopened to traffic.

Mayor Stahura stated that cars from Little Caesars Pizza parking lot have been exiting the lot across the public sidewalk and over the curb onto Indianapolis Boulevard. The Police Chief will draft a letter asking the owners to install a barrier to prevent cars from doing this.

Mayor Stahura reported on the following City projects:

- The Ohio Street and 118th Street Water Main Project is almost finished; only installation of street grates and some landscaping remain to be completed.
- The New York Avenue Reconstruction Project is progressing; curbs have been poured and electrical work has been done prior to installation of new sidewalks. The project is a week or two behind schedule.
- The Standard Avenue/Front Street/121st Street Reconstruction Project is progressing well; all lanes of Standard Avenue should be open to traffic around Thanksgiving.
- The new roof tiles for the Whiting Community Center have arrived and are being installed.

V. STANDING COMMITTEES

Councilman Spebar stated that Ordinance No. CC-2007-1780, which regulates fencing and landscaping, and Ordinance No. CC-2007-1781, which grants a zoning exception, will be presented tonight for Council consideration.

VI. REPORT OF THE CLERK-TREASURER

Clerk-Treasurer Drewniak presented Civil City Accounts Payable Vouchers #2344 - #2441 inclusive for approval.

Councilman Sarvanidis moved to approve said Voucher for payment; seconded by Councilman Jennings. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

No report was given.

VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Councilman Spebar stated that Ordinance No. CC-2007-1780 would re-establish a stand-alone fence ordinance. The Ordinance regulates fences in residential, commercial and manufacturing

districts. Councilman Spebar moved to amend Ordinance No. CC-2007-1780, Section 5, Item D; and Section 6, Items II, III, III A, III B, and IV B. Councilwoman Greer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no questions, Councilman Spebar moved to pass Ordinance No. CC-2007-1780 to third and final reading. Councilwoman Greer seconded the motion. Roll Call: Councilmembers Greer, Jennings, Sarvanidis, Spebar, Stolman, and Zubeck voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays, no abstentions. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Spebar read Ordinance No. CC-2007-1780 by title only for third and final reading.

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE FENCES AND LANDSCAPING
IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA, AS AMENDED

Councilman Spebar presented Ordinance No. CC-2007-1781, and explained that this Ordinance grants a special exception for the property at 1327 121st Street to permit a two family dwelling in a residential area zoned single family.

There being no questions, Councilman Spebar read Ordinance No. CC-2007-1781 by title only for first reading.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. CC-2001-1611 TO GRANT A
SPECIAL EXCEPTION FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1327-121ST STREET TO
PERMIT A TWO-FAMILY DWELLING IN AN AREA ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL-
SINGLE FAMILY (R-SF) AS FAVORABLY RECOMMENDED BY THE WHITING
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS IN CASE NO. WBZA-2007-02

Councilman Spebar moved to pass Ordinance No. CC-2007-1781 to second reading; seconded by Councilman Sarvanidis. Roll Call: Councilmembers Greer, Jennings, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Zubeck voted aye. Councilman Stolman abstained from voting on this Ordinance. Vote: 5 ayes, no nays, 1 abstention. Motion carried.

Councilman Spebar read Ordinance No. CC-2007-1781 by title only for second reading.

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Councilman Spebar made a motion to authorize Clerk-Treasurer Drewniak to publish Notice of Intent, with a Public Hearing on this matter scheduled for the November 20th Common Council meeting. Councilwoman Greer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Drewniak stated that she will publish Notice of Intent, with a Public Hearing on this matter scheduled for the November 20th Common Council meeting.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

XII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Councilman Jennings thanked Engineering Administrator Toiekis for work done on the New York Avenue Reconstruction Project.

Councilman Stolman thanked the Mayor for regrading the alley behind the Whiting Horseshoe Club. The residents are very happy.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Stolman moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.; seconded by Councilman Sarvanidis. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

MARGARET DREWNIAK, Clerk-Treasurer