

**CITY OF WHITING – MAY 4, 2022**

**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 Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Spebar presiding.

**I. ROLL CALL**

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

Councilmembers Michko and Suarez were absent.

Mayor Spebar read the Notice to Media that was sent to the media on April 19, 2022 for the change in Common Council meeting from Tuesday, May 3, 2022 to Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

This is to notify you that the Common Council has rescheduled its regularly scheduled meeting from May 3, 2022, at 6:00pm to May 4, 2022, at 6:30pm. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at Whiting City Hall, 1443-119th Street, Whiting, Indiana.

**II. MINUTES**

Mayor Spebar asked for consideration of the minutes from the April 19, 2022 Regular Common Council meeting. Councilmember Michniewicz made a motion to accept the minutes from April 19, 2022 as submitted. Councilmember Turpin 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 reported the following:

- The crack sealing is progressing.
- At the Redevelopment meeting, RFPs were opened for the Condominiums on 119<sup>th</sup> Street and the new homes on Center Street.

**V. STANDING COMMITTEES**

Councilmember Sarvanidis advised the Council he will be presenting Ordinance No. CC-2022-2067, an ordinance to amend Whiting Municipal Code for the Police Department for possible 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> readings; Ordinance No. CC-2022-2068, an ordinance to add a new location for a three-way stop for possible 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> readings.

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

Clerk-Treasurer Haynes presented Civil City Check #547E, 14589-14635, & April Payroll in the amount of \$936,458.82. Clerk-Treasurer Haynes amended the claims to change check #14633

from \$6,898.80 to \$7,500.00 and it will now be check # 14637. Councilmember Michniewicz moved to amend the claims. Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the Accounts Payable Voucher Checks as amended. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Attorney Sejna reported that the Scholarship Application deadline was Monday, May 2, 2022. A total of 8 applications were received. The scholarship committee will meet next week.

## **VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

None.

## **IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **X. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Councilmember Sarvanidis presented Ordinance No. CC-2022-2067, an ordinance to amend Chapter 2, which is the administrative chapter and article 5 which is the Police Department. And within that department is division 1, section 2. The current language for Section 2-157 was deleted and replaced with new language and is streamlined into an outline form.

*WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION ARTICLE V POLICE DEPARTMENT DIVISION 1 GENERALLY* is hereby amended as follows:

- I. *WMC Sec.2-157.Applicants; qualifications and requirements; probationary period.*  
**Current language is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:**
  - (a) Minimum qualifications for applicants for the Whiting Police Department established by the City are as follows:
    1. Must be a citizen of the United States.
    2. Must be a high school graduate or equivalent.
    3. Must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
    4. Must be able to read and write English.
    5. Must not have any felony convictions.
    6. Must have and maintain a valid Indiana driver's license and be eligible for insurance coverage under the City's commercial liability and automobile policies.
    7. Must be accepted into the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund.
  - (b) The following additional requirements established by Indiana statute apply to all applicants and potential hires:
    1. The age limitations, aptitude, physical agility and physical examinations authorized in IC 36-8-4-7.

2. The Employment Standards delineated in IC 36-8-3.2-1 *et seq.*
  3. The Baseline statewide physical and mental examinations required by IC 36-8-8-19.
- (c) Probation. Every appointment to the police department shall be for a probationary period of up to one (1) year depending on prior police work experience in Indiana and recommendations of field training officer and chief. If at any time during the probationary period, the conduct or capacity of the probationer is found not to be satisfactory, which fact shall be determined by the board of public works and safety, upon the recommendation for discharge by the police chief, the probationer shall, without hearing and without right of appeal, be notified in writing by the board of public works and safety that the applicant will not receive an appointment as a full-time police officer, whereupon employment shall cease. Otherwise, retention in service after the expiration of the probationary period shall be equivalent to and shall constitute final appointment as a full-time police officer.

