

**CITY OF WHITING – NOVEMBER 20, 2012**

**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 20, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Stahura presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by the invocation from Councilman Stolman.

**I. ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Greer, Jennings, Michko, Sarvanidis, Spebar, Stolman and Zubeck were present. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Adam and interested citizens.

City Attorney Sejna was unable to attend the meeting.

**II. MINUTES**

Mayor Stahura asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 07, 2012 rescheduled regular Common Council meeting.

Councilman Sarvanidis moved to approve said minutes, as submitted. Councilman Spebar seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS OR REMONSTRANCES**

None.

**IV. REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Stahura expressed gratitude and thanked everyone who sent cards and well wishes while he was out for surgery.

**V. STANDING COMMITTEES**

Councilman Spebar stated that the following will be presented tonight for third and final reading:

1. Ordinance No. CC-2012-1885, transfer of funds.

Councilman Sarvanidis stated that the following will be presented tonight for a second and possible third reading:

1. Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884, amending city code to establish districts according to state statute.

**VI. REPORT OF THE CLERK-TREASURER**

Clerk-Treasurer Adam presented Civil City Accounts Payable Vouchers Checks #15541 - #15603 inclusive for approval.

Councilman Stolman moved to approve said APV Checks for payment; seconded by Councilwoman Greer. All Council members voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Adam presented Proof of Publication of Legal Notice of the transfers between departments authorized by Ordinance No. CC-2011-1885. Said Notice was published in The Times on November 8, 2012 and posted in the lobby of City Hall.

Clerk-Treasurer Adam presented receipts of notification of Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884, sent to Lake County Circuit Court as well as the Election and Registration Board.

Mayor Stahura stated that the documents will be attached to the minutes for public record.

**VII. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

None.

**VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

None.

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**X. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Councilman Spebar stated that Ordinance No. CC-2012-1885, concerns transfers of funds in the general fund. The departments effected were discussed in the last Council meeting and the transfers total \$458,170.62.

There being no questions or comments, Councilman Spebar moved to pass Ordinance No. CC-2012-1885 to third and final reading. Councilman Jennings seconded the motion. Roll Call: (ALL) Vote: 7 ayes, no nays, no abstentions. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Spebar read Ordinance No. CC-2012-1885 by title only for third and final reading.

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA FOR THE GENERAL FUND, AS REQUESTED BY THE CLERK-TREASURER AND FORWARDED TO THE COMMON COUNCIL FOR THEIR ACTION AND PASSAGE PURSUANT TO IC 6-1.1-18-6

Councilman Sarvanidis stated that Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884 was introduced in the last meeting. He explained that this is an ordinance to amend the code of ordinances of the city of Whiting, Indiana, to establish the councilmanic districts of the city in accordance with IC.36-4-6-5(j) and to repeal any ordinances in conflict therewith. The ordinance would reduce number of council members from seven to five. The city would have three districts with two at large. Councilman Sarvanidis said he believes that this ordinance would be beneficial to the City of Whiting and its residents and that there would be no significant impact as a result of the change. He reiterated that this would reduce the budget by greater than \$30,000 yearly and is considered proactive.

Councilman Sarvanidis presented data from IACT surveys that showed of the 43 other municipalities in the State of Indiana with a population less than 10,000, 39 have five council members. Based on the 2012 Census, the municipalities with five council members average one council member to every 1,152 residents. The City of Whiting currently has a ratio of 1:714 with seven council members and would change to 1:998 with five council members for the total population.

Councilman Sarvanidis moved to pass Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884 to second reading. Councilman Spebar seconded the motion. Vote: 6 ayes, 1 nay from Councilman Jennings.

Councilman Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884 by title only for second reading.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA, TO ESTABLISH THE COUNILMANIC DISTRICTS OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH IC. 36-4-6-5(j) AND TO REPEAL ANY ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH

There being no questions or comments, Councilman Sarvanidis moved to take Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884 to a third and final reading. Councilman Stolman seconded the motion. Roll Call: 6 ayes, 1 nay from Councilman Jennings.

Councilman Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884 by title only for third and final reading.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA, TO ESTABLISH THE COUNILMANIC DISTRICTS OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH IC. 36-4-6-5(j) AND TO REPEAL ANY ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH

Mayor Stahura commended the council members on their action to pass read Ordinance No. CC-2012-1884. Discussed importance of said ordinance.

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **XII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

None.

#### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further matters to come before the Common Council, Councilman Sarvanidis moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m. Councilwoman Michko seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

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MARK S. ADAM, Clerk-Treasurer