

**CITY OF WHITING –OCTOBER 6, 2015**

**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, October 6, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Stahura presiding.

**I. ROLL CALL**

Mayor Stahura, Councilmembers Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Stolman were present, constituting a quorum. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Haynes, City Attorney Sejna and interested citizens.

Councilman Zubeck was absent.

**II. MINUTES**

Mayor Stahura asked for consideration of minutes September 15, 2015 regular Common Council Meeting.

Councilman Michko made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 15, 2015 meeting. Councilman Murzyn seconded the motion. Roll Call: (All) Councilmembers Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Stolman and Spebar voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None.

**IV. REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

- Introduced the new IT Manager Kenny Kusbel.
- Two properties at 1735 and 1737 119<sup>th</sup> Street have been demolished.
- The bid for the new sanitary packer has been awarded and there is a grant of \$42,000 that will offset the cost.
- I received an e-mail from Chief Miller that the County will be taking over the emergency 911 calls.

**V. STANDING COMMITTEES**

Councilman Spebar reported the following four Ordinances for possible second reading.

- CC-2015-1942 setting the 2016 Civil City Budget
- CC-2015-1943 setting the 2016 Sanitary District Budget
- CC-2015-1944 setting the 2016 Civil City salaries
- CC-2015-1946 setting the 2016 elected official salaries

Councilman Sarvanidis presented the following Ordinance for possible third and final reading:

- Ordinance No. CC-2015-1945 regarding snow and ice removal from sidewalks.

Councilman Sarvanidis introduced Ordinance CC-2015-1947 for possible first and second reading.

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

Clerk-Treasurer Haynes presented Civil City Accounts Payable Voucher Check #s 3186, 3189-3191, 3194-3280, 92 and 93E and Payroll #s 166-167 for approval.

Councilwoman Stolman moved to approve said Accounts Payable Voucher Checks for payment. Councilman Jennings seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **VII. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Sejna indicated that there will be a possible BP Revenue bond issued prior to the end of the year.

#### **VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

None.

#### **IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **X. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Councilman Spebar indicated that there will be a public hearing on the Civil City and Sanitary budgets ordinance number 1942 and 1943.

Clerk-Treasurer Haynes indicated that the procedure for the publication of the budgets changed this year and the DLGF advertised the budgets and published them on August 31, 2015.

Councilman Spebar highlighted some key points on the Civil City budget for 2016.

- Civil City Salary increase of 3% for all employees
- 10% increase in medical costs
- 1% match on the 457b plan
- LTD for all employees
- One new IT Manager and Animal Shelter Manager with the elimination of the Community Development Director
- Capital projects include the dredging of the harbor, street paving and the Community Center exterior improvements

Councilman Spebar highlighted some key points on the sanitary budget for 2016.

- General Fund reduction of \$160,000 or a 7% decline
- Retirement of the 2003 Bond in 2015 of \$600,000 that reduces the overall levy by \$600,000

Mayor Stahura opened the Public Hearing and asked a first time for Public Comment on Ordinance No. CC-2015-1942 and Ordinance No. CC-2015-1943 and no one spoke.

Mayor Stahura asked for a second time for Public Comment and no one spoke.

Mayor Stahura asked a third and final time for comments on Ordinance No. CC-2015-1942 and Ordinance No. CC-2015-1943.

Hearing none, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. CC-2015-1942 and Ordinance No. CC-2015-1943 and returned the meeting to the regular order of business.

Councilman Spebar made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2015-1942 to second reading. Seconded by Councilman Michko. Roll Call: (All) Council members Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Stolman voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Spebar read Ordinance No. CC-2015-1942 by title only.

#### AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

Councilman Spebar made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2015-1943 to second reading. Seconded by Councilman Jennings. Roll Call: (All) Council members Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Stolman voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Spebar read Ordinance No. CC-2015-1943 by title only.

#### AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

Councilman Spebar made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2015-1944 which fixes the 2016 salaries for city employees to second reading. Seconded by Councilman Murzyn. Roll Call: (All) Council members Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Stolman voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Spebar read Ordinance No. CC-2015-1944 by title only.

#### AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA, EFFECTIVE FIRST PAY IN 2016

Councilman Spebar motioned to take Ordinance No. CC-2015-1946 which fixes the 2016 elected official salaries to second reading. Seconded by Councilman Stolman. Roll Call: (All) Council members Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Stolman voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Spebar read Ordinance NO. CC-2015-1946 by title only.

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE ANNUAL SALARY OF ALL ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA EFFECTIVE FIRST PAY IN JANUARY 2016

Councilman Sarvanidis made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2015-1945 which amends Municipal Code regarding snow and ice removal from sidewalks to third and final reading. Seconded by Councilman Stolman. Roll Call: (All) Council members Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Stolman voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2015-1945 by title only.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 15 ARTICLE ONE REGARDING SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL FROM SIDEWALKS AND ORDINANCE 465 AND ALL AMENDING ORDINANCES THERETO

Councilman Sarvanidis presented Ordinance No. 2015-1947 which amends WMC Section 2-353 designation of code provisions subject to the ordinance violations bureau to add the new provision sec 15-4 snow and ice removal from sidewalks as a violation enforceable through the bureau.

Councilman Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2015-1947 by title only.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WHITING LAKE COUNTY INDIANA, AMENDING WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE XI, ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS BUREAU AND ORDINANCE NO. CC-2009-1816 TO INCLUDE SEC. 15-4 SNOW REMOVAL AS A DESIGNATED VIOLATION SUBJECT TO THE VIOLATIONS BUREAU

Councilman Sarvanidis made a motion to take Ordinance No. 2015-1947 to second reading. Seconded by Councilman Spebar. Roll Call: (All) Council members Jennings, Michko, Murzyn, Sarvanidis, Spebar, and Stolman voted aye. Vote: 6 ayes, no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2015-1947 by title only.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WHITING LAKE COUNTY INDIANA, AMENDING WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE XI,

ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS BUREAU AND ORDINANCE NO. CC-2009-1816 TO  
INCLUDE SEC. 15-4 SNOW REMOVAL AS A DESIGNATED VIOLATION  
SUBJECT TO THE VIOLATIONS BUREAU

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor acknowledged two new councilman elect, Tom Michniewicz and Shawn Turpin in the audience. State Senator Lonnie Randolph was here prior to the council meeting asking if there was any issues that the council would like him to take back to Indianapolis in the coming weeks. Mayor Stahura indicated that TIF should be protected to insure that Whiting can continue redevelopment in the community. Councilman Jennings asked that school funding continue to be a top priority.

**XII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

None.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further matters to come before the Common Council, Councilman Stolman moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Councilman Michko seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

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John T. Haynes, Clerk-Treasurer