II. WMC Sec. 2-158. *Dismissals and suspensions.*

**Current language is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:**

All matters regarding discipline, demotion, dismissal, and administrative leave (with or without pay) shall be conducted by the Board of Public Works and Safety in accordance with rights, procedures, and requirements of IC 36-8-3-4.

III. WMC Sec. 2-160 *Seniority required for promotion.*

**Current language is amended to add the following provision in italics:**

In order to be eligible for promotion, policemen shall have had not less than the following number of years of continuous active service with the police department for the following positions *unless requested by the Chief of Police and authorized at a public meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety:*

- (1) Captain, five years.
- (2) Lieutenant, four years.
- (3) Sergeant, three years.
- (4) Corporal, two years.
- (5) Patrolman, upon completion of probation and appointed by the board of public safety.
- (6) Probationary patrolman, date of appointment until appointed as a regular patrolman by the board of public safety, which appointment, if given, shall not be later than one year from the date of the original appointment as a probationary patrolman.

IV. WMC Sec.2-161. *Police Department Fees.*

**All fees in section (g)(6) through (g)(11) (relating to fees for gun permits) are deleted in the entirety since the department is no longer authorized to issue those permits.**

- V. All other provisions of this Chapter not specifically modified herein shall remain in full force and effect as originally enacted.

Councilmember Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2022-2067 in title only;

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2  
ADMINISTRATION ARTICLE V POLICE DEPARTMENT DIVISION 1  
GENERALLY AND ALL ORDINANCES RELATED THERETO

Councilmember Sarvanidis made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2022-2067 to a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2022-2067 in title only;

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2  
ADMINISTRATION ARTICLE V POLICE DEPARTMENT DIVISION 1  
GENERALLY AND ALL ORDINANCES RELATED THERETO

Councilmember Sarvanidis presented Ordinance No. CC-2022-2068, an ordinance that amends Chapter 17, Article XVII, which is the vehicles and traffic ordinance. A new three-way stop will be added to a new location. An engineering study was conducted to help alleviate the traffic congestion in and around the Whiting Public Schools. As a result of the study, a three-way stop was temporarily added to Oliver St. and Ohio Ave. The recommendation has alleviated the issue and provided for a more effective traffic flow at the intersection and the City and the Chief of Police would request that the Council adopt this provision as permanent. the *Whiting Municipal Code Chapter 17 Vehicles and Traffic, Article XVII Schedules, Sec. 17-659A., Schedule 14A; three-way stops* is amended the following new provision:

Intersection

Oliver Street and Ohio Avenue

Streets

Oliver Street and Ohio Avenue

Stopped for

Northbound Oliver

Southbound Oliver

Westbound Ohio

Councilmember Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2022-2068 in title only;

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 17 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE XVII. SCHEDULES, SEC. 17-659A., SCHEDULE 14A; THREE-WAY STOPS OF THE WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADD A NEW LOCATION

Councilmember Sarvanidis made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2022-2068 to a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Sarvanidis read Ordinance No. CC-2022-2068 in title only;

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 17 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE XVII. SCHEDULES, SEC. 17-659A., SCHEDULE 14A; THREE-WAY STOPS OF THE WHITING MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADD A NEW LOCATION

### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **XII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

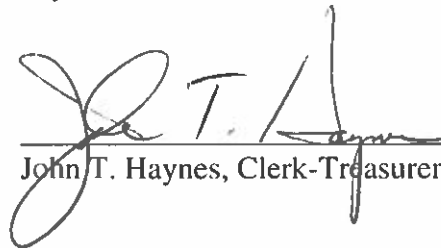
Councilmember Turpin mentioned that there is a beach clean-up on May 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. held by the Boat Club in conjunction with the Park Department.

Councilmember Turpin also asked if there could be an additional kid alert yellow guard sign to be placed near the little league fields to slow traffic near there with all of the kids present.

Councilmember Turpin asked if there have been any additional discussions for additional speed bumps. Mayor Spebar mentioned that there have been meetings and there will be additional speed bumps added.

### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

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



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John T. Haynes, Clerk-Treasurer

