

CITY OF WHITING – OCTOBER 20, 2020

**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 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Spebar presiding.

I. ROLL CALL

Mayor Spebar, Councilmembers Michko, Michniewicz, Sarvanidis, Turpin, and Zubeck were present, constituting a quorum. Also, present, were Attorney Sejna and Clerk-Treasurer Haynes.

Mayor Spebar read the Notice of Publication sent to the Times on October 16, 2020 regarding the scheduled meeting of the Common Council on October 20, 2020.

This is to notify you that the Oct 20, 2020, 6:30 PM meeting of the Common Council will be held at Whiting City Hall, 1443-119th Street, Whiting, Indiana, via teleconference. No entry into City Hall will be permitted.

Dial in access number: 866-866-2244

Participant Code: 1641958#

Mayor Spebar asked if there was any media or public on the phone call. Paul Czapkowicz from The Times was on the phone call.

Mayor Spebar stated that this meeting is pursuant to suspension of the meeting statutes of the executive order issued by Governor Holcomb as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The allowance of virtual meetings has been approved. Part of the rules for an electronic meeting is that there will need to be a roll call on every vote.

II. MINUTES

Mayor Spebar asked for consideration of the minutes from the October 6, 2020 Regular Common Council. Councilmember Michko made a motion to accept the minutes from October 6, 2020 as submitted. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS OR REMONSTRANCES

None.

IV. REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Spebar stated that Fire Chief Dave Cunningham was sworn in today and Gus Danielides will become Captain. Mayor Spebar wishes both men well in their new positions.

Mayor Spebar also stated that he received a letter from Hammond's Water Department which he received as the President of the Board of Public Works. Hammond is proposing a Water Rate Increase. The rates right now are 46 cents per 1,000 and the proposed increase goes up to \$1.90

for 2021, \$2.10 per 1,000 in 2022, and \$2.30 per 1,000 in 2023. After 2023 it is proposed to go up 3% annually. Hammond City Council is holding a Public Hearing on this ordinance on October 26, 2020 which Attorney Sejna and Clerk-Treasurer Haynes will be attending. Once the City of Whiting knows what the decision is from that meeting, they will inform our Council and Board of Public Works and will have to figure out what the next step will be. Mayor Spebar pointed out that if the rate increases from Hammond do go into effect, they will have to review our rates and will have to figure out a new rate structure going forward.

V. STANDING COMMITTEES

None.

VI. REPORT OF THE CLERK-TREASURER

Clerk-Treasurer Haynes presented Civil City Check #12357, 12359, 12415, EFTs 20, 22, 448-453 total amount of \$126,487.22. Councilmember Michko moved to approve the Accounts Payable Voucher Checks as submitted. Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye.

VII. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

None.

VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

None.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Sarvanidis made a motion to move the next meeting from November 3, 2020 to November 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. so that it does not interfere with Election night. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

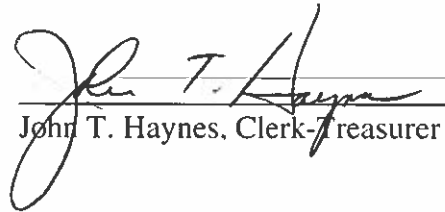
XII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Paul Czapkowicz asked to verify that it will be Attorney Sejna and Clerk-Treasurer Haynes that will be attending the October 26, 2020 Hammond City Council Public Hearing. Mayor Spebar verified that it will be them attending.

Paul Czapkowicz also asked to verify the rate increase that it will be a rate increase to \$1.90 and not a rate increase of \$1.90. Mayor Spebar verified that Mr. Czapkowicz is correct.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further matters to come before the Common Council, Councilmember Turpin moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m. Councilmember Michko seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.



John T. Haynes, Clerk-Treasurer

